

DEC 16 2010

To: Cayuga Heights Trustees

From: Victoria Pifalo and Kieran Donaghy
Cayuga Heights Residents

Date: December 15, 2010

Re: Deer Management Plan and DEIS

We are writing to express our grave misgivings about and objection to the proposed deer management plan with its reliance on lethal means—and particularly cruel ones—that are inconsistent with current Village and State regulations. We are also concerned about restrictions that the plan will place on our outdoor activities in the neighborhood and the threats to public safety from the use of firearms to slaughter the deer in undisclosed locations at undisclosed times. Our objection is such that we will not give permission to allow the discharge of firearms within 500 feet of our property.

As relative newcomers to Cayuga Heights, we are struck by the evidence contained in the DEIS documenting the failure of the community to sensibly address a growing deer population in a concerted fashion for years. While there are *estimates* of the size of the deer population in the DEIS, the report does not detail **compelling** evidence of a comparative nature about the incidence of disease and traffic accidents associated with the increased deer population that would warrant taking a drastic lethal measure before non-violent options have been exhausted. It is extremely odd that the DEIS does not provide alternatives between that of no action and that of sterilization/culling. Chief among non-violent methods should be a fence ordinance commensurate with the suburban (as indicated in the DEIS) nature of our community. Others are steps to deter traffic accidents (reflectors, strict enforcement of the speed limit or a lower one, deer crossing signs) and an education program about health and gardening as related to wildlife realities.

We strongly urge you to reconsider the decision to implement the divisive, immoral, and illegal plan proposed in the DEIS. While adverse social and economic consequences are discounted within the scope of the DEIS, they are weighty considerations in achieving a rational deer management program that protects the harmony and reputation of the community.

c: Police Chief Tom Boyce