MAYOR HORNIK ANNOUNCES MARLBORO FARMERS MARKET

MARLBORO TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY (March 26, 2019) –Mayor Jon Hornik has announced that the grand opening of Marlboro Farmers Market will take place on June 30, 2019. Mayor Hornik and Township officials will kick-off the inaugural season with a Ribbon Cutting ceremony at 11:00am. The Market will be located at the intersection of Route 79 and 520 at the former home of the Stattel Farm.

Mayor Jon Hornik stated, "We have wanted a Farmers Market for years, so when we preserved the Stattel Farm in 2017 this was the perfect opportunity and location to start one." said Mayor Hornik. "I am really looking forward to filling this niche in Marlboro Township. Bringing fresh produce to our residents, enhancing our commercial base, and using this space for something that will actively engage the public is a win, win all around."

The Marlboro Farmers Market will be open every Sunday beginning June 30 until October 27 from 9:00 am through 2:00 pm, rain or shine. A Facebook group 'Marlboro Farmers Market' has been launched to keep residents informed of market happenings.

The Marlboro Farmers Market is designed to complement the Township's other sustainable initiatives, including *Shop Marlboro!*, the Marlboro Community Garden, and the Marlboro Green Team campaigns 'Green Business Recognition' and 'Buy Fresh-Buy Local'. As a part of Marlboro's sustainability initiative, reusable shopping totes with the official Marlboro Farmers Market logo will be available for purchase beginning opening day.

"Since 2008, the Township had been actively engaged in attempting to purchase this property in the center of Town, between the municipal complex, the recreation center and Marlboro High School -- the very heart of our Community," Mayor Hornik stated. "Using this preserved land for our Market really honors the tradition of the Stattel Farm as well as Marlboro's roots as an agricultural community."

The Market is sponsored by Marlboro Township who has solicited the help of professional market manager, Pamela Caputo of Community Greenmarket Organizers. Their mission is to provide a venue for farmers to sell locally grown produce directly to the community. The Market will be limited to vendors who are growers or producers of homemade products. Farmers who are interested in being considered as a market vendor should send an email to <u>CoGrO_monmouth@icloud.com</u> or call 732-982-7842.

Residents who wish to be considered as a Market volunteer should submit an expression of interest by completing the <u>Volunteer Form</u> available on the Township Website.