

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Beacon City Council
1 Municipal Plaza
Beacon, NY 12508

Dear Mayor Casale & Members of the City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Beacon Farmers' Market Committee to ask you to renew our License Agreement for 2019 as it stood for 2018, enclosed here. After careful consideration, we have decided there are too many loose ends to transition to the DMV lot in 2019 and request to run the Market as last year, which means **May 5, 2019–November 24, 2019** with the hours of **10am–3pm**, on **Veterans Place**.

Neither myself nor the Committee understood until Tuesday, April 9, that the City Council and Staff were awaiting a proposal from the Market for our License Agreement or that a vote on April 15 would not be possible. We were evaluating the proposed move and awaiting answers to our questions posed on March 25. **Given the short timeline, I hope that you will give this matter your immediate attention and that we will be able to come to a consensus at the next Workshop Meeting on April 29.**

A successful opening day and season require intense planning, vendor recruitment, and public outreach and advertising over many months and with many stakeholders. The DMV lot is untested territory for the Market, as discussed with the Council on March 25; will music and prepared food be allowed and under what conditions? Can the Market operate during Parade days? Will we have access to electricity and under what conditions? How will this affect parking and traffic flow within the lot and surrounding areas?

Since the Market's 2017 return to this central location — its home when the Market started — we have seen the positive impact the move has had on many local business owners, local farmers, other vendors, and most crucially to our mission: many of the food-insecure members of our community. While not all business owners agree, a vast majority of our neighbors on Veterans Place support the current location — such as the Beacon Flea and Beacon Natural Market with whom we have critical reciprocal relationships.

In summary, the Market Committee requests that we be allowed to return to Veterans Place for the 2019 Outdoor Season, provisionally opening on Sunday, May 5 with formal voting on May 6.

We regret any confusion that we inadvertently caused regarding the renewal process, and hope for the Council & City Staff's support to keep the market on track for our opening day on May 5th. I am happy to discuss any questions or concerns at any time. My contact information is included below.

Thank you for your time,



Paloma Wake

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