

Dryden, New York
March 18, 2005

PRESS RELEASE

"These are critical times for county government" declared Tompkins County Legislative Vice Chair, Michael Lane, as he announced today that he will seek re-election from the 14th District. That district covers most of the eastern part of the Town of Dryden, including the Villages of Freeville and Dryden.

"Residents in Tompkins County are facing spiking real property assessments and double digit tax increases. These are fueled by spiraling costs of unfunded state mandates for Medicaid, pension, and health insurance costs--to name a few. At the same we are hard pressed to keep up basic public services like county roads, sheriff's patrols, the community college, and our library," Lane said. "In times like these, Tompkins County needs experienced and steady leadership. I believe I can provide that, and would like to continue to serve the people of my district and Tompkins County as a whole."

Mike Lane currently serves as Chairman of the County's Government Operations Committee. That Committee oversees County Administration, County Finance, Assessment Department, and the Board of Elections, as well as several other departments. The Committee has been investigating various kinds of county

government structures, including those with appointed administrators, and those with county executives. "We can't rest on our laurels," Lane said, "We must always be studying, comparing and looking for better ways to provide essential county services in the most efficient and cost effective manner."

As a member of the County's Planning, Development and Environmental Quality Committee, Mike Lane is committed to long range planning, and taking action to protect the quality of life. "Tompkins County's new Comprehensive Plan is a road map for encouraging economic development, protecting agriculture, and making our County a place that residents are proud to call home," he said. "I have encouraged and will continue to support Tompkins County's and the Town of Dryden's efforts to identify and protect our aquifers. They are the source of all drinking water in our district, and are a finite resource. They must be conserved for this and future generations."

Lane, 54, is serving his twelfth year on the County Legislature. He is an attorney in private practice in Dryden. Prior to election to the Legislature, he served ten years as mayor of the Village of Dryden. He presently chairs the

County's Industrial Development Agency, and serves as County liaison to both Tompkins Cortland Community College and the Tompkins County Public Library. Among other activities, Lane is a former candidate for New York State Assembly, is a Trustee of the Southworth Library Association, and is a charter member of the Dryden Sertoma Club.

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