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Sent: Wednesday, June 22, 2016 11:45 AM

To: Mayor; Jon Mark; Bill Stern; Deb Pekarek; Marc Samwick; Matthew Callaghan; Jane Veron; Carl Finger

Cc: Amy Paulin; Steve Pappalardo; Robert Cole; Benedict Salanitro; Tyler Seifert; rkschulhof@gmail.com

Subject: Food Composting Initiative - significant grant opportunity

Hello Mayor Mark and Village Board of Trustees,

Over the past 2 weeks Ron and I have had 2 important meetings regarding food scrap recycling that we would like to bring everyone up to date with.

Our first meeting was in Albany with Assemblywoman Amy Paulin, her staff attorney and 4 members of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. The meeting was set up by Assemblywoman Paulin to help us further our food scrap recycling initiative and specifically to discuss New York State's potential to help with any such program. The meeting was a productive one. In short the State is offering significant grants to municipalities and counties to encourage sustainability initiatives. A food scrap pilot pickup program would fall within the parameters of the grant. We left off that we would explore a potential grant for our town - either alone or in partnership with Westchester County.

Our second meeting was here in White Plains with Assemblywoman Paulin, Westchester County Legislators Francis Corcoran and Catherine Parker (who are the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board's Environmental Committee) and Lou Vitrone of the Westchester County DEF. Like the meeting with the NYSDEC, this meeting was to discuss what the County could offer to help with a food scrap pilot program in Westchester. The legislators were brought up to date regarding our discussions with the DEF to either use their Rocket at the H-MRF for our pilot pickup program or have it lent to us and installed at Secor. We also discussed with them the idea of the County partnering with us to make a joint grant application for the NYS grant. Assemblywoman Paulin felt that a joint application would be strongest. We left off that the Assemblywoman was going to speak with our Village Manager's Office and request exploration of a joint grant application with the County. Lou and his staff at the DEF are also looking into the grant application. FYI the application deadline is July 29.

In our prior email on this topic we requested that the Board of Trustees ask Village management to speak with the County regarding both (1) doing a joint program where the Rocket stays at the H-MRF and we bring our residential food scraps there and (2) obtaining a loan of the County's Rocket for installation in Scarsdale. We still feel strongly that these are both great options that should continue to be pursued for Scarsdale.

There is now, however, an opportunity to obtain significant grant funding from New York State that would not only support the costs of our pilot program, but could help fund the costs of a program once it is out of the pilot phase and open to our entire community.

As the grant is due by July 29, we request an immediate meeting with both Village Management and the Board of Trustee Sustainability Committee to discuss the grant application. That meeting would then fairly quickly need to be followed up by a meeting between us, Village Management and the County DEF. We look forward to hearing back from you on this as soon as possible so that we can take advantage of this significant opportunity that entails both the partnerships and financial savings which would be ideal for Scarsdale.

We appreciate your attention to and support of this initiative.

Best,

Michelle and Ron