

Stanley Hose Company Fire Department

122 Park St. Sherman, NY 14781-0574 Phone 716-761-6700 TDD-771 Fax 716-761-6767

October 11th, 2024

Ms. Karen Utz, Regional Director REDC
95 Perry St., Ste. 500
Buffalo, NY 14203

RE: VILLAGE OF SHERMAN - NY FORWARD GRANT APPLICATION ROUND 3

Dear Ms. Utz

As the Financial Secretary for the Stanley Hose Company, and active volunteer member since 1993, I am writing this letter in full support of the Village of Sherman's NY Forward Grant application aimed at revitalizing the village center at the heart of the area we serve.

The Village's vision is focused on economic, educational, and recreational opportunities for families and residents of all ages. The NY Forward award would expedite and ensure the successful restoration of empty, aging buildings; create additional housing to support the growing desire for families wanting to move into the community; improve the multi-use trail and upgrade recreational space; among other smaller yet equally beneficial projects.

The fire department is particularly supportive of the bookend projects that will take two empty commercial buildings that in their current condition are blight concerns. These reuse strategies will ensure that these old, deteriorating buildings will have their electrical and gas utilities safely brought up to code, while repairing structural and foundational concerns, as well as transforming and beautifying their appearance.

The Stanley Hose Company is committed to this community, serving the towns of Sherman, Mina, Westfield, and Chautauqua. Stanley Hose Company has invested \$200,000.00 to remodel the fire hall's kitchen, bathroom, and banquet space, reside the exterior façade, add new signage, repair the roof, windows, doors, install insulation and new energy efficient systems, all through grants, donations, and generous foundations. Additional investment went to purchase the new rescue truck for \$800,000.00, ambulance for \$300,000.00, and air packs for \$92,000.00. Much of which was made possible through generous donations from The Harold Wake Family Foundation and grants funded through the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation (CRCF), Sheldon Foundation, SAM (State & Municipal Capital Grant), and a USDA Emergency Healthcare Grant.

On behalf of all the volunteer firefighters at the Stanley Hose Company, we offer our full support of this application to NY Forward, and respectfully request that you consider awarding the Village of Sherman this critical funding. Such an allocation would provide a catalyst for the transformation and regeneration of this rural community.

Respectfully, 

Joel Fisher – The Stanley Hose Company INC.