



MORRIS COUNTY AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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Office located at: 30 Schuyler Place, Morristown, NJ

February 23, 2024

Michael Lavery, Esq.
Lavery, Selvaggi & Cohen
1001 Route 517
Hackettstown, NJ 07840

Re: Right to Farm Act - Request for Site-Specific AMP
Backer Farm
Township of Mendham

Dear Mr. Lavery:

The Morris CADB is in receipt of your correspondence dated January 23, 2024 regarding the above referenced application. County staff are in the process of reviewing Mendham Township's comments.

With respect to traffic, the Township requested that the County perform a traffic study of the intersection at Roxiticus Road and Route 24 and Ironia Road and Route 24.

We note that in 2018 a traffic study was performed by French & Parrello Associates for Morris County reviewing the traffic volumes and crash history of the intersection of Route 24 and Roxiticus Road in Mendham Township. Enclosed is a copy of the report.

The report details that a traffic signal was warranted for the intersection at that time. The estimated cost of a signal in 2018 was nearly \$200,000.00. Fifty percent (50%) of the construction cost was to be borne by the Township. Upon completion of the signal, installation ownership and maintenance of the signal would fall entirely on the Township. However, Mendham Township decided not to pursue the installation of a signal at that time.

Mr. Christopher Vitz, Director of Public Works & County Engineer, County of Morris Department of Public Works, has reviewed the Backer application, including Traffic & Parking Assessment Report prepared by Matthew J. Seckler, PE, PP, PTOE, Stonefield Engineering and Design, LLC. It is his opinion that while the proposed Backer Farm operation will not be adding significant traffic to the local roadways and would have minimal impact to this intersection, a signal is still warranted for the intersection at this time.

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STAFF: Katherine Coyle, *Director*

A traffic study of the intersection of Route 24 and Ironia Road has not been performed by the County. However, Mr. Vitz notes that due to the limited sight distance available at that intersection and the severe grade uphill as Ironia Road approaches Route 24, it would be his recommendation to make that roadway "One Way" away from Route 24 regardless of any traffic potential from the Backer Farm. However, that would be a municipal decision, not a County decision.

In addition, as Roxiticus Road and Ironia Road are municipal streets, and the County performed a study at the intersection of Route 24 and Roxiticus Road previously, any new study or studies would need to be decided upon and performed by the Township.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Coyle". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Katherine Coyle
Director

Enclosure

Cc: Mendham Township Mayor and Committee
Jason Gabloff, Mendham Township Administrator
John Mills, Esq., Mendham Township
Nicole Voigt, Esq.
Susan Rubright, Esq.
Michele Donato, Esq.
Christopher Vitz, Director of Public Works & County Engineer
Joseph Barilla, Director, Morris County Office of Planning and Preservation
Staci Santucci, Esq., First Assistant County Counsel