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ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

RICHARD A. BALL
Commissioner

May 20, 2015

Karen McCarthy, Clerk
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Building, 7th Floor
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Ms. McCarthy:

March 17, 2016 will mark the anniversary of Erie County Agricultural Districts No.8 which was first formed on March 17, 1976.

Consistent with the requirements of the Agriculture and Markets Law, your legislative body must conduct a review of the District. This letter serves as a notice to initiate the review and generally defines the review process and time frame.

The review is designed to gauge the District's effect on local government policies concerning community development, environmental protection and preservation of the agricultural economy. The review must also consider how District farms and farm acres have furthered the purposes for which it was originally established, the extent to which it has achieved its original objectives and its degree of consistency with community economic and land use conditions.

The Agricultural District 8-year review procedures and forms are detailed on the Departments Website at: http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/programs.html and http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/agservices/agdistricts.html

If I can be of any assistance during the district review or if you have any questions regarding the Agricultural Districts Program, please call me at 518-457-5606 or e-mail at john.brennan@agriculture.ny.gov

Sincerely,

John Brennan

John F. Brennan
Agricultural Districts Program Manager

cc: Brett Kreher, Chair, AFPB
Tom Dearing, County Planner

MEMORANDUM

To: Brett Kreher, Chair, Agricultural and Farmland Protection Board (AFPB)
Tom Dearing, County Planning Department
County Cornell Cooperative Extension
From: John F. Brennan, Agricultural Districts Program Manager
Date: May 20, 2015

Subject: Erie County Agricultural District No. 8 Eight-Year Review

March 17, 2016 will mark the anniversary of Erie County Agricultural District No.8 which was first formed on March 17, 1976.

Consistent with the requirements of the Agriculture and Markets Law (AML), the County legislative body must conduct a review of the District. This memorandum serves to alert you that the review process should be initiated and directs you to several aids, which may benefit your respective review roles.

The following Agricultural District 8-year review procedures and forms are available on the Departments Website at:
http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/Programs.html and http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/AP/agservices/agdistricts.html

- Agricultural Districts Program Mapping Checklist
- Time Frame for District Review (flow Chart)
- Agricultural Districts EAF
- SEQRA Process and Review
- Agricultural Districts Law Summary
- RA- 114 District Review Profile,
- RA-113 District Review Sheet, and
- Article 25AA PDF –Agriculture and Markets Law (as amended through January 2015)

Also enclosed are maps identifying the state certified boundaries of the district as adopted by the County Legislature. The map has been provided through the facilities at IRIS, 1015 Bradfield Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York 14853-5601. Should the eight-year review process result in District modification, the change must be shown on a revised mylar or may be submitted digitally after contacting Cornell IRIS at (607) 255-6529 for further guidance. Please be reminded that the Commissioner will not recertify an Agricultural District until a map is filed with IRIS

Also, please include all properties added to the District during the annual inclusion-open enrollment period. The attached maps do not include the annual inclusion properties.

If you have any questions or need assistance during the review you may contact me at (518) 457-5606 or e-mail me at john.brennan@agriculture.ny.gov

Thank you,
John F. Brennan
JB
NYSDAM