

From: Joe Bowes <jbowes@ithacanhs.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 12:46 PM
Subject: Comments Re: Varna Zoning Law

To whom it may concern:

INHS has reviewed the revisions to the Varna Zoning Law. The revisions to the law seem appropriate to support the type of development envisioned by the Planning Board and the Town Board. The one change INHS would suggest is to expand the range of “green building” certification programs that could qualify a development for the density bonus. LEED was, of course, the first such certification program widely in use and has long been the standard, but there are now other certification programs that would provide the same benefit while allowing developers some flexibility in term of specific program requirements. INHS has used the national Green Building Standard, as well as Enterprise Green Communities. We would suggest that both of these programs be included in the new zoning law, or at least that the phrase “or another equivalent green building certification program” be added to allow this flexibility.

Sincerely,

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