

ULSTER COUNTY RESOURCE RECOVERY AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2678

RE: Authorization to Collaborate with Ulster County to Apply for Grant Funding and Approving Use of Agency Funds for Required Match

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (the "Agency") is engaged in Solid Waste Management and Recycling in Ulster County, including composting of organic materials and food scraps; and

WHEREAS, the Agency previously collaborated with Ulster County (the "County") to apply to the NYS DEC Climate Smart Communities Program (the "Program") in 2016 for a grant to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from disposal of food waste through expanded composting; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 the application was successful and resulted in a funding award of \$261,000 to the County, of which \$237,000 was directed to the Agency through a Contract for Services for Agency expenditures to increase the diversion of food scraps from the County's waste stream; and

WHEREAS, the Agency committed \$206,768 of its own funds as match to support the 2016 application; and

WHEREAS, the Agency and the County have completed the required tasks and deliverables from the 2016 grant, submitted a final report to the NYS DEC, and closed out the grant in 2021; and

WHEREAS, through Executive Order #1 of 2023 (the "EO #1"), Ulster County Executive Metzger has established a new goal to divert all organic waste from landfills by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Agency's 2020-2029 Solid Waste Management Plan (the "LSWMP") calls for increased effort to divert wasted food and organic materials in order to reduce the Agency's reliance on landfilling and/or incineration of final waste; and,

WHEREAS, in furtherance of its LSWMP and EO #1, the Agency wishes to secure additional resources to facilitate reduction of wasted food; and

WHEREAS, the Agency and the County wish to coordinate to apply for additional funding from the Program, as part of the Round XVI NYS Consolidated Funding Application (the "Application"), which is due by 4pm on Friday, July 31, 2026, in order to implement measures that will result in the reduction of wasted food; and

WHEREAS, in order to be eligible for funding under the Program, the Application must include a letter or written agreement substantiating the nature of the collaboration and detailing the responsibilities, roles, and match contributions of each party, with a minimum required match of 50% of the total project cost; and

WHEREAS, if awarded funding, NYS DEC will require formal, finalized agreements, such as Memoranda of Understanding or Contracts, to be executed by all parties prior to proceeding with execution of any grant award agreement or disbursement of grant funds;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency hereby authorizes an Application to the Program and commits to undertake such Objectives, Tasks and Activities as may be identified in the Project Work Plan, including but not limited to the expansion of composting operations and facilities at its Town of Ulster location and at certain municipally-controlled locations throughout the county; the expansion of education, outreach, and promotion activities to encourage food scraps diversion; and the encouragement of compliance and enforcement of local food scrap recycling laws, ordinances or policies; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Agency hereby authorizes the Application to include a commitment of financial support, consisting of a combination of in-kind contributions from Agency operating costs associated with composting operations and, if necessary, cash contributions from Agency funds, in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 over five years or 50% of the total project cost, whichever shall be the lesser amount; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Agency hereby authorizes the Executive Director to negotiate and execute, with any necessary changes and updates to facilitate NYS DEC approval, the Climate Change Mitigation Easement (the "Easement") and the contract for services between the Agency and Ulster County previously executed for the 2016 grant award; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved by: _____ Seconded by: _____

Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Absent _____

Date: June 25, 2026

Financial Impact: up to \$2,000,000 (over 5 years) as Agency's share of required match