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To: Members of the Council
Department Heads
Commissioners and Board Members

During the past year and a half, I have felt honored and privileged to work with you—our Council, staff, and volunteers that make up our City Boards and Commissions. During this time, by working together, much has been accomplished. We have experienced real results in upgrading our water and street infrastructure, supporting our local businesses, building affordable housing, protecting public safety, and ensuring financial security. I attribute this to your sense of teamwork, passion for this community, and willingness to go above and beyond.

These accomplishments are only a start upon which we must continue to build. Our recent work on the development of the Oneonta Rail Yards and on our Downtown Revitalization Initiative has provided us with a rare opportunity to diversify our City's economy. We must continue to build upon these efforts and make sure that we get them right. Our planning process will soon begin with a publicly driven update to the City's Comprehensive Plan and a full Housing Analysis. Design work on improvements to Main Street facades, signage, gateways, and upper floor development should start this year.

Continued progress requires teamwork. We have worked hard to build partnerships with our colleges, business community, and county, regional, and state agencies. We must continue to nurture and strengthen these partnerships. The City's well-being is interdependent with that of our neighboring municipalities. For this reason, we must look for ways to work together but at the same time ensure a level playing field for the taxpayers of the City of Oneonta.

I want you to know that I will ask the citizens of the City of Oneonta to re-elect me as Mayor this year so that I can continue to work with you towards these goals. I have been inspired by what you have done along with many of our residents and business owners. Oneonta is a special place and, by working together, we can make it an even better place to live and work, both for ourselves and our children.