

Ruth Groff
Town Board Member Report
April 2023

- **Ithaca Tompkins County Transportation Council (ITCTC) Planning Committee: March 21, 10:00am**
 - TIP Action Amendments:
 - Updating Bridge & Pavement Condition and System & Freight Performance Targets
 - New Carbon Reduction Program project – City of Ithaca
 - Update FTA Sect. 5307 Table
 - Cayuga Heights is implementing a “walking safe” program
 - Safe routes to school projects
 - Sidewalks on Cayuga Heights Road
 - More grants are shifting focus to social and environmental justice
 - TCAT hired an On Demand Program Director
 - NYS Bridge & Culverts is ramping up
- **Parks, Recreation, and Trails Committee: multiple meetings**
 - **March 21, 3:30pm** – Zoom meeting with Cornell Design Connect to discuss their progress
 - **March 23, 4:30pm** – Site review with the Cornell team, walking a portion of the trail between fire station and schools
 - **March 28, 7:00pm** – Review with two of the Cornell team to talk about their progress on easements research
 - **April 4, 3:30pm** – Met with Cornell team
 - They have 3 routes mapped, and will compile into one for the presentation
 - They have done a steep slope analysis
 - They are reviewing types of stone dust to be used
 - They have been reviewing case studies
 - **April 12, 7:00** – The Cornell team gave a preliminary (practice) presentation to the full committee at Town Hall
- **Conservation Advisory Council (CAC): two meetings**
 - **March 30, 3:00pm** – I met with the Co-Chairs of the committee so they could review with me the status of the Open Space Index work
 - **April 6, 6:30pm** – Bergmann Associates presented preliminary results of criteria ranking, using only parcels of 70 acres or more. Criteria analyzed were:
 - Plant, animal, and bird habitats; unique natural area; scenic views; slopes; access to lake; possibility for recreational usage; possibility for development
 - They then walked through one parcel for the committee to give an overview of their process
- **Capital Improvement Committee: April 5, 9:00am**
 - Projects over \$500k were assigned dates (years) needed, in order to be able to move forward with finalizing the Tier 1 of the Capital Plan. Tier 2 will be projects more than \$200k but less than \$500k. Awaiting input from Town Engineer to assign a value to one of the waterline updates, then I will be able to proceed with allocating costs over the next ten years, identifying affects to tax rates.