MERCER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD RECOMMENDS ADOPTION OF THE 2020 MERCER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLAN.

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has enacted N.J.S.A. 4:1C-11 known as the "Agriculture Retention and Development Act"; and

WHEREAS, A County Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan ("Plan") is required for participation in the State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) County Planning Incentive Grant Program under N.J.S.A. 4:1C-43.1; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 2:76-17.4 sets forth the minimum required components for a Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the last Mercer County Plan was adopted on June 7, 2010 and the SADC requires revisions and re-adoption every 10 years; and

WHEREAS, as required by the SADC, two public meetings soliciting input were noticed and held by the Mercer County Agricultural Development Board (CADB) on August 3, 2020 and October 5, 2020; and

WHEREAS, notice of the Plan update and an invitation to provide comments was provided to the Mercer County Board of Agriculture on August 11, 2020 and to the six Townships with designated Project Areas (East Windsor, Hamilton, Hopewell, Lawrence, Robbinsville and West Windsor Townships) on August 17, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the CADB and Mercer County Planning Department have prepared the Plan in accordance with all requirements and have incorporated SADC comments received on September 29, 2020;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mercer County Agricultural Development Board hereby formally adopts the Mercer County Comprehensive Farmland Preservation Plan dated December 7, 2020 as a guide to preserving farmland and the agricultural industry in Mercer County.

I certify that the above Resolution was adopted at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Mercer County Agricultural Development Board on December 7, 2020.

Emily Blackman, CADB Administrator