



ONONDAGA COUNTY AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN

OCTOBER 2022



ONONDAGA COUNTY

AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND PROTECTION PLAN

This Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan was produced with funding assistance from the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets' Farmland Protection Planning Program and the Onondaga County Agriculture Council. The plan has been prepared at the direction of the Onondaga County Legislature's Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board. The project team is comprised of staff of the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency, with assistance from the Cornell Cooperative Extension and Soil and Water Conservation District of Onondaga County.

Honorable J. Ryan McMahon, Onondaga County Executive
Honorable James J. Rowley, Chairman, Onondaga County Legislature

Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB)

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Lee Hudson, Farmer
Kay Hilsberg, Farmer
Mark Tucker, Farmer
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The Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency would like to thank the farm and food-business owners and organizations that participated in the focus group meetings, stakeholder interviews, and public meetings throughout the development of this plan.

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LETTER TO THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE



Onondaga County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board

BRIAN REEVES, Chairman
JAMIE McNAMARA, Clerk

401 Montgomery Street • Court House • Room 407 • Syracuse, New York, 13202

October 20, 2022

Honorable James J. Rowley, Chairman
Members of the Onondaga County Legislature
401 Montgomery Street
Room 407 Court House
Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Chairman Rowley and Members of the Legislature:

Enclosed is a copy of the *Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan* developed with your support and grants from the Onondaga County Agricultural Council and New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The plan was completed through the cooperative work of the Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency, in partnership with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County and the Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District, and with oversight by the Onondaga County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board.

The Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board recommends specific actionable strategies to preserve and enhance the viability of agriculture in Onondaga County. These strategies promote new agricultural economic development opportunities, protection of agricultural lands, promotion of local agriculture, support for the next generation of farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs and enhancing the relationship with the natural environment.

The Onondaga County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board approves and presents the *Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan* for your consideration. Legislative approval of this plan will signify your continued commitment to supporting local agriculture, farm families and important farmland throughout Onondaga County. We appreciate your past support and count on your favorable acceptance of the *Onondaga County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan*.

Sincerely,

Brian Reeves, Chairman
Onondaga County Agricultural & Farmland Protection Board

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ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE RESOLUTION

ONONDAGA COUNTY
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