

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town of Arietta Comprehensive Plan Advisory Committee

FROM: Laberge Group

DATE: January 1, 2009

RE: **RECREATION, LAND USE & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
SUMMARY RESULTS FROM THE THIRD COMMUNITY WORKSHOP**

This report summarizes the findings of the third community workshop held at the Arietta Town Hall on December 17th, 2008. The workshop was the second of two visioning sessions for Town residents, focusing on local recreation, land use, and economic development issues and concerns. A large group of approximately 50 stakeholders, residents and Steering Committee members attended the workshop. The format of the meeting began with a detailed presentation used to educate and update the attendees on the Comprehensive Plan process, followed by a question and answer sessions, facilitated by the consultants.

The following are the topics discussed at the workshop:

- Lakefront right of way issues, specifically paths for designated recreational activities (cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing, etc.)
- Senior Housing for the growing number of retired and elderly population in Town.
- Specific example that might relate to Arietta’s Senior Housing problem: The Green House Project
- Properties on ridgelines need to be properly reviewed and analyzed, so the effects on the landscape can be better understood if they are developed for housing, commercial or recreational uses.
- The development of proper infrastructure for telecommuting (cell phone coverage, wireless and broadband internet, etc.).
- The promotion of the availability for yearlong and seasonal residents to telecommute, and allow them to reside in Arietta all four seasons.
- The improvement of bicycle safety through development of clearly marked bicycle lanes, slowing auto traffic down, and making drivers more aware of persons using bicycles on high volume roads.
- The need for hospital or medical facility located in Town, allowing those that are unable to drive long distances to receive better or improved medical services.
- Develop a better understanding for residents of APA guidelines and land use regulations. Town residents would better react to the restrictions if they were more aware of them prior to the application process.
- Request for examples of successful transformative planning projects in Town similar to Arietta.
- Resolution over conflict of Piseco Lake access for boat mooring, docks, and floating platforms that extend into the lake several hundred feet from property lines. *(This issue was discussed following the meeting by a NYSDEC officer in more detail.)*