

June 15,2022
NYS Canal Corp
Jacqueline Schillinger
Designation of "Sally's Trail"

I am reaching out to you as a representative of concerned residents from this area. We are requesting to establish "Sally's Trail" as an official designated trail. This trail runs along the west side of the Champlain Canals from its access at East St south to Argyle St in the village of Fort Edward. It has been maintained by NYS Canal Corp for 20-25 years. We only recently discovered its nickname "Sally" and how that came about. Sally was the wife of Dan Culligan, a former NYS Canal Corp employee. She used this path frequently as a lover of nature and wildlife. Even after Dan retired and they moved on to Florida, Canal Corp employees have referred to it as "Sally's Trail". I guess everyone who works for the local canal corp knows this pathway as such. Another point of interest is that on June 4, 2022 - in Washington, DC - the NYS Canalway Waterway Trail was designated as one of the nine new national recreation trails. This joins us to a network of more than 1,300 existing national recreation trails. This trail lies along the aforementioned shoreline. We feel it is imperative to protect access to "Sally's Trail" for recreational purposes.

In less than 1 week we have made great strides to make this happen. We have approx 50 village residents who have signed the petition to save "Sally's Trail". We have acquired approx 40 area residents on board thru sign.moveon.org - an online petition that reaches out thru facebook. We presented to the Fort Edward Town Board on Mon 6/13/22 and were able to get their endorsement for the designation of said trail. They did not feel it affects them because it lies within the Village but they offered to reach out to the Village Board to engage their support. We presented our petitions to the Village Board on Tue 6/14/22. There was much discussion due to the IDA's development of Canalside Energy Park. This path is being considered as in Dave O'Briens email to me " The only path for sewer to the park is along the canal and while we are evaluating that, we are evaluating all other options." We feel this demonstrates that " Sally's Trail" is not the only option. How can we as a community disregard this recognition from Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland.

Thank you for your attention to this region. attached(I hope) or following are:

- Copies of petition from village residents
- Documentation from on line petition
- Posting from National Parks Service News Release
- Website for Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Paddle the Water Trail (that we are a part of) eriecanalway.org/explore/watertrail check it out it's amazing
- Photo of sunsetting over "Sally's Trail"

Please contact me if there is any other information I can share. We await your direction on what steps should be taken next. We look forward to continued networking with NYS Canal Corp in the future.

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