



February 15, 2022

To: Members of the Town of Washington Town Board
Eau Claire County Planning & Zoning Committee

Re: Orchard Hills Rezoning

We are writing to encourage approval of the proposed rezoning of the 238 acres proposed for the Orchard Hills development at Deerfield and Mischler Roads to provide for the development of a single-family residential subdivision.

The Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce has served our community since 1915 as the advocate of business. We have nearly 1,200 investor organizations who employ more than 45,000 individuals throughout the Eau Claire County area. We work to represent the business community as a champion of a strong local and regional economy.

Among the most significant current challenges for our local economy are workforce development and housing supply. These issues are closely tied together because housing supply impacts the ability to meet the needs of a growing population, as well as affordability for all individuals and families. This is an opportunity to increase housing supply in the area, addressing the housing shortage while providing benefits for everyone towards attainability and affordability.

This rezoning is appropriate, given that the planning activities of both the Town of Washington and Eau Claire County, dating back as far as 1979, have long included the expectation that this parcel of land would be developed into housing. It should also be noted that the developers must still meet all applicable standards and regulatory requirements before proceeding with the project.

We respectfully encourage an affirmative vote on the proposed rezoning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Hoffmann".

Scott Hoffmann
CEO, WIN Technology
Chair, Chamber Board of Directors

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Rogers".

Scott Rogers
Vice President Governmental Affairs
Eau Claire Area Chamber of Commerce

Reply to:
rogers@eauclairchamber.org 715-858-0616