



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

October 23, 2012

John R. Williams, P.E.
Interim Regional Director
New York State Department of Transportation
207 Genesee St.
Utica, NY 13501

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for your recent letter outlining steps that have been taken to address concerns over traffic safety issues on Route 28. While we certainly respect your methodology and your conclusions, I must ask that you further consider the concerns that have been expressed by residents in that area.

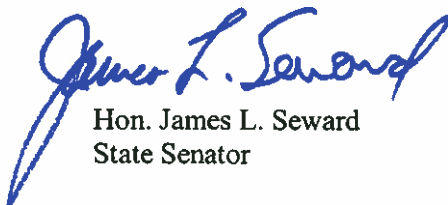
While we can not dispute the surprising accident history your study cites, we do note that there has been significant additional commercial growth along this roadway, including traffic generated by an auto dealership, bakery, physical fitness center, farm equipment sales and other commercial properties. Residents we met and spoke with have talked about many near-misses and other property damage accidents that have gone unreported. We also note that the speed limit on Route 28 nearby (Don Reile Boulevard) is 45 miles-per-hour.

We urge you to consider other measures to be taken to enhance safety in that vicinity. Perhaps signs warning of a commercial area and the potential for increased traffic would at least be a step in the proper direction. In that manner, many motorists who use Route 28 as an access point to the Adirondacks and North Country can at least be alerted to the need for additional caution.

While we do appreciate your efforts in conducting the traffic study, in this case, we feel that doing nothing is the least effective result. We invite you to meet with us and neighborhood residents so you can more clearly understand their concerns and to witness, first hand, the conditions.

We look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,


Hon. James L. Seward
State Senator


Hon. Marc W. Butler
Member of Assembly