

Ken Bush Jr.

New York State Banking Department
1 State Street
Consumer Services Division
New York, New York 10004-1511

Thank you for the opportunity to address you concerning the Banking Development District program.

I currently serve as the Town of Elbridge Supervisor as well as a small business owner. I cannot fully express how important it is for our community to have a bank. When the large national bank closed its Jordan branch office, the village and the surrounding area suffered a tremendous blow both economically and morale wise. After several years and many attempts to attract another bank, Lyons National Bank was encouraged to locate a bank office in Jordan. With support of the community and the BDD program, a Lyons Bank branch office was opened in Jordan. I still remember seeing then Gov. George Pataki standing on the village four corners to officially open the new bank office.

While I cannot speak to many of the questions raised for this hearing, I can speak to how important it is for a community to be served by a community bank. The Lyons Bank office is the cornerstone of our business community. It also provides many services to area residents who do not have the ability to travel outside the community for their banking needs. As all communities especially small rural ones struggle to grow, it is even more important that a community have a bank. Without the BDD program I doubt there would be a bank in Jordan. It is most important that the BDD program continue to help banks locate and stay in the smaller under served communities because of the economic benefits that go with having a bank located in the community.

Thank you for allowing me to address and support the goals of the BDD program as it has been a great benefit to my community. I hope the program will continue so that we will continue to have a bank in the community.

Telephone: (315) 689-6116 Fax: (315) 689-9301
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 603 Jordan, NY 13080
E-mail address: kbushjr@twcny.rr.com