

**VILLAGE OF THOMASTON
100 EAST SHORE ROAD
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March 8, 2023

Dear Resident,

Governor Hochul has proposed a plan to create 800,000 units of new housing across the state. She indicated that her plan would utilize unprecedented statutory mandates diminishing the long-standing local government powers of villages, cities, and towns throughout the state. The plan would involve a "New York Housing Compact" that would have the power to impose numerical quotas for building new housing units in "every single locality across the state."

This program is a radical, unprecedented, and drastic departure from the historical and home rule powers enjoyed by localities and recognized by the state for decades. The proposed program would require the rezoning of ten-of-thousands of acres of property on Long Island.

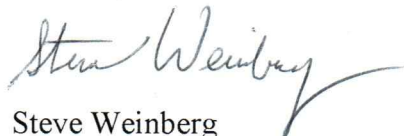
Public hearings, consultations with local officials, community groups and other government service institutes such as school districts, police departments, water and sewer services and EMS providers are vital. The required due diligence for a program of this magnitude cannot be fully studied, understood and justified in the short time remaining before adoption of a state budget.

As the residents of the Village of Thomaston, the government closest to the people, we know our community and the individual nuances and characteristics of our Village best. For any partnership to survive and thrive, there needs to be open communication, sharing of information, and input into the decision-making process. This has not occurred with the affordable housing proposals championed by the governor last year and now this year. We have not received any details for us to review, assess and offer suggestions and there was no prior attempt to solicit our involvement. With an issue of this magnitude, we should have had a seat at the table to help vet ideas before they are made public.

THERE STILL IS TIME, AND IT IS CRITICALLY IMPORTANT, to write to our legislators now to oppose the Governor's Housing Compact. I have provided a sample letter for our residents to send to our NYS representatives and a copy of the Newsday editorial from March 3rd. Please send your emails or letters to the list of NYS representative listed at the bottom of the sample letter. Your letter or email can be as simple as --"I agree with the attached in opposing the Governor's Housing Compact." You may use the Newsday Editorial as the attachment.

I urge all residents to assert their opposition to the Governor's proposal.

Sincerely,



Steve Weinberg
Mayor