LP 5 Community Support for Agriculture Checklist

DOES THE COMMUNITY ...

Plan for agriculture

... Clearly address agriculture in its comprehensive plan or other community plans (e.g., economic development, strategic or sustainability plans?)

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Support agricultural leadership (e.g., an agricultural ombudsmen, advisory board or commission to represent farmers and ranchers in local decision making?)

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Provide public land for farming (e.g., lease land to farmers/ranchers, provide space for community gardens or urban agriculture?)

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Encourage connections between agriculture and residents (e.g., incentivizing space for marketing outlets and infrastructure, such as farmers markets or food hubs, allowing agritourism, on-farm marketing and/or promotion of local farms and ranches?)

☐ YES  ☐ NO

Protect farmland and natural resource conservation

... Create farmland protection zones specifically to support working farms and ranches?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Purchase conservation easements (aka development rights) on agricultural land?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Have urban growth boundaries?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Have a transfer of development rights program or mitigation ordinance to engage private developers in farmland protection activities?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Have policies or regulations to support access to water and water rights?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

... Support its local Conservation District (e.g., appropriating funds for District programs and operations, co-sponsoring watershed and other projects, providing use of county-owned equipment, etc.)

☐ YES  ☐ NO
Support agricultural viability

.... Have a local right-to-farm ordinance?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Provide tax credits and exemptions (e.g., property tax relief, school tax credits, sales tax exemptions)?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Have flexible zoning provisions to support diverse agricultural systems (e.g., accessory use allowances, farm labor housing, setbacks and buffers, on-farm processing)?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Authorize voluntary agricultural districts where agriculture is encouraged and protected?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Have reasonable livestock regulations to address neighbors, buffers, environment and welfare issues (e.g., the limits on number of poultry or livestock in residential areas, regulate nutrient management, require buffers between new developments and existing livestock operations)?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Provide provisions for on farm housing needs, including farm labor?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

Support markets and infrastructure

.... Have regulations scaled appropriately to address on-farm marketing and direct-to-consumer systems (e.g., agritourism, CSAs, farm and roadside stands)?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Incentivize marketing infrastructure (e.g., packing, processing, cold storage and distribution facilities, slaughterhouses, transportation systems, reliable internet access?)

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Allow on-farm and value-added processing to support agricultural marketing and recreation (e.g., slaughter facilities, cold storage, packing sheds?)

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Support farm-to-school and other institutional procurement policies?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

.... Provide farm promotional materials such as maps, resource guides and interactive websites?

☐ YES  ☐ NO

Adapted from “Is Your Town Farm Friendly – A Checklist for Sustaining Rural Character” by the New Hampshire Coalition for Sustaining Agriculture and UNH Cooperative Extension and Maine Farmland Trust’s “Is Your Town Farm Friendly Checklist.”

4/10/2020