Dear Mr. Thompson,

Mayor Mark asked that I respond to your e-mail.

The sentiments expressed in your e-mail are shared by many residents, merchants, commercial property owners and village officials.

There is a working group comprised of a Village Trustee, members of the Village Staff, merchants and landlords that meets monthly to discuss issues affecting the Village Center and to develop strategies that will promote activity and attract desirable businesses to the area. Topics discussed during our meetings include the creation of a strong merchant group that will work collaboratively to promote the businesses in the Village Center, identification of value added retail that will improve the shopping experience for our residents and identification of how each group represented, with their respective talents and expertise, can help to attract and sustain new businesses in the Village Center.

In summary, please be assured that the Village, with the assistance of critical stakeholders, has taken a proactive approach to developing solutions to this critical issue.

Best,

Ingrid M. Richards
Assistant Village Manager
Village of Scarsdale
1001 Post Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583

914.722.1315 <u>irichards@scarsdale.com</u> www.scarsdale.com

From: Nicholas Thompson < nthompson272@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, January 11, 2017 11:39 AM

To: Mayor

Subject: Vacant storefronts downtown

Dear Mayor Mark,

I have lived in Scarsdale my entire life.

I have never seen downtown Scarsdale so vacant. It's concerning to me because of the fact that there are less stores for people to go to, the fact that the empty storefronts are an eyesore on the village, as well as the fact that the village is losing tax revenue from the businesses that are empty.

Is there anything that the village can do to negotiate with the landlord to encourage him to get the empty storefronts leased? Some of the storefronts have been vacant for over a year.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely, Nicholas Thompson