



Steven M. Neuhaus
County Executive

Amanda Dana
Director of Tourism

October 8, 2019

Laurie Villasuso
Chief Executive Officer
Orange County Industrial Development Agency
4 Crotty Lane, Suite 100
New Windsor, NY 12553

Dear Laurie,

Please accept this letter of support of the IDA application for the South Gates Flats Luxury Hotel and Spa project to which I enthusiastically endorse as a much-needed lodging and hospitality initiative.

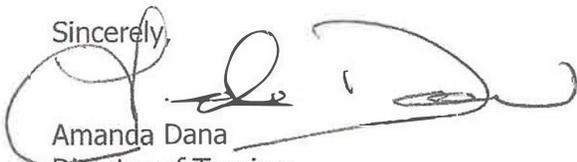
Orange County has a never seen the growth in the tourism industry as it has right now. With this rise of domestic and international visitors, comes the demand for a diverse lodging platform that will cater to all demographics. The timing is perfect for the planning and construction of a first-class hotel. This luxury property features fine dining, full service spa and salon, rooftop club room with pool and fitness center, lobby bistro, lounge, group meeting spaces, social events spaces and office space. The property is designed specifically to meet the goals of the OCIDA as this project will promote economic prosperity, create jobs and attract visitors to Orange County.

This veteran owned project will be built on the site of a currently vacant bank and a significantly deteriorating boarding house, both extreme eye sores and sources of crime in Highland Falls that are near the entry gate to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Additionally, once South Gate Flats is open, it anticipates creating 61 full-time hospitality jobs on site.

The Village of Highland Falls is experiencing a revitalization of their "downtown" with an emphasis on arts, culture and tourism. This project completely compliments the ongoing efforts of the business community to accomplish this initiative.

I strongly encourage the board of the OCIDA approve this application.

Sincerely,



Amanda Dana
Director of Tourism