



Owasco Lake Watershed
Management Council, Inc.
6073 West Lake Road
Auburn, NY 13021

February 7, 2022
Town of Dryden
93 East Main Street
Dryden, NY 13053

Dear Board Members of the Town of Dryden,

The Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council (OLWMC or ‘Council’) humbly requests the Town of Dryden resolve to join the Board of Directors for the OLWMC. The OLWMC is an inter-municipal 501(c)3 nonprofit development corporation with representation from municipalities throughout the Owasco Lake watershed; it is an umbrella organization that oversees and provides a platform for all Owasco Lake watershed municipalities and partners. The Council is committed to watershed protection and restoration actions to protect water quality for Owasco Lake, a drinking water supply for nearly 47,000 local residents. It has also been a leading organization for the advancement of the Lake Friendly Living program throughout the Finger Lakes Region.

The OLWMC has been successful at unifying a multitude of watershed municipalities, that now benefit from, not only inclusion and collective voices towards advancements in conservation, but also from flood monitoring and asset management services provided by the Council. The Council is positioned to provide invaluable programmatic information to municipalities for the advancement of external funding and project solutions towards implementing and improving stormwater infrastructure and climate resiliency. Moreover, the OLWMC respectfully requests the Town of Dryden make a resolution to join the Council and select a representative to attend our monthly meetings (when available). These meetings are held both in-person at Auburn Memorial City Hall (1st Floor, 24 South Street, Auburn, NY), and integrated remotely, at 10:00 AM on the third Tuesday of each month.

Directorship from the Town of Dryden would add to over half of all watershed area municipalities that have already joined the OLWMC and will help direct necessary improvements within the watershed and the lake, fostering resiliency for the sake of a healthy vibrant community. Furthermore, the Town's resolution to join would help strengthen the Council and grow capacity for both the Town's and OLWMC's future grant proposals towards greater external and NYS funding to help improve water-related infrastructure, water protection, and climate resiliency. A resolution from the Town of Dryden to join the OLWMC does not require an initial commitment of funding, rather a commitment of watershed stewardship and solidarity. Those watershed municipalities that have committed dollars to the Council's efforts give what they can, and some that have held directorship for years, have yet to commit any financial support.

Included in this package are the original organizational resolution for the OLWMC, a watershed map that depicts the current level of directorship and buy-in within the Owasco Lake watershed, and a resolution template for the Town of Dryden to use for simplifying its resolution to join. Please visit the OLWMC's website to learn more about its mission, vision, existing municipal directorships, and watershed management successes: www.olwmc.org.

Finally, I would like to attend a town board meeting to explain in more detail why your advocacy and direction on the Council will benefit your community as well as the health of the Owasco Lake watershed. Please let me know when there will be an opportunity to add this discussion item to your monthly board meeting agenda.

Please, feel free to contact me with any questions and/or concerns, and otherwise inform me of your board's decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,



Adam J.P. Effler, PhD, Executive Director
Owasco Lake Watershed Management Council
ajpeffler.OLWMC@gmail.com
cell: 315-975-7146