

Dryden Town Board  
Planning Dept  
93 E Main St  
Dryden, NY 13053

December 17, 2018

Thank you for the notice of the December 20, 2018 Town Board hearing regarding TCCC's requested pedestrian access to Lee Road. My wife and I have commitments that evening and cannot attend the hearing. We both feel Dec 20, 5 days from Christmas, is an odd choice of meeting time to discuss a matter of concern to so many of our neighbors and also a time when village officials are engaged in their regular Village Board meeting.

I reviewed information posted on the [www.dryden.ny.us](http://www.dryden.ny.us) webpage referenced in your letter of 12/11/18, but did not find any additional information concerning the hearing. The only town board meeting information I found (as of 12:30 pm 12/17/18) was from the 11/15/18 board meeting. I did not spend a lot of time searching further; it appears there are many imbedded pages in the website you referenced in your letter.

The requested TCCC pedestrian access puts the Village of Dryden on a very slippery slope. Before considering this request, the village government and residents deserve to know what actions regarding pedestrian access to village services, if any, TCCC implemented as a result of college/village meetings held over the past 18 months. I attended the first public meeting and a subcommittee held subsequent meetings to address a number of issues identified at the first meeting. From my direct involvement in the first meeting, it was apparent TCCC was not adequately meeting the transportation needs of their resident students at that time. It is unclear if TCCC has implemented any improvements in transportation services to better serve the needs of their students. Is this pedestrian access proposal TCCC's 'no cost' solution? Is TCCC willing to commit financial and other resources to assist the village in solving the college's problem? This is part of the slippery slope issue.

Granting pedestrian access to Lee Road will give TCCC a low to no cost solution of a problem of their own making. No one 'blames' the students for TCCC's unwise decision to place residence halls in a remote location, TCCC is clearly responsible for the students' lack of access to downtown Dryden services. Making Lee Road a pedestrian thoroughfare to the residence halls by simply opening a gateway to our street would appear to solve a major problem for them at no cost to them.

Allowing Lee Road pedestrian access from TCCC raises questions regarding the safety of student pedestrians using this access. If this access is granted, will sidewalks on Lee road be necessary to insure pedestrian safety in the village? Of course it will, and at considerable expense to village residents. In addition, how will concerns of safety to students using the 'unimproved walkway' from the dorms to the Lee Rd access be addressed? The obvious scenario for ensuring pedestrian safety along this eastern portion of the walkway will require provisions for vehicular access extending east from the end of Lee Road. The second provision of the original special permit denies such access, but again, if the pedestrian restriction is lifted, a precedent has been established, and the Lee Road vehicular extension to the TCCC residences could easily follow.

On the surface, this may appear as a fairly simple matter, but amending the Special Permit opens the door to a number of undesirable future outcomes for Lee Road residents and our village. Approving the request should not simply be an action item at a Town Board meeting scheduled at an inconvenient time for many village residents to attend and at the same time when the village officials are holding their regular meeting.

I respectfully request that action on this matter be rescheduled for a time after the holidays when our elected village officials and village residents can conveniently participate. I further request that TCCC representatives be present to update the community on what they have done to assist their students in this matter and what they will do to address these issues going forward.

Sincerely,

  
James A Bartsch

29 Lee Road  
Dryden, NY 13053  
Cc Mayor M Murphey

December 15, 2018

Mary Ann and Terry Lutz  
33 Lee Road  
Dryden, NY 13053

Jason Leifer  
17 Hunt Grove Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850

Dear Mr. Leifer:

We received a notice, dated December 11<sup>th</sup>, from the Dryden Town Planning Department stating that the Planning Department is considering allowing pedestrian access from TC3 property to Lee Road. We are opposed to allowing TC3 students free access to Lee Road for the following reasons:

1. **Safety:** There are no sidewalks or shoulders on Lee Road which is very narrow. Also night time lighting is inadequate. It would be unwise to increase pedestrian traffic under those conditions. It is our understanding that students have access to a TC3 van service which would make having access to Lee Road unnecessary.
2. **Quality of Life:** Although TC3 students do not officially have access to Lee Road, they do come down our street and when they do, it is not uncommon to find roadside trash they leave behind or to be awakened late at night by boisterous students as they walk back and forth.
3. **Crime:** It is common knowledge that there is significant crime including illegal drug sales and assaults in the TC3 student housing. We do not want students with criminal intent to have easy access to our neighborhood.
4. **Water Runoff:** Our house was flooded this year from excessive runoff from TC3 property. We believe TC3 is not properly managing their flow of surface water which floods down the hill to the properties of Lee Road residents. A sidewalk connecting TC3 property to Lee Road could act as a conduit for additional downhill water flow.

Sincerely,

*Mary Ann Lutz*

*Terry Lutz*

Xc: Deborah Cipolla-Dennis

Linda O. Lavine

Dan Lamb

Kathy Servoss

Marty Moseley

Thomas Hatfield

John Kiefer

Martin Hatch

Craig Anderson

Joseph Wilson

David Weinstein

Michael Murphy, Dryden Village Mayor