

**RESOLUTION NO. – 2023**

WHEREAS, there is pending before this Honorable Board a Resolution to approve the inclusion of additional parcels of land within the Westchester County Agricultural District; and

WHEREAS, as this project is an “Unlisted” action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), an Environmental Assessment Form has been prepared by the Department of Planning to assist this Honorable Board in complying with its responsibilities under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, this Honorable Board has carefully considered this proposed action and has reviewed the Environmental Assessment Form and the criteria set forth in Section 617.7 of 6 NYCRR Part 617 of the SEQRA regulations and has identified the relevant areas of environmental concern, as are fully set forth in the attached “Negative Declaration,” to determine if this proposed action will have a significant impact on the environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, by the County Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester, State of New York, that based on this Honorable Board’s review of the Environmental Assessment Form and for the reasons set forth in the annexed “Negative Declaration,” it is determined that there will be no adverse impact on the environment from the inclusion of additional parcels of land within the Westchester County Agricultural District; and be it further



# 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.

<b>Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information</b>			
Name of Action or Project: Addition of land to Westchester County Agricultural District No. 1			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): Various parcels in the towns of Bedford, Lewisboro, North Salem and Somers (see attached list and map).			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: The Westchester County Agricultural District was created in 2001, recertified in 2011 and recertified again in 2017. Owners of farmland may apply to have their land included within the district annually, pursuant to Agricultural Districts Law. The annual 30-day window to receive applications in Westchester County is the month of March. Five applications to include additional land were received for calendar year 2023.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Westchester County Board of Legislators, c/o Sunday Vanderberg, Clerk and CAO		Telephone: 914-995-4604 E-Mail: mav5@westchestergov.com	
Address: 800 Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor			
City/PO: White Plains		State: NY	Zip Code: 10601
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 governmental 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, adjoining and 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			



<p>18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g. retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)?</p> <p>If Yes, explain purpose and size: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility?</p> <p>If Yes, describe: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste?</p> <p>If Yes, describe: _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>NO</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>YES</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>I AFFIRM THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE</b></p> <p>Applicant/sponsor name: <u>David Kvinge, Assistant Commissioner (preparer)</u>      Date: <u>September 13, 2023</u></p> <p>Signature: <u></u></p>		

Project: Westchester Ag District Additions

Date: September 2023

**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:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>

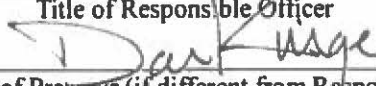
**Short Environmental Assessment Form  
 Part 3 Determination of Significance**

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.

See attachment

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.

Westchester County Board of Legislators	
Name of Lead Agency	Date
Sunday Vanderberg	Clerk and Chief Administrative Officer
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
	
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

David Kvinge, Director of Environmental Planning

## STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW

### ADDENDUM TO EAF

The Proposed Action is the recommendation by the Westchester County Board of Legislators to the New York State Commissioner of Agriculture concerning the inclusion of additional parcels of land within the Westchester County Agricultural District, as provided for under Section 303-b of Article 25-AA of New York State Agriculture and Markets Law. Inclusion of parcels of land within an agricultural district does not, in and of itself, supersede or modify existing land use ordinances or regulations. Consequently, additions of land to an existing agricultural district will not result in the physical alteration of the environment or otherwise have a negative impact on the environment. Rather, the addition of land to an existing agricultural district promotes the preservation of viable agricultural land and has other environmental benefits as described below. The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has determined that modifications to an agricultural district are an Unlisted action with respect to SEQR. The County Board of Legislators is conducting uncoordinated review as permitted for Unlisted actions.

The applications received for 2023 are described in more detail in the 2023 report of the Westchester County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board, including recommendations on whether to include each parcel. A map and list of the applications and individual parcels follows this narrative.

Agricultural land and the agricultural industry in Westchester County continue to be under considerable pressure to convert to other land uses, typically residential subdivision. Agricultural land contributes significantly to the quality of life in Westchester County by providing open space, links to cultural history, vegetative and wildlife habitat, and a local source of fresh food. The protection and enhancement of agricultural land is in furtherance of the County's goals, as described in the County Planning Board's long-range planning document, *Patterns for Westchester: the Land and the People*, and the County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan, to protect natural and cultural resources, preserve open space and community character, and reduce environmental impacts associated with development. The Westchester County Board of Legislators created the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board and the Westchester County Agricultural District to protect agricultural land and enhance the agricultural industry in furtherance of these goals. New York State Agriculture and Markets Law requires that counties that have a certified agricultural district conduct an annual review of applications received for the inclusion of additional parcels of land within the agricultural district and submit recommendations, if warranted, to the New York State Commissioner of Agriculture.

Inclusion of additional agricultural parcels within the Agricultural District does not have a physical impact on the environment. Inclusion of land within the agricultural district furthers the goals and objectives of the County to:

- Preserve and protect the county's natural resources, including the drinking water supply;
- Assure a diverse and interconnected system of open space, supporting a variety of flora and fauna and providing contrast in the texture of the landscape;
- Enhance a broad economic base and economic opportunity within the county; and
- Protect the county's educational, cultural, historic and aesthetic resources for future generations.

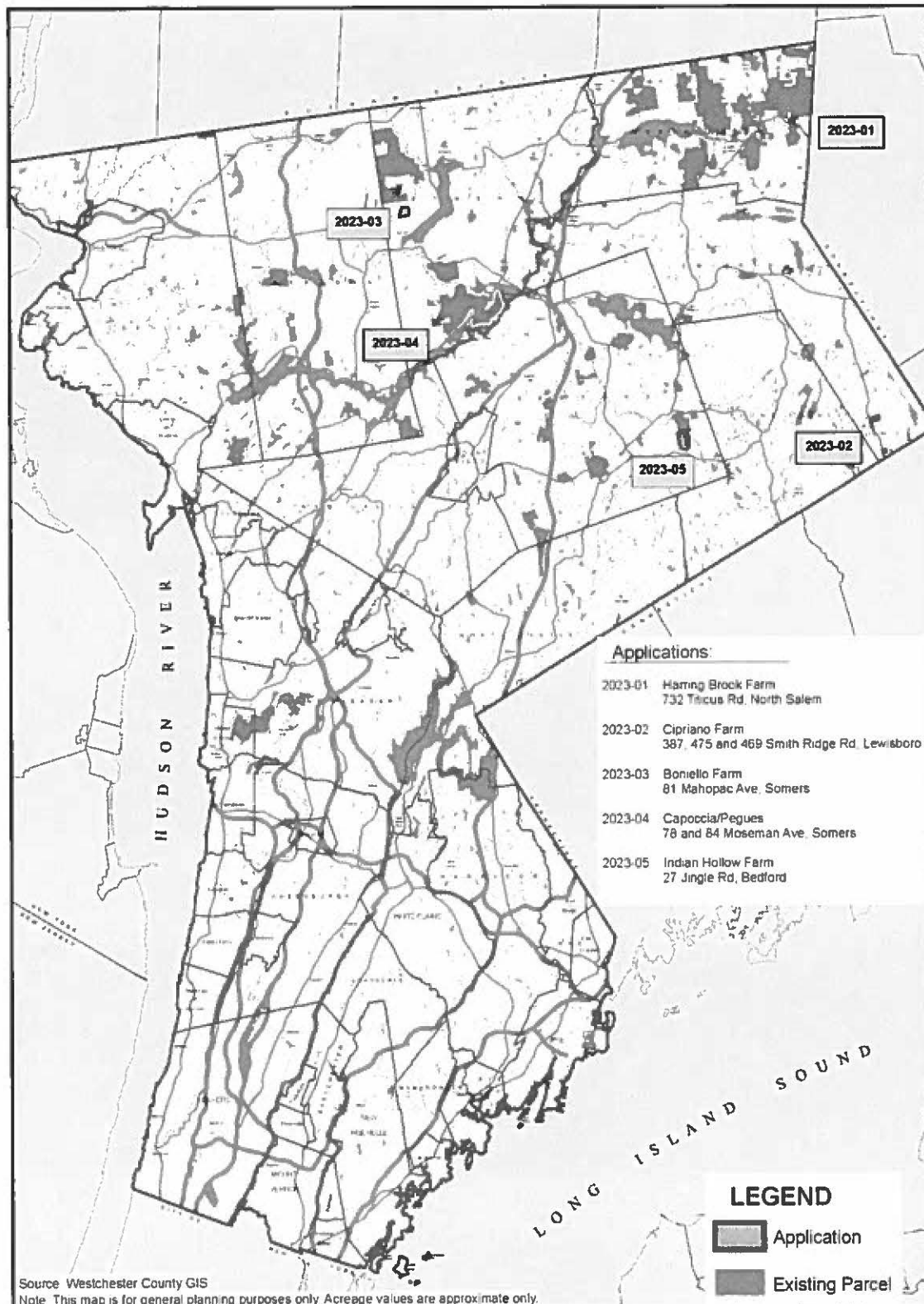


**2023 APPLICATIONS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PARCELS  
 WITHIN THE WESTCHESTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT**

<b>Application</b>	<b>Farm Name</b>	<b>SBL</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Street Address</b>	<b>Municipality</b>
2023-01	Harring Brook Farm	38.-1709-4	6.97	732 Titicus Rd	North Salem
2023-02	Cipriano Farm	77.11-2-5	16.14	371 Smith Ridge Rd	Lewisboro
		77.11-2-11	0.55	387 Smith Ridge Rd	Lewisboro
		77.04-3-61	3.13	469 Smith Ridge Rd	Lewisboro
		77.04-3-59	1.96	475 Smith Ridge Rd	Lewisboro
		77.04-3-58	0.71	5 East St	Lewisboro
2023-03	Boniello Farm	26.16-1-3.1	36.14	81 Mahopac Ave	Somers
2023-04	Capoccia/Pegues	48.17-1-7	7.93	78 Moseman Ave	Somers
		48.18-1-1	4.89	84 Moseman Ave	Somers
2023-05	Indian Hollow Farm	74.17-1-25	79.16	27 Jingle Rd	Bedford
2023-RE-01	Birdstone Farm	53.1-3-20	43.75	20 Boutonville Rd S	Lewisboro
		10526-4.9-2	18.14	20 Boutonville Rd S	Pound Ridge
2023-RE-02	Whipstick Farm	55.4-1-11	46.18	77 Elmwood Rd	Lewisboro
		55.4-1-12	18.34	77 Elmwood Rd	Lewisboro
		55.4-1-13	4.47	77 Elmwood Rd	Lewisboro
		55.4-1-14	8.15	77 Elmwood Rd	Lewisboro

The list above includes five new applications to include additional parcels of land and two applications to reinstate parcels of land that were previously in the district. More information on the first five applications is included in the report of the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board. The Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board has created an expedited process for the reinstatement of parcels that were previously in the agricultural district but not included in a subsequent recertification due to no fault of the property owner and where the nature and scale of the farm operation has not changed.

Inclusion of Additional Parcels within the Westchester County Agricultural District  
 Addendum to Short EAF



**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED**  
 2023 Westchester County  
 Agricultural District