

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: Annual review of proposed additions to Albany County Agricultural Districts			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): Agricultural Districts #2, #3			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: Pursuant to Article 25-AA section 303-b of NYS Agricultural and Markets Law, the Albany County Legislature established an annual review period beginning on February 1 during which property owners may apply to add land to any of the County's three Agricultural Districts. A total of eight parcels totaling 297.7 acres are recommended for inclusion in the Districts. This action would modify the Albany County Agricultural District Boundaries to include the subject parcels (see attached narrative and map).			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Albany County Legislature		Telephone: 518-447-7168	
		E-Mail: andrewcjoyce@gmail.com	
Address: 112 State St. Room 710			
City/PO: Albany		State: NY	Zip Code: 12207
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 ☐
			YES ☒
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 ☐
			YES ☐
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:			
☐ Urban ☐ Rural (non-agriculture) ☐ Industrial ☐ Commercial ☐ Residential (suburban)			
☐ Forest ☐ Agriculture ☐ Aquatic ☐ Other(Specify):			
☐ Parkland			

5. Is the proposed action,	NO	YES	N/A
a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	☐	☐	☐
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	☐	☐	☐
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
	☐	☐	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area?	NO	YES	
If Yes, identify: _____	☐	☐	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?	NO	YES	
	☐	☐	
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?	☐	☐	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements?	NO	YES	
If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____ _____	☐	☐	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply?	NO	YES	
If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____ _____	☐	☐	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities?	NO	YES	
If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____ _____	☐	☐	
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?	NO	YES	
	☐	☐	
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?	☐	☐	
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?	NO	YES	
	☐	☐	
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: _____ _____ _____			

14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply: ☐ Shoreline ☐ Forest ☐ Agricultural/grasslands ☐ Early mid-successional ☐ Wetland ☐ Urban ☐ 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
	☐	☐
16. Is the project site located in the 100-year flood plan?	NO	YES
	☐	☐
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources? If Yes, a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties? b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)? If Yes, briefly describe:		

Project: Date:

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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?	☒	☐
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	☒	☐
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	☒	☐
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	☒	☐
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?	☒	☐
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?	☒	☐
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:	☒	☐
a. public / private water supplies?	☒	☐
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	☒	☐
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	☒	☐
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	☒	☐
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	☒	☐
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	☒	☐

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.

The proposed modification of Albany County Agricultural Districts will result in an additional 297.7 acres included within the district boundary. The findings of this review, relied on information provided by the landowner, analysis of aerial photos, and in some cases, a field assessment of the subject parcels, and review by the Albany County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board. The recommended additions below were found to be consistent with the intent of agricultural districting as described in NYS Agricultural and Markets Law 25AA and compatible with the goals and objectives of the Agricultural Districts Law. Based on the information and analysis conducted, the modification of the agricultural district boundary was found not to have any significant adverse environmental 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.

Albany County Legislature

Name of Lead Agency

Hon. Andrew C. Joyce

Date

Chairman

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

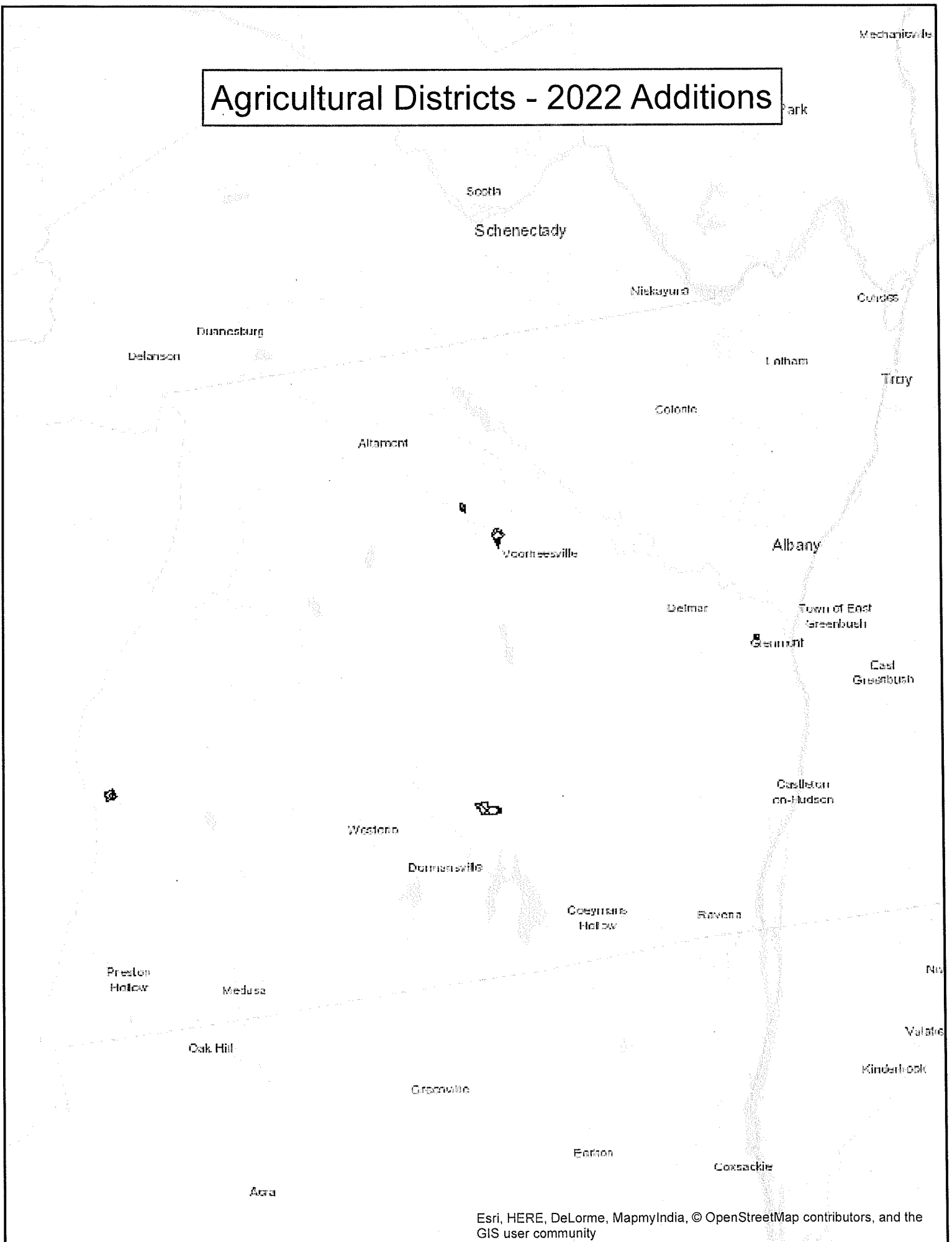
Title of Responsible Officer

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

PRINT FORM

Agricultural Districts - 2022 Additions





Albany County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board

Recommendations of the Albany County Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board Annual Agricultural District Review 2022

Prepared by Laura DeGaetano – Albany County Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Planning March 2022

Pursuant to Article 25-AA section 303-b of NYS Agricultural and Markets Law, the Albany County Legislature established an annual review period beginning on February 1 during which property owners may apply to add land to any of the County's three Agricultural Districts. On behalf of the County Legislature, the County Office of Natural Resource Conservation conducted a review of all landowner applications for inclusion in a District. The findings of this review, which relied on information provided by the landowner, analysis of aerial photos, and in some cases, a field assessment of the subject parcels, have been reviewed by the Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board. Based on this review, the following report and recommendations are submitted for consideration by the County Legislature.

A total of eight (8) parcels were submitted for consideration to be included in Albany County Agricultural Districts during the 30-day annual review period beginning February 1, 2022. Of the parcels submitted, all were found to be consistent with the intent of agricultural districting and are recommended for inclusion in the appropriate Agricultural District.

TOWN	PARCEL	# OF ACRES	AG DISTRICT	Recommendation Of AFPB	Principal Enterprise
Bethlehem	86.00-2-22.21 97.08-1-41	14.4 1.20	3	ADD	Hay
Coeymans	129.-2-15	139.5	3	ADD	Hay
New Scotland	61.-3-4.1	63.5	3	ADD	Hay/Veg/Poultry
Guilderland	60.00-2-1.2	20	3	ADD	Equine/Hay
Rensselaerville	124.-1-8	13.8	2	ADD	Hay
	124.-1-7	37.90	2	ADD	
	124.-1-10	7.40	2	ADD	
Total Acres Added		297.7			

