



City of Lambertville

18 York Street

Lambertville, NJ 08530

www.lambertvillenj.org

609-397-0110

November 6th 2020

Dear Neighbor,

We live in a very special community that cares deeply about its historic preservation, the City's aesthetic beauty, our environment and its sustainability, and most importantly, our community's quality of life. To that end, the City is aware that the Closson family farm – a property most hold near and dear to their hearts – is for sale. The Closson's have been land owners, business owners, and staples in our community for decades, and their family's history is woven into the fabric of our community. For the past 32 years, it has been the home of the bustling Homestead Farm Market and of the Closson's' private residence. This site also holds deep historical relevance as the home of George Washington's Headquarters where he mapped out the Battle of Monmouth. And come snowfall, it's one of the best sledding hills around. The Closson farm is one of our City's gems that regularly enhances our quality of life.

To save the site from development and protect our City's historic character and rural roots, the City is taking steps to study the purchase of the Closson property. This land has the potential to continue to serve and enhance our community in more ways than one. We are at the very beginning of exploring all of the possibilities, which could potentially include community gardens and artist studio spaces. We are also exploring the possibility that the property's private residence could be a good location for our police department.

As you may know, the City, along with the police leadership and with input from the community, is working to find a new home for our police while reflecting the values referenced above. We want to explore multiple options to find the best fit, and we believe the preservation of the Closson property offers a unique opportunity worthy of further study. Additionally, we plan to look into several other options for the police department. Finally, we remain open to exploring additional options brought forward by the community through the Community Advisory Team.

The Closson farm and some other sites are options for our community to weigh as sites for the police. We are not limited to these options – and the community will have a say in what is ultimately decided. Over the next few days, you can review more details on these options, including potential financial impact of both, including what we would study, bond, on the City's website at www.lambertvillenj.org/communitydevelopment, stay tuned. We expect you will have questions and we look forward to many conversations as we work through this.

As Mayor, I have heard from residents about the importance of protecting our historic treasures, our rural backdrop, and our "small town" feel. This farm would be an investment in both our past and future, and I want you to be part of the conversation about these choices.

City of Lambertville
Julia Fahl, Mayor
Page 2

Over the next six months we will be working with the Community Advisory Team to hear from you as we study preserving the Closson farm and both options for the police department, and ultimately come to a decision. Join our November 10th council meeting as we begin an open conversation about this for more visit www.lambertvillenj.org/virtualmeetings for details to join our council meeting.



Yours in Service,
Mayor Fahl