

New York State Department of
Agriculture and Markets

WHAT MAKES A GOOD APPLICATION

Introduction

- To review key factors that go into making a good funding request to the State to develop a local agricultural and farmland protection plan.
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Topics of Discussion

1. Identify the overall goal & anticipated outcome.
2. Summarize trends that warrant farmland protection measures.
3. Follow directions for presenting the budget.
4. Develop a realistic scope of work

Topic One--- Goal & Outcome

- ❑ One of the most important parts of the application.

- ❑ Take time to focus on the farmland protection issues in the Town---ask farmers and interested citizens

Topic One--- Goal & Outcome

- Condense issues & summarize the goal of the program

- Provide a vision of the anticipated outcome

Topic One – Goal and Outcome EXAMPLES

- ❑ “ Town wants to update zoning to match Ag protection in Master Plan”
 - Revise zoning and code to protect Ag

- ❑ “ Town is concerned about piecemeal development and erosion of road frontage which impacts agriculture.”
 - Perform build out analysis; adjust zoning.

Topic One – Goal and Outcome EXAMPLES

- ❑ “ Develop a consensus among farmers, Ag business, & citizens regarding best strategies to protect Ag
 - Review land use tools to protect Ag and adopt best approach.
- ❑ “Reduce complaints and local land use policy conflicts caused by inconsistent town codes.”
 - Revise codes to protect agriculture.

Topic Two— current trends

- ❑ Present local facts and figures that detail current trends impacting agriculture.
- ❑ Make a compelling case why change is needed. Discuss the consequence of inaction.

Topic Two— current trends EXAMPLES

- ❑ “Spill over development from Metro Center is fragmenting agricultural lands and impacting rural way of life”
 - Town wants to direct development away from agricultural lands.
- ❑ “ Town is in the process of reviewing over 1,700 new residential development units.”
 - Town wants to create TDR program to protect viable agricultural acreage.

Topic Three— Budget Presentation

- ❑ Municipalities are eligible for grants up to \$25,000 or 75% of the cost (whichever is less) of developing a local Agricultural Protection Plan
- ❑ To request \$25,000 the **total project cost** would \$33,333.
- ❑ Review the FAQ document; Question #7 – Basic Match Requirement

Topic Three— Budget Presentation

- ❑ 75% of \$33,333 = \$25,000
- ❑ 25% of TPC of \$33,333 = \$8,333
- ❑ \$8,333 = Applicant Match
- ❑ Split the applicant match as follows:
- ❑ **Cash** match (20%) = \$1,667
- ❑ In-kind match (80%) = \$6,666
- ❑ **Total local match** \$8,333

Topic Four Scope of Work

- ❑ Present a step by step outline for developing a local Agricultural & Farmland Protection Plan.
- ❑ It is recommended that the Town establish an Advisory Committee to oversee the development of the plan.
- ❑ Identify ways to keep the public informed throughout the process: web site, newsletters, etc.

Topic Four Scope of Work

- ❑ Identify tasks that will yield important foundation information by which to make decisions. See response to question #11 of FAQ: ID farms to be protected.
- ❑ Also: Map prime soils and then overlay current zoning; add sewer and water service area overlay map.

Topic Four Scope of Work

- ❑ Review land use protection tools to protect agriculture.

- ❑ Remember: Traditional zoning tools do little to protect agriculture.

Topic Four Scope of Work – example-1

- ❑ Extensive input from farmers and the public. Coordinate with County AFPB.
- ❑ Create key information maps.
- ❑ ID priority farm protection areas.

Topic Four Scope of Work – example-2

- ❑ Analyze current zoning and subdivision ordinances.
- ❑ Draft farm-friendly language
- ❑ Analyze farm protection tools.

Topic Four Scope of Work – example-3

- Select appropriate strategies.
- Draft plan
- Identify steps to implement plan

Topic Four Scope of Work – example-4

- Coordinate with adjacent municipalities.
- Review plan with county AFPB-seek approval.
- Adopt plan via Town resolution