

MAR 22 2021

TOWN OF YORKTOWN

To: Yorktown Planning Board
From: Yorktown Tree Conservation Advisory Commission (TCAC)
Date: March 22, 2021
cc: Yorktown Planning Dept. (J. Tegeder, R. Steinberg, N. Calicchia); Engineering Dept. (L. Kobiliak); Conservation Board (K. Hughes); Town Supervisor (M. Slater); Town Clerk (D. Quast); TCAC members (L. Klein, T. Schmitt, K. Schepart)

Re: Initial TCAC comment on proposed solar facility at 3849 Foothill Street

Dear Chairman Fon and members of the Planning Board:

The TCAC received additional documents relating to this project on March 17, 2021. We have the following initial comments:

1. Requirements under the revised tree law for non-administrative permit applications per §270-8.C should be followed so the adequacy of the proposed mitigation may be evaluated and determination made whether off-site or other mitigation should be considered.
2. The comparison of solar vs. residential development by Joe Shanahan on behalf of the applicant is instructive. While there may be some opportunities for mitigation of tree removals under residential development, the comparison makes clear the superior environmental benefits of the solar development. The non-permanent alteration of the landscape under the solar plan is key when compared to permanent alteration under the residential alternative, not to mention the environmental benefits of providing a significant amount of clean energy.

Sincerely,

Bill Kellner, Chair, Tree Conservation Advisory Commission
Lawrence W. Klein, PE, Member
Keith Schepart, ISA, Member
Tom Schmitt, Member