

Hon. Edward LaVigne, Supervisor  
Town of Lansing  
Lansing Town Hall  
29 Auburn Road  
Lansing, NY 14882

Dear Supervisor LaVigne:

This letter is to voice the Tompkins County Health Department's support of the Town of Lansing's 2021 Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation (OPRHP) Environmental Protection Fund Grants Program for Parks, Preservation and Heritage, which will support revitalization efforts at Myers Park.

A key element of the Myers Park Revitalization Project is installation of new unisex bathrooms and replacement of the aging sewage system. Given its proximity to Cayuga Lake, the failure of the system at Myers Park could constitute a significant public health risk. The Town is to be applauded for seeking to manage a potentially concerning situation in this proactive manner. Other improvements to circulation, access, and parking will encourage bike riding and walking on the Park's re-envisioned trails and could provide the incentive for both children and adults to enjoy more active recreation.

Myers Parks is one of six parks along Cayuga Lake's shoreline offering public bathing beach access. The Cayuga Lake Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Action Plan notes this area as a potential priority location to monitor to limit the negative effects of HABs on public health. We also support the Town's concurrent work to stabilize Salmon Creek in Myers Park. Reducing run-off could contribute to preventing the formation of HABs. The recent events during this summer and in the past have alerted lakeshore residents and recreational users of the lake to the threat HABs constitute to human health and the aesthetic enjoyment of this wonderful natural resource. This shoreline protection work will stabilize the bank and reduce the level of sediment entering Cayuga Lake, and will ideally be implemented as part of this Myers Park Revitalization Project.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I can provide further assistance.

Thank you,



Brenda Grinnell Crosby  
Public Health Administrator, Deputy Director  
Tompkins County Health Department