

Comments on Sunderlin/Red Rock Quarry Associates, LLC. Application for Business Permit (S.B.L. No. 8.000 – 1 – 8)

Submitted By: Steven Turczyn

March 9, 2022, Public Hearing

Members of the Board:

I am one of the owners of the land that Stone Quarry Road runs directly over and through. I have been associated with the Stone Quarry Road for over 50 years, as it has been owned by my family for over 66 years. The drive provides access to my property on either side to the White Lake Outlet. The attached are photos taken in mid-February of Stone Quarry Road and our property. I hope these photographs will assist the Planning Board to gain a better understanding of my concerns with the proposed reopening of the granite mine accessed by Stone Quarry Road.

I would like to raise the following concerns regarding Mr. Sunderlin's business permit application:

1. I do not agree with the Forestport Highway Superintendent, Bill Gardner's, statements regarding "regular maintenance."

The Forestport Highway Superintendent's February 11, 2022, letter claims the Town Highway Department performs regular maintenance on Stone Quarry Road each year.

The Superintendent's assertion of conducting "regular maintenance" on Stone Quarry Road is not accurate. As a landowner of the property directly connected to Stone Quarry Road, I have firsthand knowledge of the public use, traffic patterns, and level of maintenance associated with the road.

Based on my personal observation, I make the following clarifications regarding the claimed regular maintenance done on the road:

1. Maintenance has been performed not by the Forestport Highway Department, but by the Turczyn and DeTraglia families. There have been trees that fell across the road and left for extended periods of time until we were able to retrieve and remove them weeks later. The actual maintenance performed by the Forestport Highway Department is limited to reconstruction of the prior wooden bridge back in 1979, which provides access to the Sunderlin and DeTraglia properties. This reconstruction was only performed due to the cast iron culverts having been previously undersized at 2', rather than the necessary 4'.

2. The Forestport Highway Department does not cut or trim any brush on the side of the road. This task would be impossible considering there is no brush on the side of Stone Quarry Road. Our property is a hardwood lot, devoid of brush. See Attached Photos.
3. There is no seasonal replacement of road signs. This seasonal limited use highway is devoid of any Forestport or DOT signage, as are all private drives entering Route 28.
4. The road is not maintained and has never been plowed in the winter months.

The area adjacent to Stone Quarry Road has never been used for drainage, ditches, maintenance of signs or other highway infrastructure except installation of guardrails and the replacement of culverts in 1990 which define the 12-foot width of the travelled track of the road.

2. There is no signage highway infrastructure or signage on Stone Quarry Road.

- a. Stone Quarry Road is devoid of any Town of Forestport or NYS Department of Transportation signs. There is no local or state signage, including: no speed limit signs, no curve notifications, no max load limit over the White Lake Outlet culverts, no stop or caution signs, and no signs indicating or warning of the entrance to the Route 28 intersection.
- b. The only sign on Stone Quarry Road is the street sign at the intersection of the road and Route 28, which was only placed there about a year ago. See Attached Photos.
- c. I note also that a locked cable placed across the road in fall of 2021, as indicated in the Frymire Survey. This gate illegally obstructs the public right of way and must be removed.

3. The New Road Would Result in Acquisition of and Further Encroachment onto My Property

- a. The road is and has been a single-track land approximately 12' wide as defined by the width of the culverts over the White Lake Outlet. See Attached Photos.
 - i. The requirements for the new road will impact our property beyond this historic 12' public use.
- b. To accommodate the large trucks and tractors necessary for this project, the road will need to be widened to a two-lane road, instead of the existing one-lane.
 - i. As you can see from the attached photos, there is no room to widen the road without removing the trees on my property that line the road.
 - ii. There are also sections of the road that are unable to be widened due to protected wetlands on either side.
- c. There are also multiple sharp turns and bends in the road that large trucks will find difficult to navigate. See Attached Photos.
 - i. This project will not just require alterations to the existing road, but an entirely new road is likely necessary to allow for the passage of these

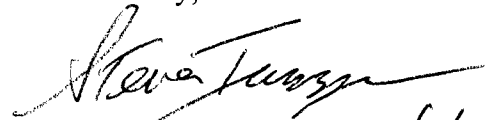
vehicles to the project site. This will result in the removal of trees and a likely need to straighten or redirect the road to eliminate the curves and sharp turns.

- d. A commercial driveway permit is required for this new road – this permit will require many adjustments to the current Stone Quarry Road, including but not limited to the following:
 - i. This road would likely fall under the category of a major commercial driveway under NYS DOT. A major commercial driveway's width must provide adequate capacity and design vehicle-turning paths that do not interfere with other traffic. Multiple lane exits and entrances may be required to maintain an acceptable highway level of service. These requirements will likely result in further encumbrances onto my property at the entrance of the road where it connects to Route 28, as land will need to be cleared and possible new turn lanes would need to be constructed, widening not just the road, but the highway as well.
 - ii. Connection to the State highway requires adequate sight distance. This requires the removal of trees around the entrance to Stone Quarry Road where it connects to Route 28, since the sighting distance at the road entrance is currently impeded by trees. This tree removal will occur on my property.

The Town should not grant site plan approval for this project. The maintenance statement by the Forestport Highway Department Superintendent is inaccurate and the requirements for the new road under this project will require major reconstruction of the road and acquisition of my property. Any sporadic public use or maintenance has not extended past the 12-foot travelled track of Stone Quarry Road and therefore there is no right of way for the town to create a two-lane highway onto.

As a landowner and as a member of the Town of Forestport, I do not approve of this project and urge the Board not to approve, as well. I am appreciative of the opportunity to provide public input and I look forward to continuing to participate in such opportunities in the near future. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions regarding these comments.

Sincerely,



Steven Turczyn

3/9/22





OF BARKING JACKS





