

*Friends of Clifton Park Open Space, P.O. Box 821, Clifton Park, New York 12065*

**For Immediate Release**

**December 5, 2017**

**FRIENDS OF CLIFTON PARK OPEN SPACE IS PLEASED THAT THE SHENEDEHOWA SCHOOL DISTRICT VOTERS HAVE ACCEPTED THE SALE OF 37 ACRES OF SURPLUS SCHOOL LAND TO THE TOWN OF CLIFTON PARK**

**WE CONGRATULATE THE TOWN AND THE SCHOOL BOARD ON THEIR MEMORANDUM TO WORK TOGETHER FOR ENSURING THE BEST FUTURE USE OF THIS PROPERTY FOR EVERYONE**

CLIFTON PARK, NY--The residents of the Shenendehowa School District have voted to approve the School District's agreement to sell 37 acres of surplus land to the Town of Clifton Park. Friends of Clifton Park Open Space (FRIENDS) is extremely pleased with this result.

FRIENDS believe that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two public entities, along with a well-established town process for engaging the public in dialog and workshops to develop the town's public spaces, will ensure the permanent protection of this acreage. This MOU outlines a planning process for the land and establishes a joint committee to explore opportunities for shared services to enhance access to the parcel and surrounding lands solely for public purposes.

We also believe that this beautiful space will provide protection to the nearby elementary schools along with potential outdoor classroom activities. Furthermore, a public amenity like this park will also help increase both sales tax revenue to the towns and increased property values for local residents year over year. It is truly a win-win proposition.

FRIENDS would like to thank the many supporters who devoted their time and/or financial resources—again—to this new vote. It was the hard work of our grass roots organization that led to tonight's result.

We thank the voters of the District for this outcome. We compliment their foresight to see beyond today by taking this proactive step to keep our district a great place to live, work and play. We urge residents to work with the town to make this property the best public resource it can be.

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