



March 31, 2025

Lansford Borough Council
1 W. Ridge St.
Lansford, PA 18232

Dear Council Members,

We are proud to report the continued rise in popularity of the Pocono Mountains as a destination in recent years. The Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau (PMVB) attributes that growth to being an affordable, drivable getaway, specifically close to the New York and Philadelphia markets. The direct and indirect revenue from roughly 30 million visitors supports our community in a multitude of ways. Small businesses thrive in our downtowns, in turn restoring and preserving historic structures. This aids in maintaining the charm that makes our communities, including Lansford, Pocono Places that attract visitors and residents to share in the quality of life here.

The PMVB recognizes the historical relevance of Lansford and see an opportunity for further economic development by investing in the preservation of that very history. We encourage the development of Dock Street and the train station to anchor a future "Tourism Development Plan." The borough's recent purchase of the historic train station holds the key to future development and opportunity. Lansford sits between Jim Thorpe, and Tamaqua, both popular tourist destinations. We believe Lansford can also be a wonderful day trip option for visitors.

The location of the station is less than one mile from the No. 9 Mine and Museum. This is one of Poconos' most interesting and popular attractions keeping the anthracite coal mining heritage alive. We see forward momentum in the Panther Valley with the new train station in Nesquehoning. Our goal is to aide council in developing a "Tourism Development Plan" that will attract visitors, new businesses as well as home buyers, and real estate investors.

The train station will serve as a multi-use facility for both the community and visitors. In closing the PMVB intends to continue supporting the efforts of beautification, restoration and marketing throughout Lansford for residents and tourists. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss further.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Barrett".

Chris Barrett
President/CEO
Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau