

RESOLUTION NO. 286

REQUESTING COLONIE CENTER TO ALLOW CDTA BUSES TO PICK UP AND DROP OFF PASSENGERS IN FRONT OF MALL ENTRANCES

Introduced: 6/11/07

By Mr. Nichols and Ms. Maffia-Tobler, Messrs. Aidala, Aylward, Beston, Burke, Clay, Collins, Commisso, Ms. Connolly, Messrs. Clenahan, Cotrofeld, Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Gordon, Horstmyer, Houghtaling, Infante, Joyce, Mayo, McCoy, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Monjeau, Morse, Reilly, Riddick, Shafer, Steck, Ward, Mss. Wiley and Willingham:

WHEREAS, Shopping centers have become the new town square in many instances in which people often gather for walking, meeting and congregating in addition to shopping, and

WHEREAS, Shopping malls such as Colonie Center have traditionally allowed public transit vehicles such as buses to pick up and drop off passengers at designated mall entrances for the convenience, accessibility and safety of people with disabilities, the elderly and families with small children, and

WHEREAS, New ownership has denied access to mall parking for CDTA buses which is causing a hardship for many people choosing to use mass transit to shop, exposing them to danger as they navigate on foot from the bus drop off at the mall's perimeter on Wolf Road through busy parking lots, at times through bad weather, to arrive at mall entrances and to return carrying heavy packages, and

WHEREAS, In an environment in which people should be encouraged to use public transit to reduce emissions that cause global warming and to conserve energy, such discriminatory policies will actually reduce ridership on public transportation, and

WHEREAS, Since Colonie Center as other properties in Albany County benefit from a number of public resources available to them, it is appropriate to request such entities to provide a public benefit such as direct access for disabled and elderly people using public transit, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Albany County Legislature hereby requests Feldman Mall Properties Inc., the new owners of the Colonie Center shopping mall, to allow buses from the Capital District Transportation Authority (CDTA) to stop at several designated entrances at the shopping center, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the Board of Directors of Feldman Mall Properties, Inc., Joe Millett, the General Manager of Colonie Center, and to the appropriate County Officials.

Adopted by unanimous vote. 6/11/07