

## **The Plattsburgh Compact between the City and the Town**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Plattsburgh Common Council, under the leadership of Mayor Rosenquest, and the Town of Plattsburgh Town Board, under the leadership of Supervisor Cashman, do hereby make a commitment to come together on this 16th day of April in the year 2021 with a reconciling spirit, to resolve the conflicts of past administrations that painfully bleed into the present day, and to focus on mutually beneficial solutions, shared goals, and regional successes that will establish a strong foundational bedrock that will last far into the future; and

**WHEREAS**, the respective councils of the City and Town hereby vow to proceed from this day forth with a commitment to **communication**: so we may speak for ourselves and hear each other; **collaboration**: so we may plan and work together on projects, especially those that create shared prosperity; and **compromise**: so we may resolve disputes by mutual allowance; and

**WHEREAS**, the respective councils acknowledge that the work we do, the relationships we build, and initiatives we create all build towards a legacy that will impact not only the current but also future generations of residents that call Plattsburgh home, and

**WHEREAS**, both municipalities value and wish to act upon the proven benefits of intentional community development, including Smart Growth, comprehensive land use, zoning, Complete Streets and any future planning methods that serve to embrace our natural resources, and enrich the lives of our residents and the shared economy of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, both municipalities recognize the vast public safety responsibility and economic power of quality infrastructure, principally clean and safe water—one of our most precious resources—and waste-water treatment, an equally important and potentially valuable resource; and

**WHEREAS**, both municipalities host assets shared by local residents and enjoyed by visitors, and both municipalities own land of significant value, or would benefit from the acquisition of certain lands of value located within the boundary of the other for immediate cost savings and/or long term planning; and

**WHEREAS**, litigation between the municipalities should be a last resort and any on-going litigation strains the fabric of our community, wastes municipal resources and hurts relationships, negates the urgency of progress and diminishes community confidence with far greater cost than benefit to the residents of the City or Town.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the City of Plattsburgh and Town of Plattsburgh enter into this Plattsburgh Compact (“Compact”) to re-claim and re-establish our municipal partnership and uphold the virtues of communication, collaboration, and compromise. This Compact describes a specific framework so we can accomplish numerous goals, including: the resolution of all pending litigation between the municipalities; a binding path to resourcefully and efficiently adjust the boundaries of the City and the Town so that both municipalities mutually benefit; a joint planning initiative for areas where our communities intersect; and a joint infrastructure initiative, which includes the water and waste-water systems and the Plattsburgh Organics Recycling Plant; now

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City and Town agree to develop and execute a binding Settlement Agreement in which the City and Town will, in consideration of each component of the Settlement Agreement, mutually discontinue the “Falcon Seaboard Litigation” (Index No. 2018-0333), and mutually discontinue all litigation involving or related to the Reeve’s Lane Annexation Petition (AD3d Case No. 532792). As part of that Settlement Agreement, the City and Town will commit to commence and facilitate the legal process allowing the City to expeditiously adjust its boundaries to include the City-owned parcels located at 205 Reeves Lane (Tax Map No. 220.-4-32) and 217 Sharron Avenue (Tax Map No. 233.7-1-14), while providing payments established in the 5-year District Protection Program; and allowing the Town to commence and facilitate the legal process to expeditiously adjust its boundaries to include the County-owned parcel located at 17/27 LeMay Drive (Tax Map No. 233.6-1-2.1); now

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City and Town shall forthwith develop and enter into a Memorandum of Agreement to work toward the advancement of shared opportunities for comprehensive planning and zoning initiatives that lead to direct commercial corridor enhancements, including, but not limited to, (i) those on Cornelia Street, Rugar Street, Commodore Thomas MacDonough Highway, Route 9 South and South Peru Street; (ii) to establish procedures and processes that will foster compatible zoning and development at municipal boundaries, complete with outlined coordination between the City and Town where development projects are substantially contiguous to the municipal boundary and/or may result in impacts to traffic, utilities, community character, and development patterns within the adjacent community and (iii) establish a process for meaningful discussion and compromise in the event that future mutually beneficial boundary line adjustment opportunities arise; now

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the City and Town shall forthwith develop and enter into a Memorandum of Agreement to explore opportunities related to enhancements to and resiliencies and efficiencies of each municipality’s individual infrastructure and that of shared infrastructure in the future which shall include water systems, waste water systems, and the Plattsburgh Organics Recycling Plant; now

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Common Council of the City of Plattsburgh and the Town Board of the Town of Plattsburgh do hereby come together on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year 2021 with mutual respect and appreciation for one another and with a renewed commitment to strive for generational and transformational change that creates harmony, prosperity and lasting impacts for the people and businesses of greater Plattsburgh; and finally,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Common Council and the Town Board respectfully beseech future administrations to sustain this vision and to always reimagine what can be accomplished through communication, collaboration and compromise.

**TOGETHER** we sign this Compact in a spirit of partnership and public service, understanding that we serve the citizens of our respective communities and that our citizens deserve the best government possible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Compact on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2021.

**CITY OF PLATTSBURGH**

**TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH**

By:\_\_\_\_\_

By:\_\_\_\_\_

Name: Christopher Rosenquest

Name: Michael Cashman

Title: Mayor

Title: Town Supervisor