FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Scoping Process Underway for Proposed
Bay Towne Plaza Expansion
Public input period April 13 through May 13

PENFIELD, N.Y., APRIL 16, 2009 – The Town of Penfield’s Planning Board has begun the scoping process for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for a proposed expansion of Bay Towne Plaza. The scoping process is a requirement of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The process creates an outline of topics to be included in the DEIS and essentially functions as a draft table of contents to be addressed by the applicant in conjunction with its request to expand Bay Towne Plaza. The draft scope is available on the Planning Department's webpage at www.penfield.org, at the Town Clerk's Office, and the Penfield Public Library. The applicant for this project is DiMarco Brandt Point LLC, Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road.

The objectives of scoping are to focus the DEIS on potentially significant environmental impacts. Scoping also identifies the extent and quality of needed information, the range of reasonable alternatives, initial mitigation measures, and provides the public with an opportunity to participate in the identification of potential impacts.

Therefore, the public may submit – in writing – comments for scoping topics to be included in the study. Effective scoping comments are specific and raise potential issues, suggest specific studies, protocols and alternatives. Scoping is not a forum to argue the merits of a proposed project or to advocate for or against any decisions.

The scoping period of 30 days is April 13, 2009 through 5:00 p.m. May 13, 2009. Written comments should be submitted to the Planning Board by mail, hand delivery, fax, or email (Town of Penfield, Attn: Planning Board, 3100 Atlantic Ave., Penfield, NY 14526, fax (585)340-8644 or planning@penfield.org).

Supervisor George Wiedemer stated, “Scoping is a critical step in establishing the details needed for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. SEQRA requires a 20-day period for the public to submit comments for the study. The Town has extended the period to 30 days to ensure citizens have ample time to participate.”
At the conclusion of the scoping period the Planning Board, acting as lead agency, will review and add appropriate comments to the scoping outline and give direction to the applicant. Final scoping will be considered at the Planning Board’s May 28, 2009 work session. If approved, the Planning Board will direct the applicant to prepare a DEIS. After the applicant submits the DEIS and the Planning Board determines it is complete, a public hearing will be scheduled. This process is likely to run into the summer months.

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