



Onondaga County Legislature

DAVID H. KNAPP

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REVISED PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Livestream Available: <https://www.facebook.com/OnondagaCountyLegislature>

9:30 a.m.
June 20, 2024

401 Montgomery St., Room 407 Court House
Syracuse, New York 13202

- A. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.
- B. Presentation of Resolutions and Local Laws:
 - 1. **PLANNING:**
 - a. Modifying Agricultural District No. 4, County of Onondaga, Towns of Dewitt, Fabius, and Pompey, and Towns of LaFayette, Onondaga, and Tully (East of I-81)
 - b. Approving the Inclusion of Viable Agricultural Land within Certified Agricultural Districts Pursuant to Section 303-B of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law
 - c. Confirming the Appointment of Troy W. Waffner as Director of the Department of Planning
 - d. INFORMATIONAL: Housing Study Update
 - 2. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:**
 - a. Authorizing the Onondaga County Executive to File the 2024 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant, Home Grant, and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs (\$3,174,230)
 - b. Amending the 2024 County Budget to Make Surplus Room Occupancy Funding Available for use in Support of a Hotel Initiative (\$4,000,000)
- C. Adjournment

July 2, 2024

Motion Made By Mr. Knapp

RESOLUTION NO. _____

MODIFYING AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT NO. 4, COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, TOWNS OF DEWITT, FABIUS, AND POMPEY, AND TOWNS OF LAFAYETTE, ONONDAGA, AND TULLY (EAST OF I-81)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 303-a of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law, this Onondaga County Legislature adopted Resolution No. 134-2023 providing for notice of the eight-year review of Agricultural District No. 4 in the Towns of DeWitt, Fabius, and Pompey, and the Towns of LaFayette, Onondaga, and Tully (east of I-81); and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 91-2024, this Onondaga County Legislature authorized a public hearing on said agricultural district modification at the Onondaga County Courthouse on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, and such hearing was duly noticed and held; and

WHEREAS, the Onondaga County Legislature has completed the eight-year review of Agricultural District No. 4, and has received from the Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board its report and recommendations regarding the agricultural viability of the district and recommended modifications to the district; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Legislature to modify Agricultural District No. 4 as provided for herein; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the proposed action is an Unlisted action and this Legislature shall act as the Lead Agency for the purposes of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Short Environmental Assessment Form for this project has been completed and reviewed and is on file with the Clerk of the Legislature; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this Legislature hereby finds and declares a negative declaration under SEQRA in that there is no anticipated construction and no anticipated change in use, that the identified possible impacts, if any, on air quality and surface water quality will not be significant and there is little likelihood of significant adverse environmental impacts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Agriculture and Markets Law, Section 303-a, said Agricultural District No. 4 in the Towns of DeWitt, Fabius, and Pompey, and the Towns of La Fayette, Onondaga, and Tully (east of I-81) is modified as provided for herein; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the modification to Agricultural District No. 4 is as follows and encompasses the following parcels listed by town, owner, parcel number, and acreage:

ADDITION REQUESTS			
MUNICIPALITY	OWNER	TAX ID	GIS ACRES*
Fabius (Village)	Herlihy Kevin J	101.-02-11.0	9.10
Fabius (Village) Total			9.10

LaFayette	Ellys Acres Farm LLC	006.-01-18.2	1.29
LaFayette	Ellys Acres Farm LLC	006.-01-18.5	7.45
LaFayette	Ellys Acres Farm LLC	006.-01-18.7	8.11
LaFayette	Ellys Acres Farm LLC/Kenny Griffin	007.-02-23.0	5.50
LaFayette	Nurse Albert V	011.-02-25.1	2.02
LaFayette Total			24.36
GRAND TOTAL			33.46

* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.

REMOVAL REQUESTS			
MUNICIPALITY	OWNER	TAX ID	GIS ACRES*
Fabius	Aidun Meredith	106.-01-21.0	2.45
Fabius	County Of Onondaga	112.-02-13.0	6.44
Fabius	Crockett Peter J	124.-02-14.0	0.45
Fabius	Elter Thomas A	107.-04-01.0	0.94
Fabius	Ianuzi Stephen D	111.-02-10.0	0.68
Fabius	Jones Douglas M	109.-02-10.0	1.06
Fabius	Kowachik Michael J	118.-04-07.7	2.17
Fabius	Love Camp 355 LLC	104.-03-19.0	0.14
Fabius	Love Camp 355 LLC	105.-01-01.1	25.23
Fabius	Love Camp 355 LLC	105.-01-01.2	0.16
Fabius	Morford Anne	104.-03-18.0	0.14
Fabius	O'Reilly John R	124.-02-02.0	9.41
Fabius	Penoyer Robert H	111.-01-01.0	0.42
Fabius Total			49.69
Pompey	Baniewicz Richard R	013.-01-05.0	0.47
Pompey	Bargabos Dan E	004.-03-14.1	12.52
Pompey	Bargabos Dan E	004.-03-74.1	1.67
Pompey	Bargabos Dan E	005.-01-11.2	42.36
Pompey	Beasley Dr Kenneth	004.-22-23.0	1.08
Pompey	County Of Onondaga	027.-02-10.0	0.02
Pompey	DeHaas George	004.-03-58.3	1.09
Pompey	Pompey Community Church Inc	021.-02-07.3	5.00
Pompey	Ross Jennifer L	004.-18-07.0	2.07
Pompey	Ward Sarah A	015.-03-06.0	1.76
Pompey Total			68.04
Tully	Shaw Ronald J	108.-03-06.6	22.79
Tully Total			22.79
Grand Total			140.52

* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that should one or more of these parcels be subdivided prior to the expiration of said District, each of these subdivisions would automatically be considered a part of said District, and would remain in the District while it was in effect; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the district report with finding shall be submitted to the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets as provided for in Section 303-a of the Agriculture and Markets Law.



**DEPARTMENT
ONONDAGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION SHEET**

PURPOSE:

This resolution calls for the County Legislature to make a finding regarding the modification of Agricultural District 4 in the Towns of DeWitt, Fabius, and Pompey, and Towns of Onondaga, LaFayette, and Tully (east of I-81).

OBJECTIVE/ WORK PLAN:

New York's Agricultural Districts Law, Article 25-AA of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law was enacted in 1971 to help keep farmland in agricultural production. Agricultural districts are designed to protect agriculture through a combination of landowner incentives and protections that discourage the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses.

Responsibility for the creation and review of the State's agricultural districts lies within the authority of the county's legislative bodies. AML Sections 303 (district creation), 303-a (district review), 303-b (annual inclusion/addition of lands) and 303-c (district consolidation) detail the role county agricultural and farmland protection boards and legislative bodies play in district creation and review, and prescribe the public notice and public hearing requirements.

Per AML Section 303-a, the County Legislature is responsible for conducting a review of each agricultural district in the County on an eight-year schedule. During the review period, landowners and municipalities can request to have property added to or removed from the district, established as between January 1-30, to align with the annual additions request process for all districts in the County.

The Onondaga County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) prepares a report with a recommendation to continue, terminate, or modify the district and presents it to the County Legislature, who is to hold a public hearing and then make its final finding. The County Legislature then submits the final report with its finding to the Commissioner of the NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets for certification.

Agricultural District 4 is up for review in 2024 and landowners requested that lands be added to and removed from the District. The Onondaga County Department of Planning prepared a report, and at its February 27, 2024 meeting the AFPB reviewed and voted to forward the report with its recommendation to modify Agricultural District 4 to the Onondaga County Legislature. The Onondaga County Legislature has been asked to authorize a public hearing and at 12:55pm, just prior to the July 2, 2024 Session.

FUNDING SOURCE:

No fiscal impact.

BUDGET:

No fiscal impact.

REPORT TO THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

2024 EIGHT YEAR REVIEW

AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT 4

TOWNS OF DEWITT, FABIUS, AND POMPEY TOWNS OF LAFAYETTE, ONONDAGA, AND TULLY (EAST OF I-81)

FEBRUARY 2024

ONONDAGA COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD

	BRIAN REEVES, CHAIR	
CRAIG DENNIS	DAN KWASNOWSKI	MARK TUCKER
KAY HILSBURG	BRIAN MAY	DONALD WEBER
LEE HUDSON	EDWIN SKEELE	SCOTT WINKELMAN
	DAVID SKEVAL	

WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE ONONDAGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of the Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board's (AFPB) 2024 eight-year review and final recommendations to the County Legislature for Agricultural District 4 in the Onondaga County towns of DeWitt, Fabius, Pompey, and the Towns of LaFayette, Onondaga, and Tully (east of I-81).

The New York State Constitution directs the Legislature to provide for the protection of agricultural lands. Since 1971, the Agricultural Districts Law, Article 25AA of the Agriculture and Markets Law (AML), has fulfilled this constitutional mandate, in part, by providing a locally initiated mechanism for the protection and enhancement of farmlands as both a viable segment of the local and State economies, and as an economic and environmental resource of major importance. It is the cornerstone of State and county level efforts to preserve, protect, and encourage the development and improvement of agricultural land for the production of food, fiber and other agricultural products.

Several benefits accrue to farm operations conducted within certified agricultural districts. Chief among these include:

- the obligation of State agencies, as a matter of policy, to encourage the maintenance of viable farming in agricultural districts;
- limitations on the exercise of eminent domain and other public acquisitions, and the advance of public funds for certain construction activities;
- limitations on the siting of solid waste management facilities on land dedicated to agricultural production;
- limitations on the power to impose benefit assessments, special ad valorem levies, or other rates or fees in certain improvement districts or benefit areas;

- requirements that direct local governments to realize the intent of the Agricultural Districts Law and to avoid unreasonable restrictions in the regulation of farm operations when exercising their powers to enact and administer comprehensive plans, local laws, ordinances, rules and/or regulations; and
- requirements that applications for certain planning and zoning actions impacting a designated farm operation within an agricultural district, or on lands within five hundred feet of such farm operation within an agricultural district, include an agricultural data statement designed to allow the review agency to evaluate any possible impacts of the proposed action on farm operations.

The Agricultural Districts Law also:

- establishes a land classification system used to assign agricultural assessment values to qualified properties both within and outside district boundaries;
- creates a process for the review of agricultural practices;
- discourages private nuisance lawsuits arising from agricultural practices determined to be sound;
- provides for advisory opinions as to whether particular land uses are agricultural in nature;
- and requires disclosure to prospective grantees of real property that the property is in an agricultural district.

In addition, the Agricultural Districts Law also defines the procedure for district creation and review.

Agricultural districts do not preserve farmland in the sense that the use of land is restricted to agricultural production forever. Rather, districts provide benefits that help make and keep farming as a viable economic activity, thereby maintaining land in active agricultural use.

Article 25-AA of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law requires the AFPB to consider the following factors when creating an agricultural district:

- the viability of active farming within and adjacent to the district;
- the presence of viable inactive farm lands within and adjacent to the district;
- the nature and extent of land uses other than active farming within and adjacent to the district;
- county developmental patterns and needs; and
- any other relevant matters.

Viable agricultural land, as defined in NYS Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 301, sub.7, is “...land highly suitable for a farm operation...” and a farm operation as defined in sub.11 is “...the land and on-farm buildings, equipment, manure processing and handling facilities, and practices which contribute to the production, preparation and marketing of crops, livestock and livestock products as a commercial enterprise...”

NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets provides further guidance in how it defines farm operations and thresholds in determining farm activities that constitute a commercial enterprise, to include factors such as types of products, acreage in production, gross sales and capital investment, experience, and commitment.

Districts must consist predominantly of viable agricultural land. Predominance has been interpreted as more than 50 percent of land in farms.

In judging viability, Article 25-AA of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law requires the AFPB to consider:

- natural factors including soil, climate, topography;
- markets for farm products;
- the extent and nature of farm improvements;
- the present status of farming;
- anticipated trends in agricultural economic conditions and technology; and
- any other relevant factors.

DISTRICT EIGHT-YEAR REVIEW

Agricultural districts are reviewed by the Onondaga County Legislature and recertified by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Commissioner every eight years. During the review landowners can decide if they want their property to remain in the district or be removed or added. The review is announced through public notices and announcements, a municipal notice letter, and a mailing to all landowners within the district, which includes a property owner notice letter, a removal and addition request form, and an optional farm questionnaire.

The Onondaga County Legislature directs the AFPB to prepare a report that includes:

- the nature and status of farming and farm resources within such district, including the total number of acres of land and the total number of acres of land in farm operations in the district;
- the extent to which the district has achieved its original objectives;
- the extent to which county and local comprehensive plans, policies and objectives are consistent with and support the district;
- the degree of coordination between local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations that apply to farm operations in such district and their influence on farming; and
- recommendations to continue, terminate or modify such district.

The District was last reviewed and recertified in 2016. Following the 2016 review and recertification, the District encompassed 62,893.41 acres. Since 2016, property owners have had the option to request to enroll viable agricultural land into the District on an annual basis. As a result, a total of 599.74 acres have been added to the District since the 2016 recertification. Following a parcel modification adjustment of 8.26 acres, the District totaled 63,501.41 acres at the start of this review.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT 4 ACREAGE HISTORY	
Year	GIS Acres*
2016 Renewal Acreage	62,893.41
2017 Additions	434.66
2018 Additions	112.76
2022 Additions	52.32
Parcel Mapping Adjustment **	8.26
2024 Review Total	63,501.41
* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.	
** A parcel mapping adjustment reflects acreage changes resulting from Geographic Information System (GIS) parcel splits, combinations, or redrafting.	

STATUS OF FARMING AND FARM RESOURCES

The District is located in the southeast quadrant of Onondaga County. Onondaga County is geologically divided by the Onondaga Limestone Escarpment, which runs east/west through the middle of the County and demarcates the major watershed divide between the Lake Ontario and Susquehanna River Basins. The Erie-Ontario Plain encompasses the area north of the Escarpment, and the Allegheny Plateau encompasses the area south of the Escarpment and is where the District is located.

The District is situated primarily in rural agricultural and forested towns that contain small historic villages and hamlets, and rural roadside residences. The Syracuse Urbanized Area, and public sewer and water infrastructure reaches significantly into the northern Towns of DeWitt and Onondaga, and into the very northern edges of the Towns LaFayette and Pompey.

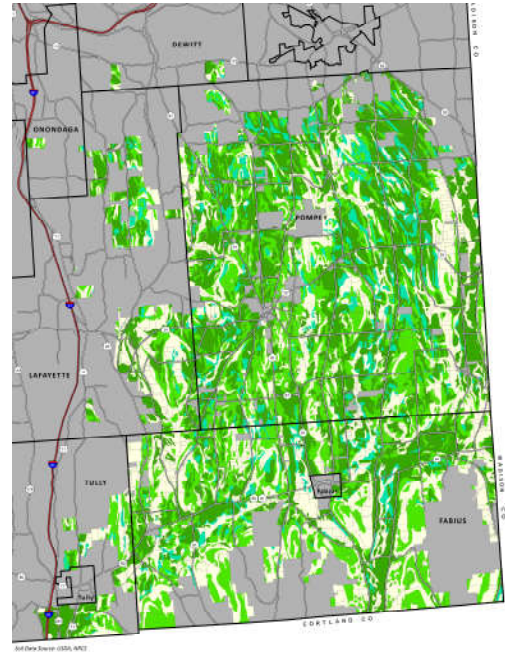
Transportation corridors within the District, including Interstate Route 81, US Route 20, and NYS Route 80, provide critical infrastructure for the movement of crops to markets, and services and goods for agricultural production.

Topography within the District boundaries consists of rolling hills that range in elevation between 600-1,800 feet. Generally speaking, the rolling hills and variable topography found within the District are best suited for a mix of dairy farms and field crops with land grading to forests at higher elevations.

SOILS

Approximately 69 percent of the District is composed of high quality farm soils: 34 percent is classified as Prime Farmland, 27 percent is classified as Prime Farmland of Statewide Importance, and eight percent is classified as Prime Farmland if Drained. These deep, well-drained soils are well-suited to farming and are responsive to agricultural management practices.

Soil Classification	Acres	Percent of District
Prime Farmland	21,667	34%
Farmland of Statewide Importance	17,436	27%
Prime Farmland if Drained	4,823	8%
Not Prime Farmland	19,575	31%
Total	63,501	100%



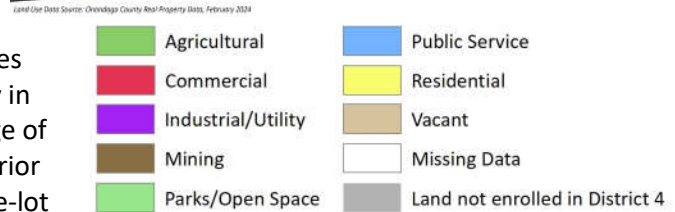
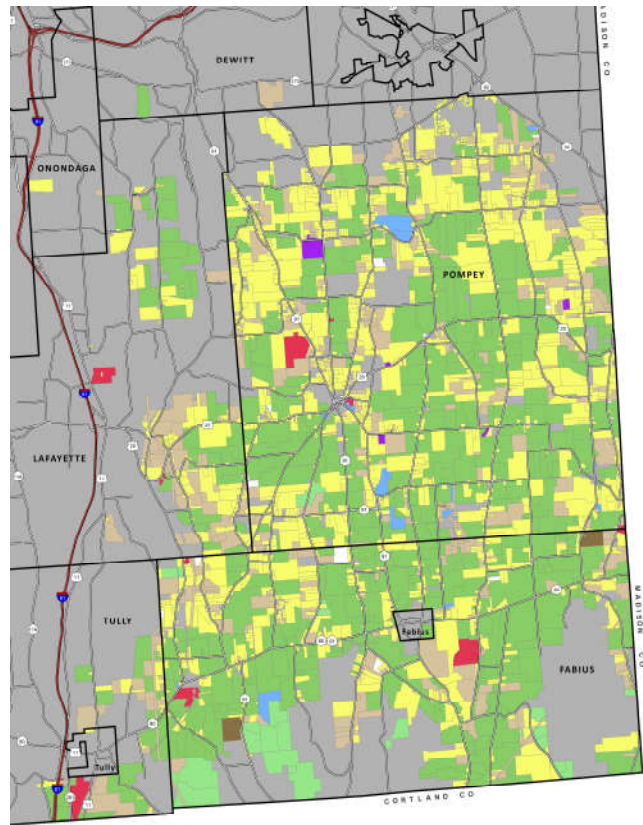
LAND USE

At the start of the review, there were approximately 2,370 landowners with 3,498 enrolled parcels totaling 63,501.41 acres within the District, according to Onondaga County’s Geographic Information System (GIS).

Agriculture, shown in green, is the dominant land use within the District, encompassing 47 percent of the land area. Residential uses, composed primarily of rural residential, comprise 33 percent of the land area.

Land Use	Acres	Percent of District
Agricultural	29,960	47%
Commercial	644	1%
Industrial/Utility	156	0%
Mining	194	0%
Parks/Open Space	1,816	3%
Public Service	506	1%
Residential	20,648	33%
Vacant	9,381	15%
Missing Data	196	0%
Total	63,501	100%

Onondaga County Real Property Data



The District is located primarily in the Towns of Pompey and Fabius, and to a less extent Onondaga and Tully. Residential growth continues on the northern edges of the District, particularly in northern Pompey at the outer edges of the Village of Manlius where residential subdivisions created prior to 2016 continue to be built out. New rural, large-lot homesteads, some with viable secondary agricultural uses, have also emerged throughout the District, particularly in Pompey.

Commercial solar development is occurring on large, open parcels in and near the District, where significant electrical transmission infrastructure travels. Since 2016 there have been 13 large (>2.5 megawatts) proposed and/or built on and near District lands.

Year Built 2016-2022			
Town	Single-Family Units	Multi-Family Units	Total
Pompey	55	0	55
Fabius	12	0	12
LaFayette	31	2	33
Tully	119	1	120
Onondaga	170	0	170
DeWitt	65	220	285
Grand Total	452	223	675

Onondaga County Real Property Data

AGRICULTURAL CENSUS

The 2017 US Census of Agriculture indicates a relatively stable farmland community within Onondaga County. Total farmland acreage has remained stable for the past two decades, a result of good soils, market forces, savvy farm operators, a trained labor force, and opportunities for nearby, off-farm employment in a metropolitan area.

According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture, total farm sales in Onondaga County were a record breaking \$178,409,000, up from \$152,050,000 in 2012. And land in farms increased from 150,269 acres in 2012 to 160,717 acres. And the 2017 Census cites 252 new and beginning farmers were added in the 5-year period.

However, the number of part- and full-time farm businesses decreased by 8% percent over this time period, and 10% since 2007, more than the State average. Farms in Onondaga County with more than \$10,000 gross farm sales also decreased from 342 in 2012 to 305 farms in 2017, a 10% change. And the number of farm operators decreased from 1,075 operators in 2012 to 1,068 operators in 2017.

Top crops include forage (34,950 acres), corn for silage and greenchop (18,422 acres), corn for grain (18,107 acres), soybeans (8,908 acres) and wheat for grain (5,290 acres). Livestock inventory includes over 47,000 cattle and calves, over 700,000 layers, 230,000 pullets, and 1,244 horses and ponies. Onondaga County ranks in the top 10 in the State for total value of agricultural products sold, (10th), livestock, poultry and products categories (6th), poultry and eggs (3rd), and milk from cows (9th).

AGRICULTURAL TRENDS

Cornell Cooperative Extension–Onondaga County reports that dairy farms and supporting croplands are the predominant agricultural operation in the District and is where approximately half of the largest dairies in Onondaga County are located. Dairy farms continue to grow through acquisition and consolidation of smaller dairy farms. Although the overall number of dairy farms has decreased, the number of acres in dairy farming has not. Manure handling and disposal is one of the primary challenges faced by dairy farms, particularly in the spring when freeze/thaw weight limits prohibit heavy trucks on some roads.

ACHIEVING DISTRICT OBJECTIVES

Agricultural production in the District remains viable and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Since the last renewal of the District in 2016, 599.74 acres have been added, an indication that agriculture within the District is growing. Agricultural districts are an important tool that promote the continuation of farming and the preservation of agricultural land.

COUNTY AND LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLANS, POLICIES, AND OBJECTIVES CONSISTENCY AND SUPPORT

PLAN ONONDAGA

On July 23, 2023, the County Legislature adopted *Plan Onondaga* as the new official Onondaga County comprehensive plan, which establishes a shared set of values and priorities that can lead the community toward a vision of the future.

Plan Onondaga provides a framework for understanding how and where the County can focus its resources in order to support and foster Global Economic Competitiveness characterized by Economic Collaboration (Leadership and Vision, Institutional Strength, and Coordination and Collaboration), Investments in People (Social Capital, Prioritization of Livability, and Education, Education, Education), and Strong Centers (Forward-Thinking Planning to Guide Organic Growth, Intelligent Infrastructure Investment, Closing Infrastructure Gaps, and Compact Development).

Plan Onondaga focuses on the linkages between Economic Development (encourage private sector investment); Quality of Life (attracting and retaining the modern workforce); and Community Based Planning (municipal cooperation); and explores five thematic areas as a framework for a Future Land Use Vision, including Agriculture, which calls for ensuring that agriculture remains a viable and integral part of the economy and a defining characteristic of the landscape.

Plan Onondaga recognizes that agriculture provides multiple benefits for local communities including local food support, natural environment protection, unplanned sprawl prevention, rural landscape conservation, and local economic strength. To further these key benefits, *Plan Onondaga* identifies the following agricultural goals: provide food and support local agriculture, grow the agricultural economy, protect farmland and rural landscapes, and protect natural resources and scenic views.

Working in tandem with Agriculture are the themes of Strong Centers, Housing and Neighborhoods, Community Mobility, and Greenways and Blueways, all of which emphasize the need to for amenity-rich, vibrant walkable centers with a diversity of affordable, attractive, and efficient housing that are accessible through a diverse and safe community mobility system; and a network of greenways and blueways for recreation and ecological health.

ONONDAGA COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN

The Onondaga County Legislature approved a new *Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan* in October 2022, which was subsequently approved by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. The Plan established a vision and planning goals, strategies, and tangible actions to be supported and embraced by public officials and the community. Specifically, the Plan identifies Goal 2 as follows: Strategically protect agricultural lands throughout Onondaga County to sustain and improve its vibrant agricultural operations. Within Goal 2, the Plan identifies 11 Action items including increasing conservation easement capacity, providing municipal planning assistance, developing a Farm-Friendly Toolbox for Municipalities, promoting the new Onondaga County Ag Mapper, and assisting with farm diversification through Agri-Tourism development and promotion.

The Onondaga County AFPB has been very active in implementing one of the plan's elements, the purchase or donation of development rights on prime farmland, funded by the NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets Farmland Protection Implementation Grants (FPIG) program and other federal and local funders. Since 1998, approximately 33 farm easement projects have been or are in the process of being completed, with over 11,000 acres of farmland protected by the State FPIG, Federal, and local programs in Onondaga County.

ONONDAGA COUNTY AGRICULTURE COUNCIL

In 2012, the Onondaga County Agriculture Council was formed to help ensure that county government is working to promote and preserve the County's strong farming community. The Council works to develop strategies and programs to promote local food regionally and strengthen and enhance connections between the urban core to rural, agricultural areas and to review, improve, and develop pro-agriculture/farming friendly policies and regulations that promote urban agriculture and make it easier for local farms to open and stay in business in Onondaga County.

Recently the Council initiated an Agri-Tourism grant opportunity and to date 33 applications have been received, 11 of which are situated in or near District 4 lands. Operations are diversifying and expanding and include beef, sheep and goat, u-pick cut flowers and fruit, local dairy café, gourmet mushrooms, Christmas Tree farms, and brewery/restaurant/event space.

LOCAL PLANNING

Plan Onondaga and the *Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan* encourage municipalities to update plans and adopt codes that incorporate measures that build strong centers as well as protect agricultural lands and promote the agricultural economy. Onondaga County has initiated two new efforts to assist in this endeavor.

The Onondaga County Ag Mapper, which identifies the county's most important farmland and what makes it special, and how it interacts with the larger community, is now available to local municipalities. In addition, the development of the Farm-Friendly Municipal Toolbox will provide a place where municipalities can find best practices in local regulation and planning support and help them integrate and update their land use plans and regulations as they relate to supporting agriculture land uses, address new and changing agricultural dynamics, and ensure consistency with NYS Agriculture and Markets Law.

The County has also initiated a Town Planning Grants Program, now being accessed by rural towns in the County, to complete hamlet and comprehensive planning work which will complement County land use and agricultural protection planning.

Most towns in Onondaga County have some form of comprehensive plan, which typically recognize the value of agricultural lands and the desire to protect them. However, there are few methods that ultimately implement this goal. Many towns typically use large lot zoning, generally two or more acres, to reduce density and thereby protect open areas. However, these requirements create the unintentional consequences of large lots strung along rural roads and large-lot subdivisions, excessive consumption of farmland and open space, more farmer/neighbor conflicts, and more traffic on farm roads.

Towns are also starting to recognize and implement clustering as permitted in NYS Town Law, a potentially beneficial technique for protecting community character, open space, scenic resources, and environmental features, but not necessarily considered effective at protecting farmland.

Implementing settlement patterns other than the dominant suburban pattern, like adopting new density average/fixed ratio zoning techniques as recommended by the American Farmland Trust, are ultimately needed to protect agricultural lands.

The Town of LaFayette adopted an Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan in October 2014 to complement their Comprehensive Plan adopted in 2012. There is a need for more towns to adopt integrated County and local farmland protection plans that explore and implement a full range of agricultural protection tools.

LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES, RULES AND REGULATIONS COORDINATION AND INFLUENCE

The Onondaga County Soil and Water Conservation District reports that there is relatively strong coordination between local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations that positively influence farm operations. They have found that it is one of the easiest agricultural districts to site manure nutrient storage and that there has been very little community resistance. Increased public awareness of agricultural practices and needs associated with Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) would assist in continuing ongoing positive neighbor relations.

There is, however, continuing concern regarding increasing development pressure on open agricultural lands throughout the County, as it is easiest and least expensive to build new houses on. And, with new houses typically come new neighbor relations struggles.

New home owners looking to buy in an agricultural district need to be made aware that it’s an area where farmers have the right to operate including: moving machinery on public highways and roads which can slow down traffic and take up a lane-plus of road, and working the land all hours of the day and night which can generate noise, dust, and a release of odors from harvest, manure nutrient applications, etc.

Real estate sales professionals and attorneys need to be reminded, per Agriculture and Markets Law, that purchase, sale, and exchange contracts for real property located partially or wholly within an agricultural district shall have an agricultural district disclosure.

RECOMMENDATION TO CONTINUE, TERMINATE, OR MODIFY DISTRICT

The AFPB mailed a notice of the eight-year review of Agricultural District 4 and a removal and addition request form to landowners with property currently enrolled in the District and municipalities within the District. Those results are summarized below.

ADDITION REQUESTS

The following property owners requested that their land be added to the district. These properties have been reviewed to verify the presence and characteristics of land highly suitable for a farm operation, viability as a commercial enterprise, location relative to existing agricultural districts, nearby development, and natural features.

ADDITION REQUESTS			
MUNICIPALITY	OWNER	TAX ID	GIS ACRES*
Fabius (Village)	Herlihy Kevin J	101.-02-11.0	9.10
Fabius (Village) Total			9.10
La Fayette	Ellys Acres Farm LLC	006.-01-18.2	1.29
La Fayette	Ellys Acres Farm LLC	006.-01-18.5	7.45
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La Fayette Total			24.36
GRAND TOTAL			33.46
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REMOVAL REQUESTS

REMOVAL REQUESTS			
MUNICIPALITY	OWNER	TAX ID	GIS ACRES*
Fabius	Aidun Meredith	106.-01-21.0	2.45
Fabius	County Of Onondaga	112.-02-13.0	6.44
Fabius	Crockett Peter J	124.-02-14.0	0.45
Fabius	Elter Thomas A	107.-04-01.0	0.94
Fabius	Ianuzi Stephen D	111.-02-10.0	0.68
Fabius	Jones Douglas M	109.-02-10.0	1.06
Fabius	Kowachik Michael J	118.-04-07.7	2.17

Fabius	Love Camp 355 LLC	104.-03-19.0	0.14
Fabius	Love Camp 355 LLC	105.-01-01.1	25.23
Fabius	Love Camp 355 LLC	105.-01-01.2	0.16
Fabius	Morford Anne	104.-03-18.0	0.14
Fabius	O'Reilly John R	124.-02-02.0	9.41
Fabius	Penoyer Robert H	111.-01-01.0	0.42
Fabius Total			49.69
Pompey	Baniewicz Richard R	013.-01-05.0	0.47
Pompey	Bargabos Dan E	004.-03-14.1	12.52
Pompey	Bargabos Dan E	004.-03-74.1	1.67
Pompey	Bargabos Dan E	005.-01-11.2	42.36
Pompey	Beasley Dr Kenneth	004.-22-23.0	1.08
Pompey	County Of Onondaga	027.-02-10.0	0.02
Pompey	DeHaas George	004.-03-58.3	1.09
Pompey	Pompey Community Church Inc	021.-02-07.3	5.00
Pompey	Ross Jennifer L	004.-18-07.0	2.07
Pompey	Ward Sarah A	015.-03-06.0	1.76
Pompey Total			68.04
Tully	Shaw Ronald J	108.-03-06.6	22.79
Tully Total			22.79
Grand Total			140.52
* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.			

RECOMMENDATIONS

Production agriculture in the District remains viable and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. Soils, climate, topography, transportation, agri-service and suppliers, and product markets provide the elements necessary for a successful agricultural economy. Since the last renewal of the District in 2016, 599.74 acres have been added.

The AFPB reviewed landowner removal and addition requests and had no objections to the list as presented. The AFPB recommends continuing Agricultural District 4 with the landowner-requested modifications.

FINAL ACREAGE

Agricultural District 4 was last recertified in 2016 and encompassed 62,893.41 acres. Through subsequent annual addition processes, 599.74 acres were added to the District for a total of 63,493.15 acres. In addition, an adjustment of 8.26 acres was made to reflect modifications resulting from parcel splits, combinations, or redrafting of the parcel data used in the Geographic Information System (GIS). As a result, the current District acreage at the time of the 2024 review was 63,501.41 acres.

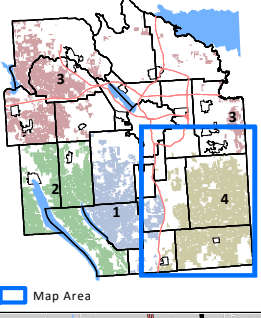
The AFPB recommends that 33.46 acres be added and 140.52 acres be removed per landowner-requested modifications, for a final proposed Agricultural District 4 acreage of 63,394.35 acres, a net decrease of 107.06 acres.

RECOMMENDED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT 4 FINAL ACREAGE	
	GIS ACRES*
ACREAGE AFTER 2016 RENEWAL	62,893.41
ANNUAL ADDITIONS 2017-2023	599.74
PARCEL MAPPING ADJUSTMENT 2017-2023*	8.26
ACREAGE PRIOR TO 2024 RENEWAL	63,501.41
2024 RENEWAL ADDITIONS	33.46
2024 RENEWAL REMOVALS	-140.52
ACREAGE AFTER 2024 RENEWAL	63,394.35
NET ACREAGE CHANGE RESULTING FROM 2024 RENEWAL	-107.06
* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.	
** A parcel mapping adjustment reflects acreage changes resulting from Geographic Information System (GIS) parcel splits, combinations, or redrafting.	

APPENDICES

- Resolution - Notice of Review
- Notice - Notice of Review
- Map – District
- Letter - Municipal
- Letter - Property Owner
- Form - Blank Removal and Addition Request
- Form - Farm Questionnaire
- Resolution - Public Hearing
- Notice - Public Hearing
- Letter - Property Owner Public Hearing
- Minutes - Public Hearing
- Resolution - Approval
- SEQR - Environmental Assessment Form
- List - District Parcel Final
- Map – Final District

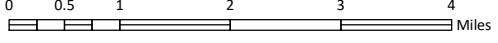
Onondaga County, NY



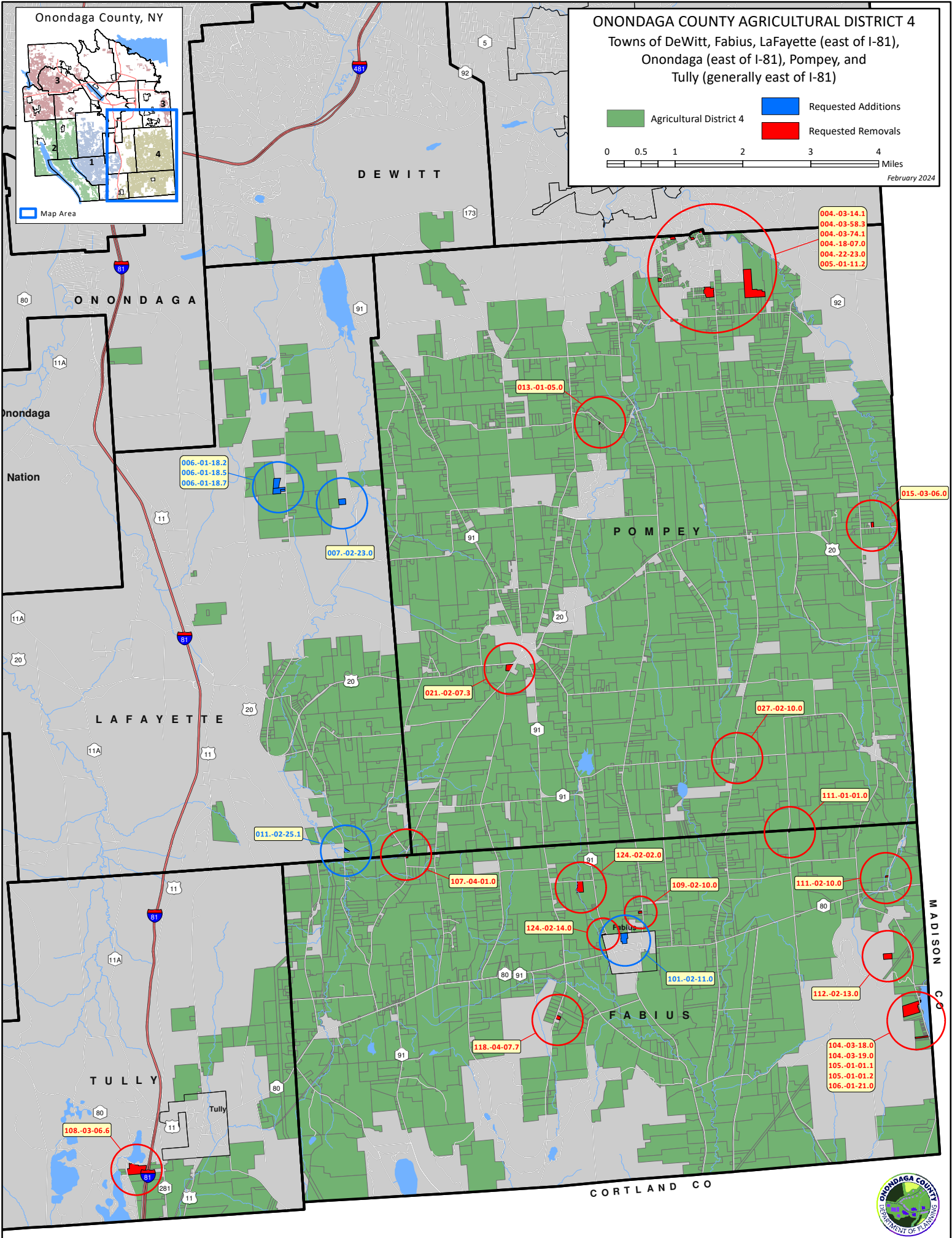
ONONDAGA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT 4

Towns of DeWitt, Fabius, LaFayette (east of I-81),
Onondaga (east of I-81), Pompey, and
Tully (generally east of I-81)

- Agricultural District 4
- Requested Additions
- Requested Removals



February 2024



Short Environmental Assessment Form

Part 1 - Project Information

Instructions for Completing

Part 1 – Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

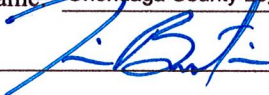
Part 1 – Project and Sponsor Information			
Name of Action or Project: Onondaga County Agricultural District 4 Eight-Year Review - 2024			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): Towns of DeWitt, Fabius, La Fayette, and Towns of Onondaga, Pompey, and Tully (east of I-81) (map attached)			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: Review and Modification (parcel additions and removal) of Agricultural District 4 in the Towns of DeWitt, Fabius, La Fayette, and Towns of Onondaga, Pompey, and Tully (east of I-81) in Onondaga County. It is recommended that 33.46 acres be added and 140.52 acres be removed per landowner requests, for a final Agricultural District 4 total of 63,394.35 acres, a net decrease of 107.06 acres. A full listing of added and removed parcels may be found in the Onondaga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board 2024 Eight Year Review of Agricultural District 4 Report, and related County Legislature resolution.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Onondaga County Legislature		Telephone: 315-435-2170 E-Mail: jamiemcnamara@ongov.net	
Address: Onondaga County Courthouse, Room 407, 401 Montgomery St			
City/PO: Syracuse		State: NY	Zip Code: 13202
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2. <small>See attached AFPB report.</small>			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other government Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval: NYS AGM Agricultural District Certification			YES <input type="checkbox"/>
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ acres b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ acres c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on, are adjoining or near the proposed action: <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other(Specify): <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Parkland			

<p>5. Is the proposed action,</p> <p>a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?</p> <p>b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>N/A</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area?</p> <p>If Yes, identify: _____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?</p> <p>b. Are public transportation services available at or near the site of the proposed action?</p> <p>c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near the site of the proposed action?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements?</p> <p>If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply?</p> <p>If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities?</p> <p>If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>12. a. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places?</p> <p>b. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory?</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?</p> <p>b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody?</p> <p>If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	

14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban		
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
16. Is the project site located in the 100-year flood plan?	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes,	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, briefly describe: _____ _____		
18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that would result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g., retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain the purpose and size of the impoundment: _____ _____	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO <input type="checkbox"/>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>

I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE

Applicant/sponsor/name: Onondaga County Legislature Date: 5-29-24

Signature:  Title: Chairman

Project: Ag District 4 Eight-Year Review - 2024

Date:

**Short Environmental Assessment Form
Part 2 - Impact Assessment**

Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:		
a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project: _____
 Date: _____

**Short Environmental Assessment Form
 Part 3 Determination of Significance**

For every question in Part 2 that was answered “moderate to large impact may occur”, or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
Onondaga County Legislature	<i>5-29-24</i>
Name of Lead Agency	Date
Timothy T. Burtis	Chairman
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
<i>[Signature]</i>	Megan Costa, Dept. of Planning
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

PRINT FORM

July 2, 2024

Motion Made By Mr. Knapp

RESOLUTION NO. _____

APPROVING THE INCLUSION OF VIABLE AGRICULTURAL LAND WITHIN CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS PURSUANT TO SECTION 303-B OF THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS LAW

WHEREAS, Section 303-b of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law provides land owners with an annual thirty day period to submit requests for the inclusion of predominantly viable agricultural lands within certified agricultural districts; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 71-2004, that thirty-day period began January 1, 2024 and ended January 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, a landowner has filed a request for inclusion of predominantly viable agricultural land within a certified agricultural district; and

WHEREAS, the County referred the request to the Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board, and that Board has reviewed such request and determined that such property would serve the public interest by assisting in maintaining a viable agricultural industry within the district, and recommends such property for inclusion within the certified agricultural district; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on Tuesday, July 2, 2024 at 12:50 p.m. relating to such requested inclusions; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the proposed action is an Unlisted Action and this Legislature shall act as the Lead Agency for the purposes of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Short Environmental Assessment Form for this project has been completed and reviewed and is on file with the Clerk of the Legislature; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this Legislature hereby finds and declares a negative declaration under SEQRA in that there is no anticipated construction and no anticipated change in use, that the identified possible impacts, if any, on air quality and surface water quality will not be significant and there is little likelihood of significant adverse environmental impacts; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that based on the recommendation of the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board and information provided through the public hearing, this Onondaga County Legislature hereby adopts and approves the inclusion of the requested viable agricultural land within certified Agricultural District No. 3; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Section 303-b of Agriculture and Markets Law the inclusion of viable agricultural land in Agricultural District No. 3 is hereby described as follows, and include the following parcels listed by agricultural district, town, owner, parcel number, and acreage:

2024 ADDITION REQUESTS				
DISTRICT	MUNICIPALITY	OWNER	PARCEL	GIS ACRES*
3	ELBRIDGE TOWN	JOSEPH M. MOORE	038.-02-08.1	4.97
3	ELBRIDGE VILLAGE	JOSEPH M. MOORE	022.1.-02-07.0	2.37
GRAND TOTAL				7.34
* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.				

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that should these parcels be subdivided prior to the expiration of said District, each subdivision would automatically be considered a part of said District, and would remain in the District while it is in effect; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of this Legislature is to submit a copy of this resolution, together with the report of the Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board including tax map numbers and maps for each parcel of land to be included in an agricultural district to the Commissioner of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.



DEPARTMENT
ONONDAGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING
PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION SHEET

PURPOSE:

This resolution calls for the County Legislature to make a finding as to whether the land to be added to an agricultural district consists of predominantly viable agricultural land.

OBJECTIVE/ WORK PLAN:

New York's Agricultural Districts Law, Article 25-AA PDF of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law was enacted in 1971 to help keep farmland in agricultural production. Agricultural districts are designed to protect agriculture through a combination of landowner incentives and protections that discourage the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses.

Responsibility for the creation, review and management of the State's agricultural districts lies within the authority of the county's legislative bodies. AML Sections 303 (district creation), 303-a (district review), 303-b (annual inclusion/addition of lands) and 303-c (district consolidation) detail the role county agricultural and farmland protection boards and legislative bodies play in district creation and review and prescribe the public notice and public hearing requirements.

Per Section 303-b, landowners can submit requests during an annual thirty-day period for the inclusion of predominantly viable agricultural lands within certified agricultural districts. Pursuant to Onondaga County Resolution No. 71-2004, that thirty-day period is to occur January 1-30 of each year.

The Onondaga County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board prepares a report with a recommendation as to whether the land to be included in an agricultural district consists of predominantly viable agricultural land and presents it to the County Legislature, who is to hold a public hearing and then make its final finding. The County Legislature then submits the final report with its finding to the NYS Commissioner of Agriculture & Markets for certification.

During January 1-30, 2024, a landowner made a request to add land to an agricultural district. The Onondaga County Department of Planning prepared a report, and at its February 27, 2024 meeting the AFPB reviewed and voted to forward the report and recommendation for the inclusion of predominantly viable agricultural lands within a certified agricultural district to the Onondaga County Legislature. The Onondaga County Legislature approved a public hearing to be held at 12:50 pm, prior to the July 2, 2024 session.

FUNDING SOURCE:

No fiscal impact.

BUDGET:

No fiscal impact.

REPORT TO THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

ANNUAL ADDITION OF VIABLE AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICTS IN ONONDAGA COUNTY

FEBRUARY 2024

ONONDAGA COUNTY AGRICULTURE AND FARMLAND PROTECTION BOARD

	BRIAN REEVES, CHAIR	
CRAIG DENNIS	DAN KWASNOWSKI	MARK TUCKER
KAY HILSBURG	BRIAN MAY	DONALD WEBER
LEE HUDSON	EDWIN SKEELE	SCOTT WINKELMAN
	DAVID SKEVAL	

WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE ONONDAGA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of the Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board's (AFPB) 2024 review for the addition of viable agricultural land to agricultural districts in Onondaga County. The Onondaga County Legislature formally designated by Resolution 71 on April 5, 2004 an annual 30-day period in January when landowners can request that their land be added to an agricultural district.

Viable agricultural land, as defined in NYS Agriculture and Markets Law, Article 25-AA, Section 301, sub.7, is "...land highly suitable for a farm operation..." and a farm operation as defined in sub.11 is "...the land and on-farm buildings, equipment, manure processing and handling facilities, and practices which contribute to the production, preparation and marketing of crops, livestock and livestock products as a commercial enterprise..."

NYS Department of Agriculture & Markets provides further guidance in how it defines farm operations and thresholds in determining farm activities to constitute a commercial enterprise, to include factors such as types of products, acreage in production, gross sales and capital investment, experience and commitment.

In judging viability, Article 25-AA of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law requires the AFPB to consider:

- natural factors including soil, climate, topography;
- markets for farm products;
- the extent and nature of farm improvements;
- the present status of farming;
- anticipated trends in agricultural economic conditions and technology; and

- any other relevant factors.

The following requested additions are, therefore, examined primarily for the presence and characteristics of onsite and related commercial farm operations and production opportunities, highly suitable land, location relative to existing agricultural districts, nearby development, and natural features.

LANDOWNER REQUESTS

Landowners have requested that the following parcels be added to agricultural districts within Onondaga County.

2024 ADDITION REQUESTS				
DISTRICT	MUNICIPALITY	OWNER	PARCEL	GIS ACRES*
3	ELBRIDGE	JOSEPH M. MOORE	038.-02-08.1	4.97
3	ELBRIDGE (Village)	JOSEPH M. MOORE	022.1.-02-07.0	2.37
GRAND TOTAL				7.34
* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.				

DISTRICT 3 ADDITION REQUESTS

ELBRIDGE (JOSEPH M MOORE): The landowner is requesting the addition of two parcels (outlined in blue on the image to the right) totaling approximately 7.34 acres at the northern-most terminus of Valley Drive in a rural location along the border between the Town and Village of Elbridge.



The parcels are part of the Moore farm, which includes two additional parcels to the west, 038.-01-37.1 (Town of Elbridge) and 022.1-01-01.0 (Village of Elbridge) that are both in Agricultural District 3 (shaded in green in the image to the right).

The agricultural productive areas of the requested parcel additions are comprised of Prime Soils and Soils of Statewide Importance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The farm sector in Onondaga County is strong and stable and the Onondaga County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Plan, Plan Onondaga, and municipal planning documents identify protection of agriculture and farmland as an important goal for preserving the character of rural areas.

As mentioned in the Introduction to this report, the requested additions were examined primarily for the presence and characteristics of onsite and related commercial farm operations and production opportunities, highly suitable land, location relative to existing agricultural districts, nearby development, and natural features.

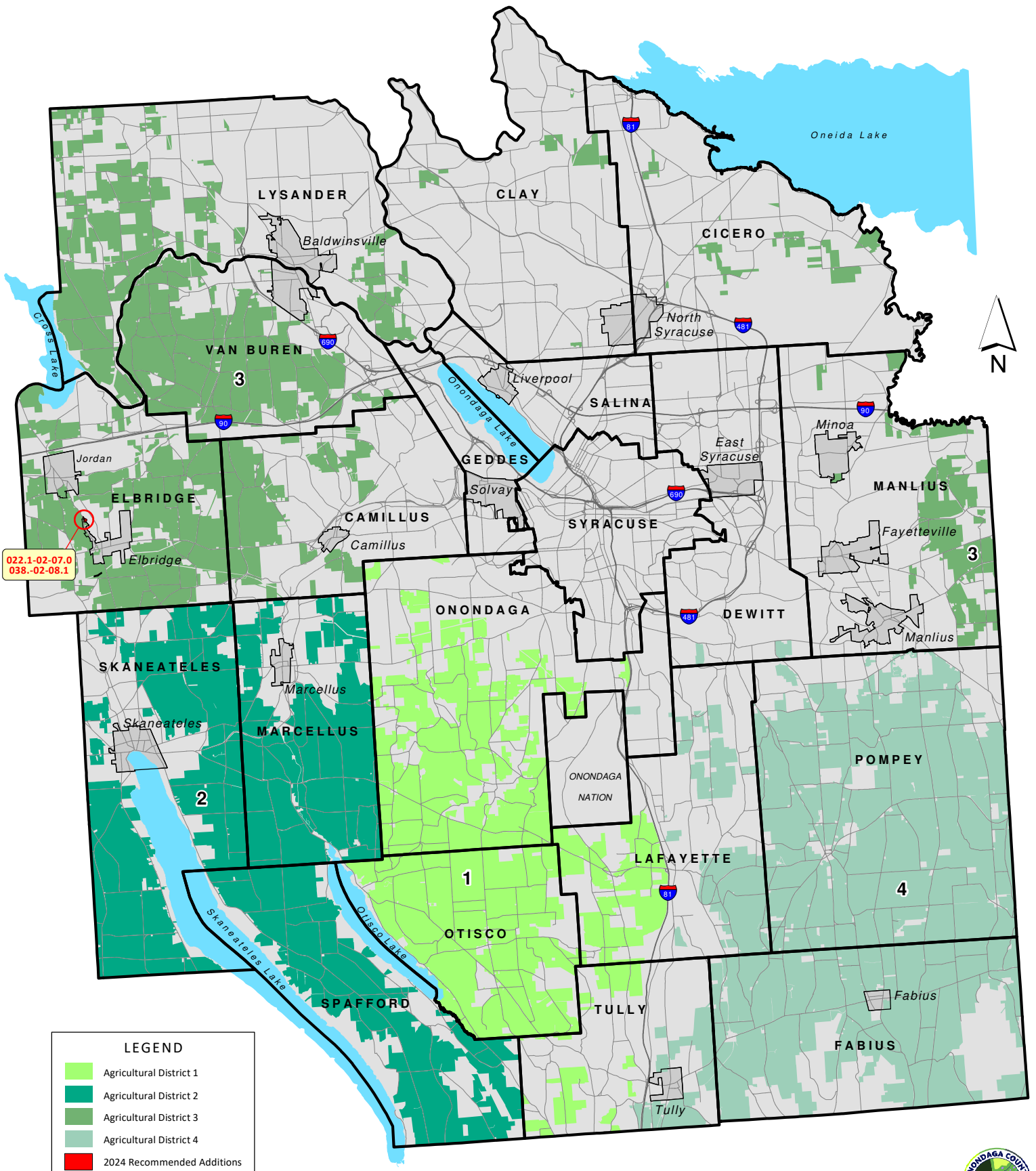
The Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board recommends adding the following requested parcels to Agricultural District 3, as they have demonstrated all or most of the abovementioned desired characteristics. The total acreage being recommended for addition is 7.34 acres.

2024 RECOMMENDED ANNUAL ADDITIONS				
DISTRICT	MUNICIPALITY	OWNER	PARCEL	GIS ACRES*
3	ELBRIDGE	JOSEPH M. MOORE	038.-02-08.1	4.97
3	ELBRIDGE (Village)	JOSEPH M. MOORE	022.1.-02-07.0	2.37
GRAND TOTAL				7.34
* Geographic Information System (GIS) calculated data, not Real Property Services (RPS) data.				

APPENDICES

- Resolution - Annual 30-Day
- Form - Annual Additions Request
- Resolution - Public Hearing Notice
- Notice - Public Hearing Notice
- Letter - Public Hearing Landowner
- Minutes - Public Hearing
- Resolution - Approval
- Map – Annual Additions Map
- SEQRA - Environmental Assessment Form

Onondaga County Agricultural Districts 2024 Recommended Additions



Short Environmental Assessment Form

Part 1 - Project Information

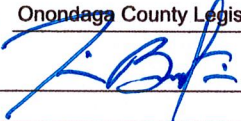
Instructions for Completing

Part 1 – Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 – Project and Sponsor Information			
Onondaga County Legislature			
Name of Action or Project: Annual addition of viable agricultural lands to Agricultural Districts in Onondaga County			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): Various locations in Onondaga County - refer to County Legislature resolution and/or Report to the Legislature for full list and map of properties			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: Annual addition of viable agricultural lands to Agricultural Districts in Onondaga County. Refer to Onondaga County Legislature resolution for full list of properties reviewed and recommended for addition to Agricultural Districts.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Onondaga County Legislature		Telephone: 315-435-2170	
		E-Mail: jamiemcnamara@ongov.net	
Address: Onondaga County Courthouse, Room 407, 401 Montgomery St			
City/PO: Syracuse		State: NY	Zip Code: 13202
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other government Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:			NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			YES <input type="checkbox"/>
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ acres			
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ acres			
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on, are adjoining or near the proposed action:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other(Specify):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parkland			

5. Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	NO	YES	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels? b. Are public transportation services available at or near the site of the proposed action? c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near the site of the proposed action?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
12. a. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places? b. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency? b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____ _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban		
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Is the project site located in the 100-year flood plan?	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes,	NO	YES
a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, briefly describe: _____ _____		
18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that would result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g., retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)? If Yes, explain the purpose and size of the impoundment: _____ _____	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste? If Yes, describe: _____ _____	NO	YES
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE		
Applicant/sponsor/name: <u>Onondaga County Legislature</u> Date: <u>5-29-24</u>		
Signature: <u></u> Title: <u>CHAIRMAN</u>		

Project:

Date:

**Short Environmental Assessment Form
Part 2 - Impact Assessment**

Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing: a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project: _____
 Date: _____

**Short Environmental Assessment Form
 Part 3 Determination of Significance**

For every question in Part 2 that was answered “moderate to large impact may occur”, or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

- Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
- Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

Onondaga County Legislature

 Name of Lead Agency
Timothy T. Burtis

 Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency
T. Burtis

 Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

5-29-24

 Date

 Chairman

 Title of Responsible Officer
 Megan Costa, Dept. of Planning

 Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

July 2, 2024

Motion Made By Mr. Knapp

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF TROY W. WAFFNER AS DIRECTOR OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article XII of the Onondaga County Charter and Article XII of the Onondaga County Administrative Code, the Onondaga County Executive has duly designated and appointed Troy W. Waffner as the Director of the Department of Planning, subject to the confirmation of this Legislature; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Onondaga County Legislature to confirm said appointment; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Legislature does hereby confirm the appointment of Troy W. Waffner as Director of the Department of Planning effective immediately.



1c.

County of Onondaga
Office of the County Executive

John H. Mulroy Civic Center, 14th Floor
421 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, New York 13202

Phone: 315.435.3516 Fax: 315.435.8582

www.ongov.net

J. Ryan McMahon, II
County Executive

Ann Rooney
Deputy County Executive, Human Services

Brian J. Donnelly
Deputy County Executive

Mary Beth Primo
Deputy County Executive, Physical Services

June 13, 2024

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE:

Pursuant to Article XII, of the Onondaga County Charter, and Article XII, of the Onondaga County Administrative Code, I hereby appoint, subject to confirmation of the County Legislature, Troy W. Waffner, as Director of the Office of the Department of Planning, effective Monday, July 15, 2024.

I would ask you to schedule the appropriate review for the June committees and place Mr. Waffner's nomination on your Session agenda for confirmation on July 2, 2024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Ryan McMahon, II", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

J. Ryan McMahon, II
County Executive

cc: Mary Beth Primo, Deputy County Executive / Physical Services
Ben Yaus, Law Department
Jamie McNamara, County Legislature

220 Ambergate Road
Syracuse, N.Y. 13214
315-415-6985
twaffner@gmail.com

➤ *Professional Experience*

2023 – Present

Executive Director, Central New York SPCA

- Manage the operations of the Central New York SPCA which is a multi-faceted animal shelter providing dog control and animal cruelty investigative services, sheltering for up to 200 animals, a full service veterinarian hospital and an animal adoption center. The annual budget is \$1.2 million.
- Re-create the positive reinforcements of the facility through a comprehensive marketing and public relations campaign to rebuild confidence in the facility, increase adoption rates and have CNYSPCA be front of mind on animal issues. Earned media has created a growing sense of CNYSPCA with adoption rates increasing 20 percent year-over-year.
- Oversee the exploration steps of building a new shelter, community clinic and adoption center. The initial plan would include a 25,000 square foot facility and cost approximately \$6 million.

2013 – 2022

Acting Director, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Division of the State Fair/Empire Expo Center

- In addition to the duties of Assistant Director, manage the overall operation of the New York State Fair including development of long and short term goals of the facility and the implementation of those goals.
- Oversaw, for the Fair, the redevelopment of the Fairgrounds which included working with the Office of General Services, consultants and construction managers on the design of the new lay out and construction of the new facilities. This included an initial investment of \$50 million and a phase II appropriation of \$70 million.
- Oversaw the development of all of the request for proposals including sponsorships, concessions, amusements and entertainment.
- In response to the COVID pandemic, managed the set up and execution of a mass vaccination site on the Fairgrounds that, at various times, operated 24/7 and became the second largest mass vaccination in the country.
- Worked with local, state and federal elected officials on their visits to the Fair.
- Managed the set up, preparation and execution of four State Fairs which saw the breaking of several long standing attendance records including the 2019 Fair which was the highest attended Fair ever with almost 1.3 million attendees.

2010 – 2013

Assistant Director, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, Division of the State Fair/Empire Expo Center

- Manage the day-to-day operations of the New York State Fair and Fairgrounds which is home to the 12-day New York State Fair and hundreds of non-Fair events which annually draw almost two million people to the Fairgrounds.
- Oversee all phases of administrative operations and management by planning, developing and directly implementing policies for efficient and effective operations of the Division of the New York State Fair.
- Work with stakeholders to develop emergency management plans that included the implementation of a Joint Operations Center.
- Work with the Division of Fiscal Management in administering the State Fair's annual budget of \$15 million including setting priorities for program expenditures and capital investments that will improve the 375 acre facility and its one hundred-plus buildings.
- Oversee the public relations department with a budget of \$1 million. This includes reforming it from a mainly outside agency managed department to one in which the majority of the functions (i.e. press releases and relations, social media, news media outreach/pitching of stories and graphic design functions) are managed in house.
- Oversee the capital improvement projects on the grounds, the prioritizing of projects and the development of a capital plan that totals almost \$4 million annually.
- Provide general direction, supervision and oversight to staff and coordinate the work activities of the operating units of the State Fair which are responsible for the events, concessions, sales of corporate sponsorship, maintenance, public relations and agricultural programs. This includes overseeing the hiring and management of the 1,300 temporary employees that are hired to work during the twelve days of the Fair.
- Oversee long range event planning activities, which include the evaluation of proposals for events and programs to be held on the Fairgrounds, development of new customer markets and strategies to increase the use of the facilities in the off season.
- Monitor and review proposed agricultural plans for programs that will promote New York State agriculture and oversee the execution of agricultural programs and livestock related activities and events held on the Fairgrounds.
- Represent the State Fair in meetings and contacts with other State or Federal agencies, vendors, businesses, agriculture interests and other groups.

2008 – 2010

Director of Policy Development/Legislative Director – Office of Senator David Valesky

- Work with staff, lobbyists and local interest groups to develop and draft legislation and budget priorities on behalf of Senator Valesky that increases Upstate economic development activities, benefits agriculture and assists local governments.
- Advise and brief the Senator on budget and legislative matters.
- Negotiate legislative priorities with Senate and Assembly members and staff resulting in thirty-three bills passing both houses in the 2009 session.

2000 – 2008

*Legislative and Communications Director – Office of Assemblyman Bill Magee
Chair, New York State Assembly Standing Committee on Agriculture*

- Work with Agriculture Committee Chair, members and staff to develop, draft and negotiate legislation to assist New York State's agriculture industry.
- Work with lobbyists and grassroots organizations to prioritize legislative and fiscal needs for the agriculture industry as well as for the Chairman's personal legislative goals.
- Negotiate legislative priorities with Senate and Assembly members and staff resulting in over two hundred of the Chairman's bills passing both houses in the eight years.
- Responsible for all communications including the coordinating of correspondence, speeches, press releases, testimony and newsletters – act as the press secretary and media relations coordinator.
- Develop mailings and other constituent related materials highlighting the member's efforts and available programs.

2003 – 2007

Member, Village of Cazenovia Board of Trustees

- Work with members of the Board of Trustees, employees, residents and businesses developing annual spending priorities and budget, zoning ordinances and local laws.
- Assist residents and businesses with issues, ideas and concerns relative to the village board of trustees and the operation of village government.
- Act as Commissioner of the Village's water and sewer department overseeing department employees, assisting residents' with their concerns and assisting in managing the department's budget.

➤ ***Education***

2000

*Bachelor of Science – Public Policy and Administration
State University of New York – Empire State College*

1993

*Associates in Applied Science – Accounting
State University of New York – Morrisville*

July 2, 2024

Motion Made By Mr. Knapp

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE ONONDAGA COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO FILE THE 2024 ACTION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOME GRANT AND EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to make grants to states and units of general local government to finance Community Development Block Grant Programs; and

WHEREAS, under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12721 et seq.), the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to make grants to states and units of general local government which participate in the Community Development Block Grant Program to finance the Home Investment Partnership Grant (HOME) Program; and

WHEREAS, under Subtitle B of Title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11371 et seq.), the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to make grants to urban counties participating in the Community Development Block Grant Program under the Emergency Solutions Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of such Community Development Block Grant Program, the County has executed cooperation agreements with all the Towns and Villages within the County, which agreements specify that the County, the Towns and Villages will cooperate in undertaking or assisting in undertaking the Community Development Block Grant Program and, specifically, urban renewal and publicly assisted housing; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of such Community Development Block Grant Program, the Onondaga County Executive has appointed a Community Development Steering Committee to advise on the use of anticipated funds under such Community Development Block Grant Program; and

WHEREAS, such Community Development Steering Committee has solicited public input from all the cooperating Towns and Villages for the purpose of developing the Community Development Block Grant Program for Onondaga County; and

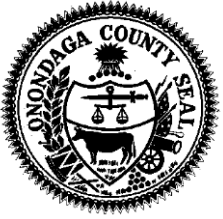
WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires the submission of a single application, known as the Consolidated Plan, for the Community Development Block Grant, the Home Investment Partnership Grant, and the Emergency Solutions Grant; and

WHEREAS, such Community Development Steering Committee has agreed upon and made recommendations for the use of anticipated funds from the program through the development of the 2024 Action Plan; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Legislature does memorialize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to approve the 2024 Action Plan for a total grant application of \$3,174,230 including \$2,368,613 for the Community Development Block Grant (which includes the 2024 Community

Development Block Grant of \$2,261,303 and program income of \$107,310), \$633,131 for the HOME Grant, and \$172,486 for the Emergency Solutions Grant; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Executive is authorized to file the 2024 Action Plan with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for a total of \$3,174,230 and to execute all documents as may be required to implement the intent of this resolution.



DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION SHEET

PURPOSE:

Authorize and adopt the 2024 Action Plan which serves as the application to HUD for 3 entitlement grants: Community Development Block Grant, Home Grant, and Emergency Solutions Grant. The Action Plan has been reviewed and approved by the CD Steering Committee.

OBJECTIVE/ WORK PLAN:

To obtain our "base funding" from HUD. The total application amount is \$3,174,230.

FUNDING SOURCE:

Federal funding from the U.S. Dept of Housing & Urban Development.

BUDGET:

See attached budget.

2024 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUDGET-FINAL

5/8/2024

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT	2023	2024	% change
County	\$ 1,962,532	\$ 1,957,700	-0.2%
Clay	\$ 303,603	\$ 303,603	0.0%
Total Grant	\$ 2,266,135	\$ 2,261,303	-0.2%
Reprogrammed Balances			
Program Income	\$ 107,310	\$ 107,310	0.0%
Total Available	\$ 2,373,445	\$ 2,368,613	-0.2%
Capital Projects	\$ 815,218	\$ 889,907	
Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 350,000	\$ 241,445	
Housing Rehab (Prog Income)	\$ -	\$ -	
Commercial Rehabilitation	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	
Rehab Delivery	\$ 450,000	\$ 450,000	
Administration	\$ 453,227	\$ 452,261	
Housing Counseling	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
Fair Housing	\$ 50,000	\$ 80,000	
Homeownership (Prog Income)	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	
Total	\$ 2,373,445	\$ 2,368,613	
CDBG FLOAT LOAN			
Home Ownership Activities			
HOME GRANT	\$ 731,487	\$ 633,131	-13.4%
Housing Rehabilitation	\$ 548,615	\$ 474,848	
Home Ownership Subsidies	\$ -	\$ -	
Non-Profit Housing Activities	\$ 109,723	\$ 94,970	
Administration	\$ 73,149	\$ 63,313	
Total	\$ 731,487	\$ 633,131	
EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT	\$ 169,584	\$ 172,486	1.7%
Administration	\$ 12,719	\$ 12,936	
Projects	\$ 156,865	\$ 159,550	
Total	\$ 169,584	\$ 172,486	
Grand Total	\$ 3,274,516	\$ 3,174,230	-3.1%

**2024 Community Development
Capital Projects-Final**

No.	Municipality/Agency	Project	Req CDBG	Match	Project Total	Proposed Funding
	Town-Camillus	Camillus Senior Center ADA Restroom Improvement	\$ 50,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 65,000	\$ 50,000
	Town-Cicero	Skyway Park Accessibility	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500	\$ 50,000
	Town-Clay	Steelway Blvd South repaving	\$ 102,407	\$ 34,136	\$ 136,543	\$ 102,407
	Town-Fabius	Shackham Rd Paving	\$ 50,000	\$ 162,009	\$ 212,009	\$ 50,000
	Town-Geddes	Fay Road Park ADA Accessible Playground/improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 50,000
	Town-Lysander	Bilyeu Ln & Sumac Dr Resurfacing	\$ 50,000	\$ 32,322	\$ 82,322	\$ 50,000
	Town-Onondaga	Kelley Brothers/Anthony Santaro Park Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 62,500	\$ 50,000
	Town-Salina	Bear Trap Creek Trail Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 67,000	\$ 50,000
	Town-Van Buren	Canton Woods Senior Center roofing	\$ 50,000	\$ 125,000	\$ 175,000	\$ 50,000
	Village-Camillus	Road Reconstruction & Paving	\$ 50,000	\$ 27,380	\$ 77,380	\$ 50,000
	Village-Fayetteville	Senior Center Cottage	\$ 37,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 50,000	\$ 37,500
	Village-Jordan	N Hamilton Drainage - Sidewalks & Curbing	\$ 50,000	\$ 16,790	\$ 66,790	\$ 50,000
	Village-Liverpool	Birch & Sixth St Playground Phase 2	\$ 50,000	\$ 39,490	\$ 89,490	\$ 50,000
	Village-Manlius	Run Mill Park Playground	\$ 50,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 50,000
	Village-Minoa	Sidewalk replacement	\$ 50,000	\$ 1,288	\$ 51,288	\$ 50,000
	Village-N Syracuse	Toll Road Park Improvements	\$ 50,000	\$ 12,900	\$ 62,900	\$ 50,000
	Village-Solvay	Charles Ave Park Phase 2	\$ 50,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 50,000
	CCE	Community Forests	\$ 28,707	\$ 11,051	\$ 39,758	\$ -
		Municipality Total:	\$ 918,614	\$ 931,866	\$ 1,850,480	\$ 889,907
		Fair Housing				
1	ARISE, Inc	ARISE Housing Referral & Advocacy Program	\$ 8,918	\$ 50,450	\$ 59,368	\$ 5,000
2	CNY Fair Housing, Inc	Fair Housing Education & Enforcement	\$ 50,000	\$ 111,000	\$ 161,000	\$ 80,000
		Fair Housing Total:	\$ 58,918	\$ 161,450	\$ 220,368	\$ 85,000
		Requested Total	\$ 977,532	\$ 1,093,316	\$ 2,070,848	\$ 974,907

July 2, 2024

Motion Made By Mr. Knapp

RESOLUTION NO. _____

AMENDING THE 2024 COUNTY BUDGET TO MAKE SURPLUS ROOM OCCUPANCY FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR USE IN SUPPORT OF A HOTEL INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, there are prior year surplus room occupancy tax funds available, and it is necessary to amend the 2024 County Budget to make such funds available for use in direct support of a hotel initiative to incentivize private sector investment in new, quality, hotel rooms in Onondaga County due to a shortage thereof and the need to accommodate visitors and tourists, and in order to promote, sustain, and increase convention, trade show, and tourist business in the County; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the 2024 County Budget is amended as follows:

REVENUES:

In Admin Unit 2365300000	
County Promotion	
In Speed Type #140814	
In Project 719010 – Hotel Initiative	
In Account 590005 – Non Real Prop Tax Items	\$4,000,000

APPROPRIATIONS:

In Admin Unit 2365300000	
County Promotion	
In Speed Type #140814	
In Project 719010 – Hotel Initiative	
In Account 694100 – All Other Expenses	\$4,000,000

Onondaga County Hotel Initiative

Tourism and convention business have served as a key driver of revenue and growth with respect to the local economy. Key to that success has been an abundance of diverse and quality hotel rooms and meeting spaces. In recent years, we have seen a significant number of hotels come offline and subsequently jeopardize our ability to attract new convention business or accommodate visitors and tourists to the area.

Further compounding the issue is the massive influx of people expected as result of the investments being made by Micron at the White Pine Commerce Park. In 2025 another major tourism attraction will be coming online with the Onondaga County Aquarium at the Inner Harbor. We will be hosting a variety of conferences including the New York State County Clerks Association and the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs. These are just a few examples of the clear and immediate need for new, quality hotel rooms in Onondaga County. To incentivize this private sector investment, Onondaga County has created the Onondaga County Hotel Initiative.

The Onondaga County Hotel Initiative will be seeded with \$4,000,000 and award grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$750,000 to developers to assist in closing funding gaps in new hotel construction and/or incentivize existing hotels to add rooms to their current hotel stock in Onondaga County. Criteria will be established to grade each proposal including, but not limited to, type of hotel, how quickly it will come online and location.

Onondaga County Community Development will operate the Onondaga County Hotel Initiative and funding awards will be made on a rolling basis.

Developers will submit documentation showing they have a viable project, financing in place and identify the projects funding gap to proceed. After initial review of the developer's submission, a meeting with the developer and the Onondaga County Hotel Initiative review team will be held. The review team will consist of the Director of Community Development, a representative from the Office of the County Executive, the chair of the Onondaga County Economic Development and Planning Committee of the County Legislature as well as representatives from Visit Syracuse, CenterState CEO and ASM. Developers who are awarded this funding will be notified by Community Development and the disbursement of funds will be determined between the county and the developer.

Information on proposed projects to be considered for this funding may be submitted electronically at: cd@ongov.net

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Marty Skahen, Director of Community Development, at martinskahen@ongov.net or 315-435-3558.