

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Braiden McElhaney - Candidate for Orchard Park Town Council

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## Braiden McElhaney Criticizes Town Board's Missed Opportunity in Stadium Area Development

Orchard Park, NY — Braiden McElhaney, a local real estate professional and candidate for Orchard Park Town Council, expressed concern over the Town Board's recent decision to bypass a comprehensive zoning reform plan for the area surrounding the new Buffalo Bills stadium.

Former Councilmember Conor Flynn had secured \$100,000 from Empire State Development to fund a feasibility study aimed at exploring diverse development opportunities around the stadium, including hotels, retail spaces, and mixed-use residential areas. This comprehensive approach was designed to transform the stadium into a vibrant, year-round destination.

However, the current GOP-controlled Town Board opted to advance a more limited plan developed by the Economic Development Committee, focusing solely on spot zoning a few parcels for hotel development. This narrow approach has resulted in potential developments relocating to neighboring Hamburg, leading to missed economic opportunities for Orchard Park.

"As a realtor, I understand the importance of strategic planning in fostering community growth," said McElhaney. "The decision to forgo a comprehensive development plan in favor of a limited, short-sighted approach is a disservice to our town's future."

McElhaney emphasized the need for transparent, inclusive planning processes that prioritize the long-term prosperity of Orchard Park. He advocates for revisiting comprehensive development strategies that consider the diverse needs of the community and capitalize on the economic potential of the stadium area.

"The best time to implement forward-thinking policies was 20 years ago; the next best time is now," McElhaney stated. "It's time for leadership that envisions a thriving Orchard Park for generations to come."

For more information about Braiden McElhaney's campaign and vision for Orchard Park, please visit [www.Braiden4OP.com](http://www.Braiden4OP.com).

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