

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Organics Reduction & Recycling Program
Re: Municipal Food Scraps Recycling Initiatives - DEC01-DMMFSR-2021

August 29, 2022

It is with great excitement that I share this letter of support for the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency's *Municipal Food Scrap Hauling Pilot Project* for consideration of the 2021 Municipal Food Scrap Recycling Grant Program.

The Town of Hurley operates a Municipal Recycling Drop Off Center and Transfer Station located at 1015 Dug Hill Road that serves between 2,000 and 3,000 residents per year with municipal solid waste and recyclables drop-off services. This facility is also open to out-of-town residents, and has served residents from surrounding towns of Kingston and Woodstock. Our service area includes an environmental justice community (15000US361119512001) as defined by [NYSDEC Commissioner Policy 29](#). This facility is an excellent location to establish a food scraps collection program under the UCRRA's *Municipal Food Scrap Hauling Pilot Project*.

Our community is committed to environmental sustainability. The Town of Hurley's Climate Smart Communities Task Force has conducted energy assessments on existing buildings and is working to update policies on recycling as well as procurement. Reducing plastics and solid waste are high on the list of priorities. The *UCRRA Municipal Food Scrap Hauling Pilot Project* would provide essential infrastructure and resources that are needed to expand on our sustainability goals and overcome logistical challenges to implement a new residential composting service at this facility.

If UCRRA is awarded, Town of Hurley would agree to become a participating collection site in this pilot project. We would benefit from use of the equipment and educational resources developed under the project. We would also benefit from the support of the Agency's Recycling Outreach Team to train our transfer station operators in how to facilitate the drop-off site and ensure the program is launched using best management practices. The UCRRA project enables the Town of Hurley to further achieve our goals of waste reduction, pollution prevention, public outreach and education, and enhancing local soil quality. The Town of Hurley fully supports their application for the 2021 Municipal Food Scrap Recycling Grant Program and would look forward to collaborating with UCRRA on this exciting project if awarded.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Melinda McKnight, Supervisor
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