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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Agricultural Assessment Value - A real property assessment provision of the New York Agriculture District Law. The value per acre assigned to agricultural assessment purposes by the capitalized value of its agricultural productive value instead of "best use value" value.

Agri-Business - Any business that provides products or services generally directed toward the support of agricultural production, marketing and distribution of its products.

Agricultural District - Locally designated farming areas that receive protective benefits under New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets Law. County Agriculture & Farmland Protection Boards make recommendations to County and State government for establishment, modification and continuation of districts.

Agricultural Conservation Easement - A voluntary legally binding agreement, usually permanent, between a landowner and a unit of government or land trust, on a property that protects the land for agricultural use. The land remains in private ownership and on the tax rolls.

Agricultural Economic Development - Programs and initiatives that support enhancing viability of agricultural business.

Bio-diversity - A concept referring to native life forms existing in their natural, dynamic balance.

Commodity - A raw agricultural product that has established a large-scale market.

Community Cluster - A planning term that prescribes the residential dwellings (single and multi-family housing) are constructed within close proximity to each other within a community designed to share a theme of high environmental and ecological standards.

Comprehensive Plan - A community-planning document that identifies resources, describes current use of resources and prescribes future utilization of resources.

Development - The improvement of land by construction or infrastructure, housing, commercial, industrial or uses other than agricultural production.

Micro-Enterprise - An agricultural enterprise that operates on less than twenty-five acres of land. The majority of these businesses operate on less than five acres.

Open Space - Usually refers to land areas undeveloped and in their natural state. The term also refers to variations of woodlands, fields and pastures that are viewed from roadsides.

Prime Farmland - USDA broadly defines this term as those soils best suited for producing food, feed, fiber, forage crops, or forests. It possesses sufficient soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods.

Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) - A land preservation program in which rights to develop the lands are sold, usually to a public entity. An easement permanently (or for a term) restricts land to agricultural use, but does not require that active farming continue. Assessed value of the land is reduced to the agricultural value and the farmland owner, without restriction, may use cash payments.

Quality of Life - Aspects of a community that make it appealing as a place to live, such as; open space, cultural, educational, goods and services, employment, recreation, safety, etc.

Value-added - Monetary value that is added to an agricultural product through processes that enhance its usefulness or appeal to the consumer (e.g. wine, salsa).

Viability - Capacity to attract investment of capital or commitments of human resources.

Watershed - Land area that surrounds and drains into a lake, stream or pond.

ACRONYMS

AEB – Agriculture Enhancement Board

AEM – Agriculture Environmental Management

AIDER – Agricultural Industry Development, Enhancement and Retention

BMP – Best Management Practice

CCE – Cornell Cooperative Extension

CSA – Community Supported Agriculture

gpm – gallons per minute

IPM – Integrated Pest Management

NRCS – Natural Resource Conservation Service

NYSDEC – New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

NYS DAM – New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

NYS DOH – New York State Department of Health

SWCD – Soil & Water Conservation District

USDA – United States Department of Agriculture