

# ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

## RESOLUTION NO. 2515

### RE: Approving Zero Waste Vision for Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency

WHEREAS, New York State has established a sustainable materials management hierarchy in the state's solid waste management plan Beyond Waste, where source reduction and reuse are preferred management strategies before recycling and disposal; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency has defined zero waste as *"the conservation of all resources by means of responsible production, consumption, reuse, and recovery of products, packaging, and materials without burning and with no discharges to land, water, or air that threaten the environment or human health;"* and

WHEREAS, the Agency's 10 year Local Solid Waste Management Plan identifies zero waste goals; and

WHEREAS, The Agency's Recycling Outreach Team includes a Recycling Coordinator, Recycling Educator, and Compliance Officer who develop and deliver a county-wide outreach, education, and enforcement program; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has adopted core philosophical values, programmatic strategies and rhetoric that communicates the Agency's zero waste goals; and

WHEREAS, the Agency actively demonstrates concern and commitment to strategies for zero waste through its community engagement programs to educate businesses, institutions, and the general public on sustainable materials management and the environmental/economic/social impacts of waste; and

WHEREAS, the Agency is a member of the United States Composting Council (USCC), the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), the New York State Association of Solid Waste Management (NYSASWM), the New York State Association for Reduction, Reuse, and Recycling, (NYSAR3), the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), and the New York State Product Stewardship Council (NYSPSC), and other industry groups; and

WHEREAS, the Agency demonstrates concern and commitment to protect public health and the environment and to reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal through its waste diversion practices by recovering, to the greatest extent possible, valuable recyclable materials that are incidental to loads of municipal solid waste received by the Agency, including: ferrous and nonferrous metals, electronics, freon appliances, fluorescent lighting, tires, propane tanks, clean wood/rubble, clothing/textiles, corrugated cardboard, mixed news, wire, tarps, and food scraps; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Agency will pursue emerging technologies, best practices, and innovative solutions in sustainable materials management by participating in industry trade groups, organizations and councils; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the Agency will network with these solid waste experts in order to provide the County of Ulster with the best sustainable materials management solutions possible.

**Moved by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Seconded by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vote:** Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Absent \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** August 24, 2020