

Adopting The Inclusion Of Additional Lands In Agricultural Districts Within Ulster County As Recommended By The Ulster County Farmland Protection Board

The Economic Development, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee (Chairman Rodriguez and Legislators Bischoff, Loughran, Sheeley, Harris, Roberti and Terrizzi) offers the following:

WHEREAS, consistent with Agriculture and Markets Law (AML) Section 303b, Ulster County established an annual 30-day review period for farmers to request the inclusion of additional lands in Agricultural Districts within Ulster County, and

WHEREAS, during this period, 21 requests were submitted to the Ulster County Legislature consisting of 32 parcels with a total of 511 acres, and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2009, the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature transmitted the requests for inclusion to the Agricultural Farmland Protection Board (AFPB) for their recommendations as required under AML 303b, and

WHEREAS, the AFBP met and reviewed the requests on May 12, 2009, and took the necessary actions by a majority of its members, as required under Agriculture and Markets law, to recommend the inclusion of lands in Agricultural Districts within Ulster County that consist of predominately viable agricultural land, and determined that the inclusion of such land would serve the public interest by assisting in maintaining a viable agricultural industry within the district, and

WHEREAS, the AFBP has filed these recommendations and supporting documentation, including public comments received, with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature, and

WHEREAS, Ulster County, along with the AFBP, has met its responsibilities regarding notice, reporting, and holding of a public hearing, and

WHEREAS, the additions of lands to Agricultural Districts are considered an Unlisted Action pursuant to Parts 617.2(ak), 617.4, and 617.5 (SEQRA), and an Environmental Assessment form has been completed and filed with the Clerk of the Legislature, and

WHEREAS, the Economic Development, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee has met and reviewed said request with a majority of the members voting approval, now, therefore, be it

Resolution No. 208 July 8, 2009

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RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature finds, after review of the Environmental Assessment Form and the recommendations of the AFPB for the inclusion of lands within agricultural districts, as filed with the Clerk of the Legislature, that no significant adverse environmental impacts will occur as a result of this action and a Negative Declaration is adopted under Part 617.7 (SEQRA), and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature adopts the recommendations of the AFPB as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature to place additional lands within existing agricultural districts in Ulster County, with the exception of two parcels located in the Town of New Paltz included in the AFPB recommendations as tax map (section block lot) 86.1-1-37.11 and 86.1-1-37.12, owned by Wine, S and each consisting of 2 acres, and, it be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby directed to submit this resolution, a copy of the AFPB Report that specifically notes that the two parcels owned by Wine, S listed above are specifically omitted from the additions to be considered by the Commissioner for inclusion, and other material as required under Agriculture and Markets Law Article 25AA – Agricultural Districts, to the Commissioner of Agriculture, and request that the Commissioner certify that the inclusion of these lands in an agriculture district if feasible and in the public interest,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 28 NOES: 0
(1 Abstention: Legislator Zimet)
(Absent: Legislators Aiello, Decker, Loughran
and Stoeckeler)

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
NONE