Outlook

My opposition

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Date Tue 11/17/2026 5:10 PM
To Dina Falcone <townclerk@townoflysander.org>

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These are not my words, and I'm sure you've seen it before, but this puts into words what I am unable to do. With this email I will capitalize on someone else's ability to wholeheartedly express my thoughts, feelings and opinions, as they did a flawless job doing so.

Dear Lysander Town Board Members,

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the proposed zoning changes intended to accommodate the White Glove dumpster rental operation. I oppose changing the zoning to legitimize a business that was allegedly established and operated outside of its originally permitted agricultural use. I also respectfully request that my opposition and the concerns outlined in this letter be included in the official meeting minutes.

My concern extends beyond the dumpster rental business itself. It is about the precedent this situation sets for land use, zoning enforcement, and the Town's responsibility to protect its residents.

As I understand it, a property operating under an agricultural permit, initially presented as a Christmas tree farm, has since become a commercial dumpster rental operation. Neighbors have raised legitimate concerns about the business operating in their agricultural neighborhood, its impact on surrounding properties, and the potential for environmental contamination.

Rather than holding the property owner accountable for operating outside the property's originally permitted use, the Town now appears to be considering changes that would accommodate the business after the fact.

This raises an important question:
If zoning regulations can be changed to accommodate a business that has already operated outside its permitted use, what protections do residents actually have when it comes to future development?

There are approximately 140 additional acres of agriculturally zoned land on the same road. With the proposed data center site nearby, it is difficult not to question what this could mean for the future of Route 48. We could potentially see an industrial dumpster operation, a large-scale data center, and

additional development filling in the agricultural land between them.

The concern is that agricultural zoning begins to mean very little if the Town is willing to change it whenever a commercial or industrial interest presents an opportunity.

This situation is particularly troubling in light of the ongoing data center discussions. Residents are being asked to trust that the Town will protect our water, environment, property values, infrastructure, and quality of life. But that trust requires consistent enforcement, transparency, and accountability.

If the Town cannot enforce its existing regulations when a business operates outside of its permitted use, how can residents be confident that it will stand firm when a multibillion-dollar corporation comes forward with development proposals and promises of revenue?

I would like the Town Board to address the following concerns:

- What accountability exists for property owners who operate businesses outside of their permitted zoning?
- Why should zoning changes be considered to accommodate an operation that was allegedly established and operated without the appropriate permits? In my limited research, the only appropriate action would be a cease and desist.
- How are the concerns of neighboring residents, particularly those who purchased property in an agriculturally zoned area, being weighed in these decisions?
- What assurances can the Town provide that the remaining agricultural acreage along Route 48 will not become subject to similar zoning changes or industrial expansion?
- What concrete protections will be in place to ensure that future data center development does not set a precedent for additional industrial development throughout this corridor?

I want to be clear: this is about more than one business or one development proposal. It is about the direction of our town and whether the regulations intended to protect our community will actually be upheld.

The Town cannot ask residents to have confidence in its ability to regulate a massive data center development while simultaneously creating the appearance that existing zoning regulations can be adjusted to accommodate businesses that have already operated outside of them.

Promises of economic development and tax revenue should never outweigh the responsibility to protect the people who already live here.

**Accountability should come before accommodation, and protecting our residents should come before accommodating commercial interests.

I respectfully request that my formal opposition to the proposed White Glove zoning change, along with the concerns and questions outlined in this letter, be entered into the official meeting minutes as part of the public record.

I hope the Board will take these concerns seriously and provide residents with clear answers about how it intends to protect the agricultural character, environmental resources, and long-term interests of our community.

Respectfully,

Sent from my iPhone