

January 14, 2020

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To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Health Subcommittee of the Route 9 Corridor Master Plan's Monitoring Committee, I am pleased to support the University of Delaware's grant proposal to the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) funding opportunity, Research to Action: Assessing and Addressing Community Exposures to Contaminants. The project, ***Legacy contamination into local knowledge: Conducting a comprehensive, community-engaged risk assessment in vulnerable Delaware coastal communities***, will provide much needed information, resources and support to further efforts related to the recommendations of the Master Plan, which identifies the best reinvestment and redevelopment strategies for the corridor.

The Health Subcommittee has established an important dialogue between area civic leaders and local government about environmental impacts to community health. We have collected local health-related data, are trying to better understand their implications, and are actively pursuing on-the-ground projects to improve health outcomes, such as advocating for additional street-sweeping and more active storm drain clearing. Our membership includes key area civic leaders, state government, community non-profits, and healthcare providers.

We look forward to collaborating with the University to provide input into project planning and implementation, as well as with supporting community engagement and feedback.

We support the University of Delaware's proposed project and are excited about its potential to improve the health and well-being of residents along the Route 9 corridor. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at: bswiatek@wilmapco.org, or 302-737-6205 x113.

Sincerely,



William Swiatek
Principal Planner, WILMAPCO
Chair, Route 9 Master Plan Monitoring Committee