

**LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP
SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION 2025-19

**IN SUPPORT OF REFERENDUM FOR 10 YEARS EXTENSION OF SUSSEX COUNTY
FARMLAND PRESERVATION, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE TRUST FUND**

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted legislation allowing counties to establish a County Farmland Preservation, Recreation, and Open Space Trust Fund pursuant to P.L. 1997, c. 24; and

WHEREAS, in November 2000, again in November 2005, and again in November 2015 the voters of Sussex County approved public questions in a general election referendum creating a Farmland Preservation, Recreation, and Open Space Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, in the 25 years of the existence of the County program, the County has preserved in excess of 19,425 acres of farmland and 4,845.3 acres of open space, these accomplishments being achieved in cooperation with municipal, state, and private partners; and

WHEREAS, both prior public authorizations provided for the expiration of the authorization after a period of 10 years, with the November 2000 authorization expiring on January 1, 2011, the 2005 authorization scheduled to expire on January 1, 2016, and the 2015 authorization scheduled to expire on January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, there still exists a significant need for Farmland and Open Space preservation in Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of a stable source of funding, land preservation efforts within Sussex County will cease.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, New Jersey, as follows:

We call upon the Board of Chosen Commissioners to adopt the necessary resolution pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40:12-15-15.2, to authorize a public referendum to appear on the November 4, 2025, general election ballot to seek voter approval to continue the Sussex County Farmland Preservation, Recreation, and Open Space Trust Fund for an additional 10-year time period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Clerk of the Board of Chosen Commissioners of the County of Sussex and the Governing Bodies of all Sussex County Municipalities.

CERTIFICATION

I, AnnaRose Fedish, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Lafayette Township Committee at a meeting duly held on February 4, 2025.

Anna Rose Fedish, RMC
Municipal Clerk