

TOWN OF CORTLANDT

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Press Release

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October 3, 2013

The New Master Plan for the Town of Cortlandt October 3, 2013 – December 31, 2015

The Town of Cortlandt is entering into a <u>new</u> Master Plan study, review of current policies from previous Master Plans and eventually will come up with new ideas, policies and plans for our Cortlandt Community.

The newly appointed Master Plan committee is comprised not only of existing members of our boards, committees and councils but by several residents from all sections of the community. The members were appointed by the Town Board.

Four town staff members will advise our committee (town attorney, town engineer and two of our town planners). The membership also includes a representative from each of our Villages (Buchanan and Croton-on-Hudson). The meetings will take place at our Town Hall on a monthly basis and will continue for two years as we explore and navigate the next path and journey for Cortlandt.

The staff and I have been working all summer to put together the initial packet for the members, which includes the policies implemented from the previous Master Plan adopted in 2004, the categories or scope to discuss for this new plan and the list of many presentations to the committee to assist them in this endeavor.

The Town Board agreed to my proposal for a new Master Plan and officially appointed the members. We have applied for a grant to cover the expense of retaining a planning consultant for assistance on this major project. If we do not receive it then we'll

do the work in house with our staff. I will be chairing and guiding the project which will end at the end of the year 2015. Therefore, it's a two year project.

This is the third Master Plan that I have been involved with; one as town councilwoman in 1988, and two as Town Supervisor. As always we are proud of our achievements over the years. However, there's always more to do and more improvements to make for our community. New York State recommends that a local government begin a new Master Plan every ten years ant that's exactly what we are doing.

I am very proud to be part of our new study, which is a guide and a tool for our government and Town Board to use for the next decade. We will be discussing economics, infrastructure, roads, more recreation needs, environmental and energy issues, technology, as well as use of our riverfront properties and open space preservation, to name just a few.

NOTE: All meetings are open to the public to listen to the committee's discussion and to later (via e-mail) make comments to the Supervisor and advisors to consider for future agenda items. The first meeting is Thursday, October 3, 2013, 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

Linda Puglisi

Supervisor, Town of Cortlandt