

I stand with the agricultural groups, community associations, and other stakeholders who have stated clearly and firmly opposition to ZTA 23-09.

There are challenges to farming in this County but this ZTA seeking to change the definition of farming is not helpful to current and future farmers. The number one issue for farmers is access to land - the cost of land is a hinderance to getting the diverse next generation of farmers growing.

Land uses that would compete for farmland in the only area of the county set aside for farming must be very carefully considered with stakeholder input from the beginning. If you want to help farmers - ask what they need and then listen.

Meanwhile, agriculture is talking to you. They are telling you this ZTA will hinder not help. Please work to withdraw this ZTA.

Sincerely,

Catherine Lowry