

**THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK**

**VICE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE**

**CHAIR**  
ETHICS AND INTERNAL GOVERNANCE

**CHAIR**  
INSURANCE COMMITTEE

**CO-CHAIR**  
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS COMMISSION

**MEMBER**  
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON RURAL  
RESOURCES



**NEIL D. BRESLIN**

SENATOR, 46TH DISTRICT

**COMMITTEES**  
FINANCE  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
JUDICIARY  
RULES

June 9, 2023

**Re: Upstate Ice Plex; CFA Grant Application**

To whom it may concern:

I write in support of the Upstate Ice Plex, Inc. (UIP) as they apply for funding through the Consolidated Funding Application.

The "Multi-Use Ice Plex" will service two primary counties-Montgomery and Fulton, while servicing the outskirts of the neighboring counties and districts. The proposed project offers vast potential benefits and is centrally located. This facility will contain two rinks, curling rink, gym, lounge area, conference area, affordable daycare, and a possibility for emergency services, filling a void in our communities.

It should be noted that there is a critical need for affordable daycare in this area and this project would help address this basic need. UIP is highly motivated to deliver a state-of-the-art sports facility that improves both their quality of life and economic opportunities for the Mohawk Valley Region.

It is for the above reasons that I respectfully urge favorable consideration of Upstate Ice Plex's application. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil D. Breslin".

Neil D. Breslin  
Member of Senate

ALBANY OFFICE: ROOM 430 STATE CAPITOL • ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247 • TEL (518) 455-2225 • FAX (518) 426-6807  
SATELLITE OFFICE: 61 CHURCH STREET • 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR • AMSTERDAM, NY 12010 • TEL (518) 842-2159  
E-MAIL: BRESLIN@NYSENATE.GOV • TWITTER: @NeilBreslin46 • FACEBOOK: NeilBreslin

ALL MAIL SHOULD BE SENT TO THE ALBANY OFFICE.



**NEW YORK**  
**STATE**  
**SENATE**

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



SENATOR MARK WALCZYK  
49<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

June 5, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

We support the proposed Upstate Ice Plex in Fulton County, New York.

Upstate Ice Plex is a not-for profit corporation seeking to build a multipurpose recreational center in Fulton County. The proposed facility would include two ice skating rinks, a curling rink, a fitness center, and a daycare facility among other amenities. It will support a variety of recreational activities including ice hockey, figure skating, curling, weightlifting, lacrosse, and indoor soccer. Furthermore, it has the potential to host events such as concerts and car shows.

The proposed Upstate Ice Plex facility offers enormous potential benefits. It will provide both recreational and community building opportunities for residents of Upstate New York. The facility will also promote local businesses and boost the regional economy.

Once again, we support the proposed Upstate Ice Plex project in Fulton County, New York. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Walczyk".

Mark C. Walczyk  
Senator  
New York SD-49

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Beth Walsh".

Mary Beth Walsh  
Assemblywoman  
New York AD-112

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Simpson".

Matt Simpson  
Assemblyman  
New York AD-114

MCW/mc

# *City of Gloversville*

Office of the Mayor  
3 Frontage Road  
Gloversville, New York 12078-2897  
518-773-4551 (phone) 518-773-2593 (fax)



Congresswoman Elise Stefanik  
2211 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik,

Please accept this letter as an expression of support for the proposed ice arena project in the Town of Johnstown, Fulton County NY. This project would be a benefit to the City of Gloversville and the entire county by attracting visitors from the wider region and beyond. It could also be used to host a wide variety of civic and community events, especially during the long winter months when outdoor gatherings are impossible due to the weather.

Our county is situated in the perfect location for future development at the southern foothills of the Adirondacks with its year-round recreational attractions. This project would increase tourism in the area which would foster significant growth in commercial activity not only in our lakeside areas, but in our two small cities as well.

Thank you for your anticipated active support for this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Vincent DeSantis  
Mayor



# City of Johnstown

## Office of the Mayor

PO Box 160, 33-41 East Main Street  
Johnstown, New York 12095  
Phone: (518) 736-4012 • Fax: (518) 736-4032  
[vjackson@cityofjohnstown.ny.gov](mailto:vjackson@cityofjohnstown.ny.gov)

RECEIVED  
4/22/21

April 20, 2021

Hon. Congresswoman Elise Stefanik  
US House of Representatives  
2211 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Ice Plex to be located in Fulton County.

Having a facility, as suggested by Timothy Rizzo, within the County would definitely be an asset. This Ice Plex would provide an outlet for not only the youth, but entire families, for an enjoyable time skating, playing hockey, curling, and possibly Tournament Hockey. This would draw people from all over to our area, which would prove to be a huge boost to the economy in Fulton County.

I ask for your support to bring this project to fruition,

Sincerely,

Vernon F. Jackson  
Mayor

CC: Timothy Rizzo



# Clarkson

## EXTERNAL RELATIONS

8 Clarkson Avenue  
Potsdam, New York 13699  
315-268-4499  
clarkson.edu

April 8, 2021

Hon. Congresswoman Elise Stefanik  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2211 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik,

Clarkson University loves ice hockey. And the North Country loves ice hockey – *and some figure skating and curling, too*, making ice-plex facilities a common gathering place and rallying point across your entire District #21.

Our alumnus Timothy Rizzo, PE '98, perpetuates our hockey DNA as a past Clarkson student in Potsdam and now a leader in Johnstown in Fulton County. He is spearheading a sentimental project inspired by Mrs. Cleland, his kindergarten arts teachers, to complete a recreational facility for community winter sports.

We know that Clarkson's Cheel Arena in Potsdam, built in 1990 and named in honor of the legendary Helen Snell Cheel – the daughter of North Country Congressman, House Minority Leader and Clarkson Board Chair Bertrand H. Snell – has been a magnet for community development and regional economic impact through the Golden Knights men's and women's collegiate schedules as well as hosting numerous youth ice competitions, practices, etc. ranging from youth hockey to open skates and ice dancing to the World University Games coming in January 2023. Our 50+ NCAA game nights a year with 4,000+ fans is a key part of the \$348 million in economic impact Clarkson brings the region. In our more rural communities, places like Cheel Arena are an unparalleled location for congregation of large scale events ranging from our own commencement exercises to supporting registration for the Collegiate Bassmaster Championship this summer to dueling pianos on the arena floor for a large-scale fundraiser for Hospice of St. Lawrence Valley to serving as a Red Cross Shelter in times of need. It is a place where the community comes together.

As the stewards for Cheel Arena, we are supportive of the proposal Mr. Rizzo has prepared for a Recreation Center through the Community Project Funding to bring the same kind of energy and economic opportunities to his community in Johnstown, Fulton County that adds to the quality of life for residents and brings new sources of tourism to the region. If I can provide further advocacy from Clarkson about the value of ice rinks in serving local youth, collegiate sports and tourism, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Kelly O. Chezum '04

Vice President for External Relations, Clarkson University

*Mom to #31, St. Lawrence Steel 16U Goalie That Skates Throughout District #21  
and Looks Forward to Competing in Johnstown*

cc: Timothy Rizzo '98

# GLOVERSVILLE ENLARGED SCHOOL DISTRICT

234 Lincoln Street, Gloversville, New York 12078

Telephone (518) 775-5791

Fax (518) 773-7280



David Halloran  
Superintendent

April 12, 2021

Dear Congresswoman Elise Stefanik:

I am writing to offer my full support for an indoor ice skating facility in Fulton County New York. Our area is somewhat of a desert when it comes to indoor exercise/sports facilities. Our region's children are forced to travel to the Capital District or Utica region to play indoor ice hockey, soccer, etc.

The proposal is well conceived and includes many healthy and fun options for families and youth. Our county has a high poverty rate and many of our children are unable to travel to other regions to compete due to economic constraints.

As the Superintendent of the largest school district in Fulton County, I speak for our community when I say that this facility will be well utilized and appreciated. Please let me know how I can help to bring such a great concept to fruition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Halloran', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Halloran  
Superintendent of Schools

**THE GREATER AMSTERDAM SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Richard Ruberti, Jr., Superintendent of Schools**  
PO Box 309  
140 Saratoga Avenue  
Amsterdam, New York 12010



[www.gasd.org](http://www.gasd.org)

April 16, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the construction of the Ice Plex within proximity of the Amsterdam school district. A project such as this would be a great asset to the community and the Greater Amsterdam School District.

The city programs and the school program coexist on the premise of mutual cooperation and support. A facility such as this will be a huge asset to the youth of Amsterdam and to the school district. We currently have student athletes commuting to Schenectady to pursue a chance to compete in youth and interscholastic hockey. An ice facility in the city would allow the district to expand programs academically and athletically.

As a rough estimate I can assure you that on average I could see at least the high school and middle school students utilizing such a facility on a weekly basis. That would range from 200 to 400 students. There would also be the possibility of a revenue generating mechanism through youth and school hockey events.

The City of Amsterdam and the Greater Amsterdam School District are in full support of this project and feel that the community would greatly benefit from such a facility.

If there is anything else I can do to support this project please do not hesitate to contact my office at 518-843-3180 ext. 7801 or my cell number, 518-269-0109. I would be happy to add anything I could in support of this project.

Sincerely,

Richard Ruberti  
Superintendent of Schools

**Main Office: 518-843-3180**

Superintendent: Ext. 7801	Special Education: Ext. 7301
Data/Personnel Ext. 7500	CSE Office: Ext. 7302
CPSE Office: Ext. 7303	Purchasing: Ext. 7408
Business Office: Ext. 7400	



# Fonda-Fultonville

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 26, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the construction of the Ice Plex that will be located adjacent to Montgomery County and to the Fonda-Fultonville Community. A project such as this would be a welcome addition to this area.

Young people in both Montgomery and Fulton Counties have limited options to participate in hockey, curling, and figure skating. I know there are many young people that have an interest in these types of sports, but they do not pursue them because the only options are over an hour away. In areas that have limited resources, community facilities such as the Ice Plex, would generate a brand new set of healthy activities for individuals and families.

In my experience, a local facility like the Ice Plex will create more opportunities for young people to be active, to make friends and to develop their skills.

The Fonda-Fultonville Central School District is in full support of this project and we believe our community would benefit greatly from this type of facility.

Sincerely,

Mr. Thomas Ciaccio  
Superintendent of Schools

*A Legacy  
of Families First*

**District Office**

518-853-4415 Ext. 4230  
Fax: 518-853-4461  
Mr. Thomas Ciaccio  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**Business Office**

518-853-3732 Ext. 4207  
Fax: 518-853-3534  
Mrs. Tabatha Biggane  
*Business Official*

**High School**

518-853-3182 Ext. 4238  
Fax: 518-853-1239  
Mr. Aaron Grady  
*Principal*

**Middle School**

518-853-4747 Ext. 4246  
Fax: 518-853-4498  
Mr. David Zadoorian  
*Principal*

**Elementary School**

518-853-3332 Ext. 5001  
Fax: 518-853-1455  
Mrs. Megan Collins  
*Interim Principal*

**Pupil Services**

518-853-4747 Ext. 4234  
Fax: 518-853-8643  
Mrs. Kristine Dickson  
*Director of SPED/Pupil  
Personnel*

**Student Registration**

518-853-4747 Ext. 5008  
Fax: 518-853-4498  
Mrs. Amy Thum  
*Data Coordinator*





*Pleasant Avenue Elementary • Warren Street Elementary • Johnstown Junior-Senior High • The Knox Building*

**William T. Crankshaw, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools  
**Ruthie D. Cook**  
Assistant Superintendent  
**Melissa L. Baker**  
School Business Manager

**Administration Center**  
The Knox Building  
400 South Perry Street  
Johnstown, New York 12095  
Telephone: 518.762.4611  
Fax: 518.762.6379; 518.762.3127  
[www.johnstownschooldistrict.org](http://www.johnstownschooldistrict.org)

April 28, 2021

Hon. Elise Stefanik  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2211 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik:

I am writing to offer my support for the Fulton County Recreational Center Ice Plex proposal put together by Timothy Rizzo.

With Fulton County being at the Foothills of the Adirondacks, outdoor recreation activities are quite popular and provide a much needed financial boost for our area. The addition of an ice rink in the winter, and all it entails, would no doubt be a welcome addition to the current leisure offerings for residents of the county and could attract tourists from across the state and beyond.

I believe this is a good economic investment for Fulton County. I am wholeheartedly in favor of this endeavor and look forward to its completion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "William T. Crankshaw", is written over a horizontal line.

William T. Crankshaw  
Superintendent of Schools

WC/sh

cc: Timothy Rizzo, PE

Fulton  Montgomery  
REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Hon. Congresswoman Elise Stefanik  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2211 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

April 21, 2021

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik,

I am writing this letter in support of Mr. Timothy Rizzo and his efforts to create the Fulton County Recreational Center and Ice Plex. It is our belief that this facility will not only be a tremendous asset to Fulton County and all its residents, but it will also serve as a catalyst to spur tourism by drawing visitors from outside the county, region, as well as from other states.

This facility will not only provide a badly needed economic boost to our county by supporting lodging facilities, restaurants, and local shops, but it will also contribute to enhancing the local quality of life and instill an increased sense of pride for all our county's citizens.

The Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce strongly supports Mr. Rizzo's vision and his proposal, and we will continue work closely with him to make the Fulton County Recreational Center Ice Plex both a reality and a success.

Sincerely,  
Mark Kilmer



President/CEO  
Fulton Montgomery Regional Chamber of Commerce



Hon. Congresswoman Elise Stefanik  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2211 Rayburn Office Building,  
Washington, DC 20515

April 13, 2021

Dear Congresswoman Stefanik,

Lexington is proud of the men and women we support and the determination and commitment they have to participate in a wide variety of sports. Our athletes compete in basketball, volleyball, bowling, water skiing, downhill skiing, archery and many other adaptive sports throughout the year. They participate in Special Olympics and work with number of adaptive sports centers to provide opportunities for these athletes. These centers are distant from our location and limit the number of people that can participate.

The project being proposed by Mr. Tim Rizzo for the Fulton County Recreational Center Ice Plex would be a great asset to the region and especially to the men, women and children with disabilities supported by Lexington. We foresee many unique opportunities for a wide range of people who participate in winter activities and we are sure that many of the facilities could support adaptive sports.

Lexington and our athletes strongly support the proposal as it begins to take shape and look forward to many exciting competitions and experiences at the Fulton County Recreational Center Ice Plex.

Sincerely,

*Wally*

Wally Hart, Executive Director  
Lexington Foundation



**Joe Baudo**  
NYSAHA President  
USA Hockey District Director

57 Countrygate Lane | Tonawanda, NY 14150-6200  
Phone & Fax 716-694-0182 | [joe.baudo@nysaha.com](mailto:joe.baudo@nysaha.com)

May 27, 2022

Empire State Development  
Once Commence Plaza  
Albany NY 12245

Gentlemen:

The NYSAHA is in support of a new facility in the Mohawk Valley area of New York State. A new facility will allow more youth, girls and adults to participate in our wonderful game.

Yours in Hockey  
New York State Amateur Hockey Association, Inc.

**Joe Baudo**

Joe Baudo  
President  
District Director

cc: NYSAHA Board of Directors



New York State Amateur Hockey Association is an Affiliate Member of USA Hockey Inc.



**Resolution No. 94**

Supervisor BUANNO offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING CONCEPT OF AN ICE SKATING ARENA  
ON ROUTE 10A IN THE TOWN OF JOHNSTOWN**

WHEREAS, the Committee on Economic Development heard a presentation by Wilderness, Inc., of Johnstown, NY, whereby they propose to establish an ice skating arena on Route 10A, in the Town of Johnstown; and

WHEREAS, Wilderness, Inc. is in the process of seeking Federal, State and private grant funds for this not-for-profit venture; and

WHEREAS, the Committee on Economic Development endorses of this concept that would greatly benefit the local Fulton County community, as well as the entire region; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project, when completed, will be a multi-functional facility for various sporting, recreational and other community-oriented events; and

WHEREAS, development of such a facility is also important as it could spur other interest and development for related recreational projects; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Supervisors hereby endorses the concept of establishing an ice skating arena on Route 10A, in the Town of Johnstown, as proposed by Wilderness, Inc.; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That certified copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Fulton County Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Wilderness, Inc., Administrative Officer/Clerk of the Board, and to each and every other person, institution or agency which will further the purport of this Resolution.



33-41 East Main Street • Johnstown, New York 12095

- Mayor  
(518) 736-4012
- Alderman  
(518) 736-4011
- City Assessor  
(518) 736-4015
- City Attorney  
(518) 736-4018
- City Chamberlain  
(518) 736-4017
- City Clerk  
(518) 736-4011
- City Engineer  
(518) 736-4014
- Code Enforcement  
(518) 736-4076
- Fire Chief  
(518) 736-4079
- Library  
(518) 762-8317
- Police Chief  
(518) 736-4020
- Senior Center  
(518) 762-4643

03/02/98

RESOLUTION NO. 34, 1998

Alderman Foss presented the following Resolution and moved its adoption.

**WHEREAS**, the ice skating rink proposed by Wilderness, Inc. will enhance the recreational opportunities for this area, and

**WHEREAS**, the rink will benefit this area economically, and

**WHEREAS**, the rink will maintain the environmental integrity of the land.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, That the Common Council enthusiastically supports Wilderness, Inc. in its project to construct an Olympic sized ice skating arena.

Seconded by Alderman Cole

Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: 5

Noes: 0



**Empire State** Development

RECEIVED MAR 23

**Charles A. Gargano**  
Commissioner

March 16, 1998

Ms. Jessica Smrtic  
Director  
Tourism Development  
Fulton County Regional Chamber of Commerce  
2 North Main Street  
Gloversville, NY 12078

Dear Ms. Smrtic:

Governor Pataki has asked me to thank you for your recent letter to him regarding Ms. Mary Cleland's efforts to create a community skating facility in Fulton County.

The Governor and I support your community's efforts to establish an ice skating facility in the Rockwood area that would serve Fulton County and the surrounding region. This type of grassroots initiative is crucial to enhancing the quality of life in New York State. We assure you that the creation of this new recreational facility will receive full consideration in the Pataki Administration's continuing efforts to expand recreational and tourism development in New York State.

Thank you for bringing this worthy project to our attention.

Sincerely,  
