

September 3rd, 2004

Dear Members of the Dryden Agricultural Community,

We are writing to invite you to a Town Meeting to discuss Dryden's Draft Comprehensive Plan and its recommendations related to agriculture. We have attempted to send this invitation to owners of actively farmed lands within the Town of Dryden, using lists supplied by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County, and Tompkins County Assessment. We apologize if we have reached you in error, or made any mistakes in your address. Please spread the word to anyone else you know who may be interested in this meeting.

This meeting is an important opportunity for you, the farmers and farmland owners, to share your thoughts and concerns about the Draft Comprehensive Plan and any future policies suggested by the plan which are likely to have a direct impact on you, your business, and your future. By coming to this meeting you can be a part of the Town's planning process. This is your opportunity to formulate ideas that can provide reasonable alternatives to some of the suggested future land use policy as it pertains to agricultural property in the Draft Comprehensive Plan. We are also hoping to identify a few volunteers interested in continuing to represent the interests of the agricultural community as the Town moves forward with implementation of the Comprehensive Plan. This plan, over the long term, is intended to guide future growth and development in the town in a manner that will support a high quality of life for residents, protect agricultural and other natural resources, and ensure efficient use of local government funds.

The meeting will be held on Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 to 9:30PM at the VFW building, 2272 Dryden Road (Route 13, just west of Dryden Village). We will provide pizza and soda.

This meeting is organized by the Town of Dryden Conservation Advisory Board, in cooperation with the Dryden Grange, and the Tompkins County Farm Bureau. Dryden's Conservation Advisory Board (CAB) is a body of citizen volunteers appointed by the Town Board to provide assistance on issues related to agriculture, natural areas, and environmental protection. Dryden's Planning Board and Town Board have supported the efforts of the CAB to organize this meeting.

This mailing includes a copy of the pages in the Draft Comprehensive Plan most directly related to agricultural lands. To see the whole plan, you can come to the Town Hall, or visit Southworth Library, or view it on the town website at <http://www.dryden.ny.us/compplan.html>. If you have any questions, feel free to call Debbie Gross, Town of Dryden Environmental Planner, at 607-844-5607. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Craig Schutt    Richard Church    Lin Davidson  
Dryden Conservation Advisory Board    Dryden Grange    Tompkins County Farm Bureau  
607-257-2340    607-898-3438    607-533-7522