

Town of Springport Vision Plan 2011



FINAL
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF SPRINGPORT

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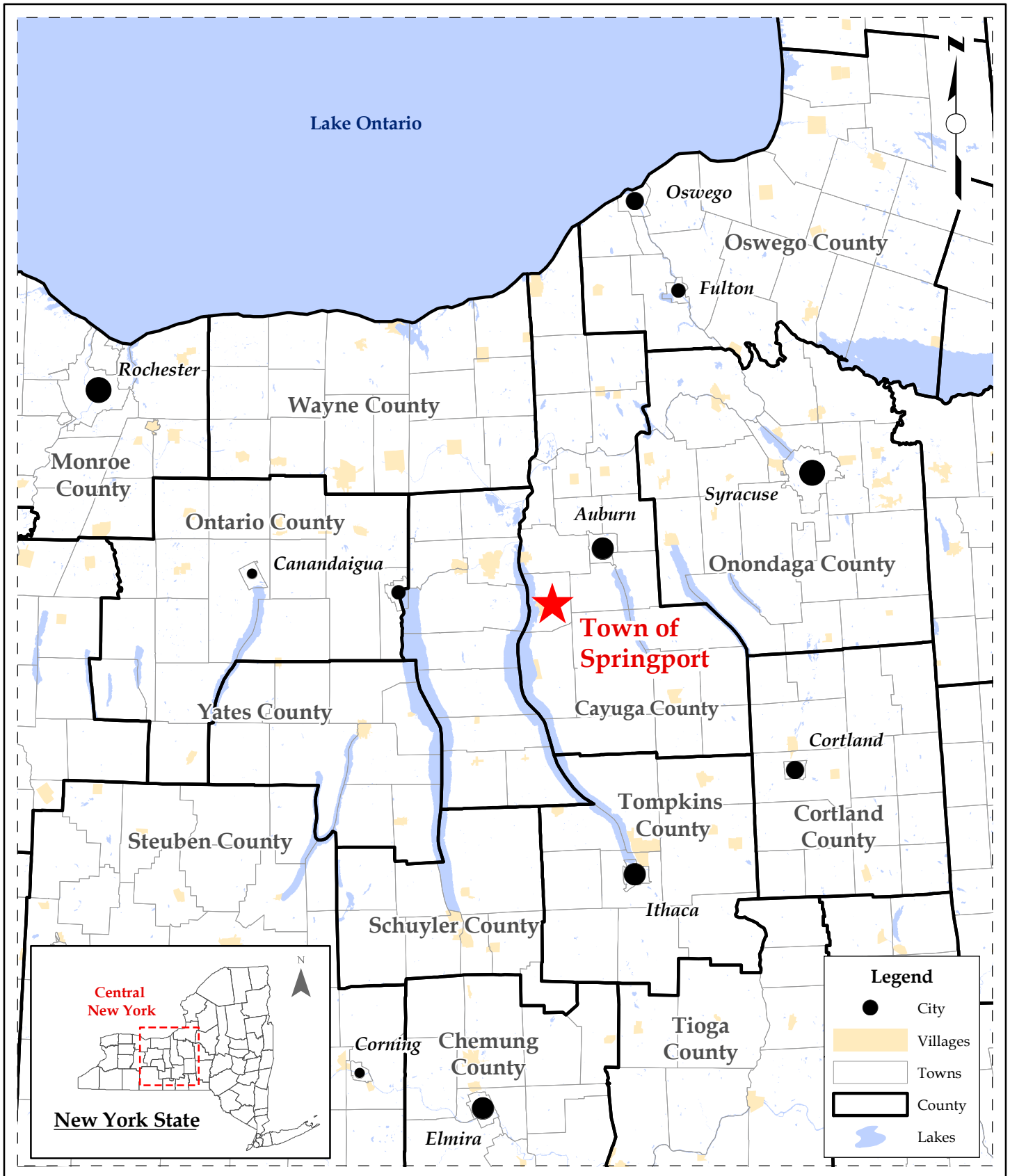
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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Town of Springport (the "Town") is a rural waterfront community located in Cayuga County, New York. The Town is home to approximately 2,367 people and is situated on the eastern shores of Cayuga Lake in the Finger Lakes region of Central New York (Map 1). Town leaders, encouraged by public support, want to balance the needs to improve waterfront access; protect Cayuga Lake as a significant statewide natural resource; and encourage economic activity through recreation and tourism. By unanimous decision the Town Board decided to create a Vision for future growth and development in the Town.

To begin the visioning process, the Town developed a public participation program and engaged community stakeholders to establish goals for developing a town-wide vision that would become the foundation for a future Town Comprehensive Plan. To support this endeavor, the Town sought and was awarded grant funding through the New York State Department of State Environmental Protection Fund Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (EPF LWRP). The EPF LWRP grant provided the necessary funding for the Town to leverage its own resources in developing a vision for the Town based on a well considered public participation program.

The process has resulted in a document that sets forth a vision for the Town. This Vision Plan provides a foundation for the Town to develop a Comprehensive Plan for the future of their community. A vision statement, guiding principles, goals, objectives, and a vision map have been formulated to help direct the Town's comprehensive planning process. The vision for the future of the Town reflects the community's values and hopes for what the Town will be in 20 years.



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Town of Springport Vision Plan

Map 1 - Project Location Map

Scale: 1" = 15 miles

2.0 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROGRAM

Meaningful public participation in the planning process is a vital component to visioning. The Town of Springport Vision Plan is a product of the public participation program developed in connection with this project. The primary goal of the program is to engage community stakeholders, through public discourse, to identify concerns and issues facing residents and property owners. Through public participation the Town desires to:

- Enhance the quality of planning for the Town
- Mitigate potential conflicts between interested parties in the planning process
- Ensure the swift and efficient implementation of the comprehensive plan
- Ensure that the comprehensive plan remains intact and relevant over time
- Foster a sense of community and trust in government

In August 2009, the Town Board formed a 22-person citizen advisory committee to oversee the project and prepare a Vision Plan to guide future growth and development in the Town. The Visioning Committee (the "Committee") included the following citizen stakeholders:

- Grover Alcock
- Andy Eldridge
- Lon Fricano
- Midge Fricano
- Kristine Hoffmeister
- Bonnie Hoskins
- Larry Huntley
- June Layton
- Dawn Locastro
- Bill Morgan
- Jon Patterson
- Connie Reilley
- Linda Rice
- Brad Rindfleisch
- Mike Sacco III
- Brian Schenck
- David Schenck
- Barry Schwarting
- Constance Scott
- Veronica Seyd
- Ed Staehr
- Rick Waldron

The Committee maintained an open and transparent process with the community through a public participation program. The program's components included:

Committee Meetings

The Committee met on a monthly basis from September 2009 through November 2011. Meetings were held in the Union Springs High School Library and were open to the

public. Meeting dates, times, and location were advertised in the local paper and on the Visioning Committee website. See Appendix A for the meetings minutes summarizing the activity for each meeting.

Community Outreach

The Committee promoted the project and encouraged public participation through local media advertising, public information meetings, and social media methods. In addition, the Committee created a project website to disseminate information and promote participation through online forum discussions.

Community Planning Survey

In August 2010, the Committee conducted a mail out survey to all landowners and registered voters in the Town of Springport (including the Village of Union Springs). The survey was advertised through the local media and additional surveys were made available at the following locations:

- Town of Springport Town Hall
- Village of Union Springs Village Hall
- Village of Union Springs Public Library
- Village of Union Springs Post Office
- Village of Cayuga Post Office
- Big M Grocery Market (Village of Union Springs)
- Visioning Project Website

A total of 1,794 surveys were distributed to individuals owning land or who were registered to vote. The response rate was approximately 28 percent, with 509 surveys being returned. See Appendix B for the Community Planning Survey results.

Discussions with Local and Neighboring Municipalities

The Committee met with local and neighboring municipalities to discuss planning and development issues of local importance. These municipalities included:

- Town of Springport Town Board
- Town of Springport Planning Board
- Village of Union Springs
- Village of Cayuga
- Town of Aurelius

- Town of Ledyard
- Town of Fleming

Discussions with Regional Planning Entities

The Committee met with various planning organizations to discuss regional planning and development issues. These organizations included:

- Cayuga County Office of Real Property
- Cayuga County Department of Planning and Economic Development
- Cayuga County Soil and Water
- Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway Commission
- New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- Cornell University

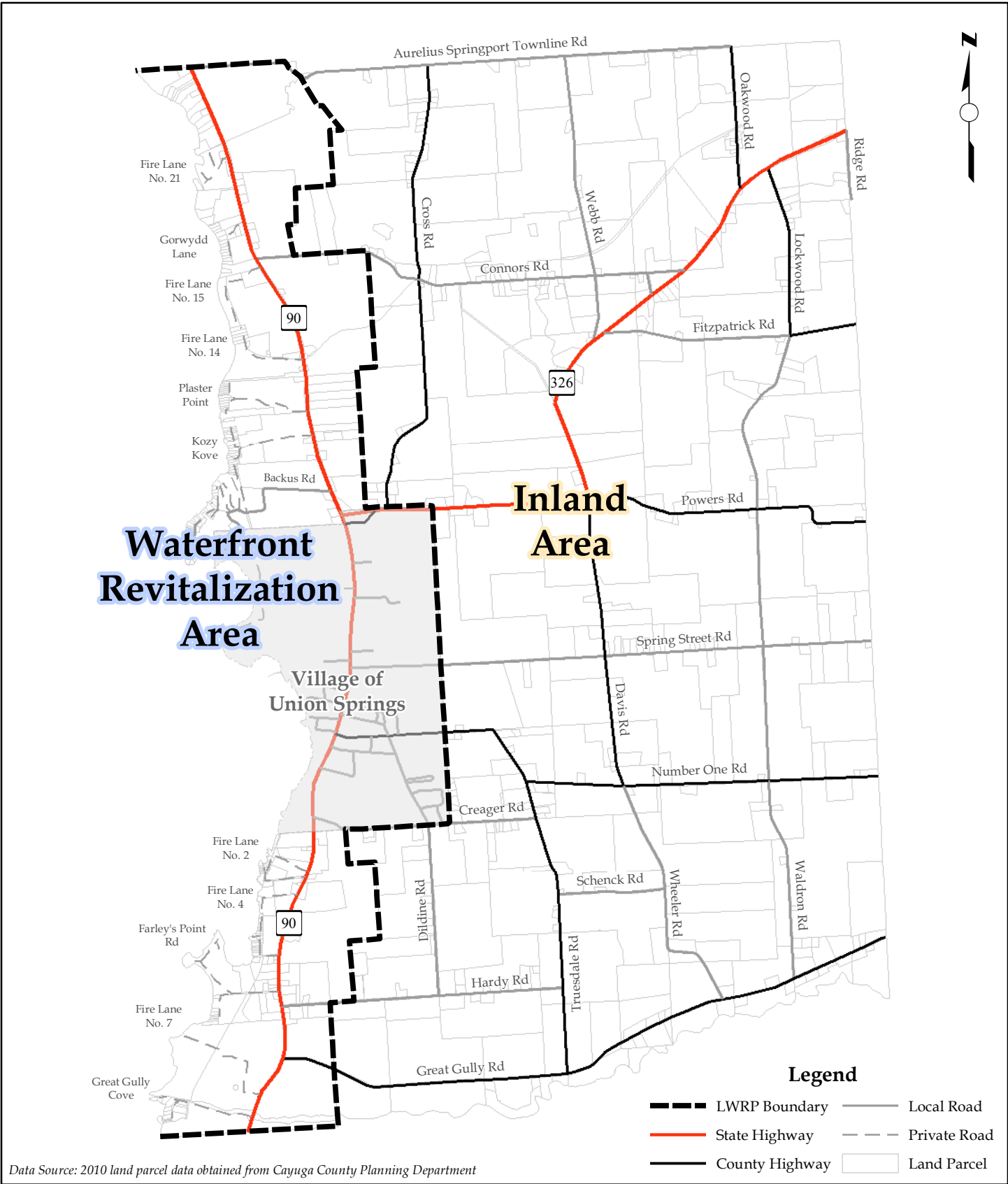
3.0 LOCAL WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION AREA BOUNDARY

The Waterfront Revitalization Area (WRA) is defined as the area that would be directly impacted by the implementation of a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP). The WRA includes all areas that have the greatest potential to contribute to future waterfront revitalization efforts while realizing the benefits of Cayuga Lake due to their proximity to the waterfront. The vision for a potential LWRP is discussed under Waterfront Revitalization in section 5.4 of this report.

The WRA encompasses all land area between the Cayuga Lake Shoreline and an inland boundary that includes the Village of Union Springs and areas adjacent to the Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway Corridor (Route 90) (Map 2). A description of the WRA is included below:

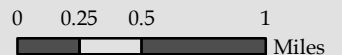
- The WRA boundary begins at a point along the shoreline of Cayuga Lake on the north line of the Town of Springport;
- Thence easterly approximately 5,000 feet along the north line of the Town of Springport to a point in the centerline of Aurelius-Springport Town Line Road;
- Thence southeasterly approximately 800 feet along the centerline of Aurelius-Springport Town Line Road to a point in the centerline thereof;
- Thence in a southerly direction approximately 7,500 along the eastern edge of 127.00-1-15.11 and 127.00-1-22.32 to a point in the centerline of Connors Road;
- Thence easterly approximately 2,500 feet along the centerline of Connors Road to a point in the centerline thereof;
- Thence southerly approximately 8,500 feet along the eastern edge of 134.00-1-4.317, 134.00-1-4.318, 134.00-1-7.1, 134.00-1-26.221, 134.00-1-26.222, 134.00-1-26.212, 134.00-1-26.211, 134.00-1-26.32, 134.00-1-26.314, 134.00-1-26.315, 134.00-1-49.1, and 134.00-1-48.1 to a point in the north line of the Village of Union Springs;
- Thence easterly approximately 2,000 feet along the north line of the Village of Union Springs to the northeast corner thereof;
- Thence southerly approximately 9,800 feet along the east line of the Village of Union Springs to the southeast corner thereof;

- Thence westerly approximately 3,200 feet along the south line of the Village of Union Springs to a point in the south line thereof;
- Thence in a southerly direction approximately 7,000 feet along the eastern edge of 150.00-1-21.111 to a point in the centerline of Hardy Road;
- Thence westerly approximately 800 feet along the centerline of Hardy Road to a point in the centerline thereof;
- Thence in a southerly direction approximately 3,800 feet along the eastern edge of 150.00-2-34, and 150.00-2-37 to a point in the south line of the Town of Springport;
- Thence westerly approximately 5,500 feet along the south line of the Town of Springport to a point along the Shoreline of Cayuga Lake;
- Thence in a northerly direction along the Shoreline of Cayuga Lake to the point of beginning.



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Town of Springport Vision Plan
 Map 2 - Local Waterfront Revitalization Boundary Map



4.0 INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

4.1 CURRENT LAND USE

The Town of Springport is rural in nature, with an abundance of open space and green space that exists within its municipal boundary (Map 3). Land use is predominantly agricultural with a mix of low-density residential uses east of New York State Route 90 and denser residential uses along the waterfront in close proximity to the shoreline of Cayuga Lake. Commercial and industrial uses are scattered throughout the Town, with recreational uses located along the waterfront. The Village of Union Springs represents the Traditional Town Center. Figure No. 1 provides a breakdown of Land Use within the Town.

FIGURE NO. 1
LAND USE BREAKDOWN

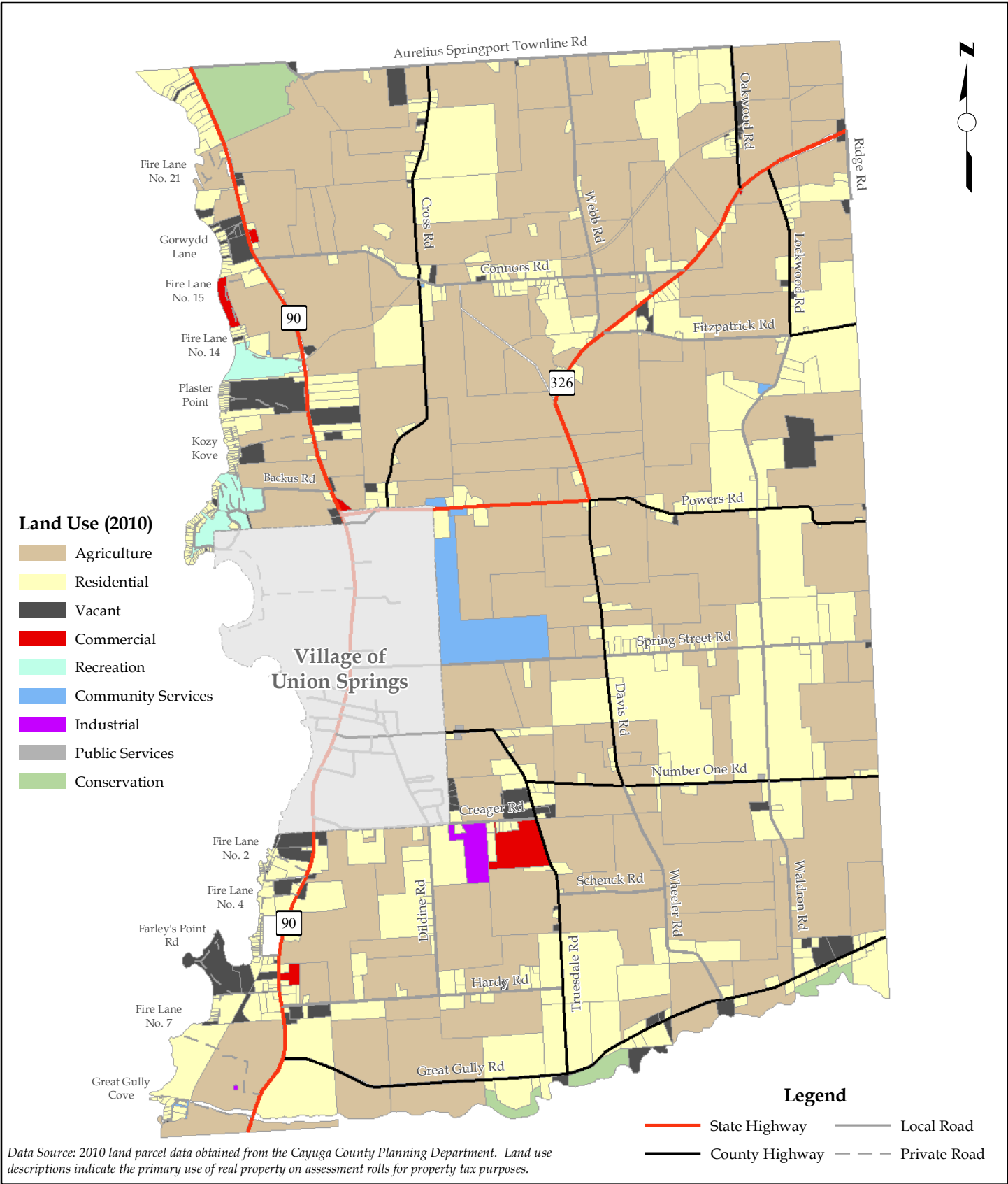
<i>Land Use</i>	<i>Number of Parcels</i>	<i>Area* (Acres)</i>
Agriculture	108	8,232
Residential – Single (Small Lots)	369	848
Residential – Two-Family	6	17
Residential – Mobile Homes	88	194
Residential – Rural (10+ Acre Lots)	38	2,184
Vacant	94	374
Commercial	6	66
Recreation	3	84
Community Services	9	151
Industrial	2	34
Public Services	2	3
Conservation	4	167
Total:	729	12,354
Village of Union Springs	n/a	1,152

2010 Land Use Source: Cayuga County Office of Real Property Services.

*Area calculation is based on 2010 GIS parcel data and does not include highway rights-of-way.

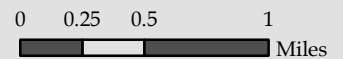
4.2 AGRICULTURE

The criteria for productive farmland are determined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) based on the composition of soil needed to produce various crops.



Town of Springport Vision Plan

Map 3 - Land Use Map



Generally, state and local agencies work cooperatively with the USDA to define and delineate land that is considered highly productive for agricultural purposes. Based on soil data, a significant portion of land within the Town (approximately 76 percent) is considered prime farmland or farmland of statewide importance (Map 4). See Figure No. 2 for the breakdown of farmland soil ratings.

FIGURE NO. 2
FARMLAND SOIL RATING BREAKDOWN

<i>Farmland Rating</i>	<i>Area (Acres)</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Prime farmland	9,154	66.0%
Farmland of statewide importance	1,372	9.9%
Prime farmland if drained	1,917	13.8%
Not prime farmland	1,423	10.3%
Total:	13,866	100%

2010 Soil Classification Source: USDA National Resource Conservation Service.

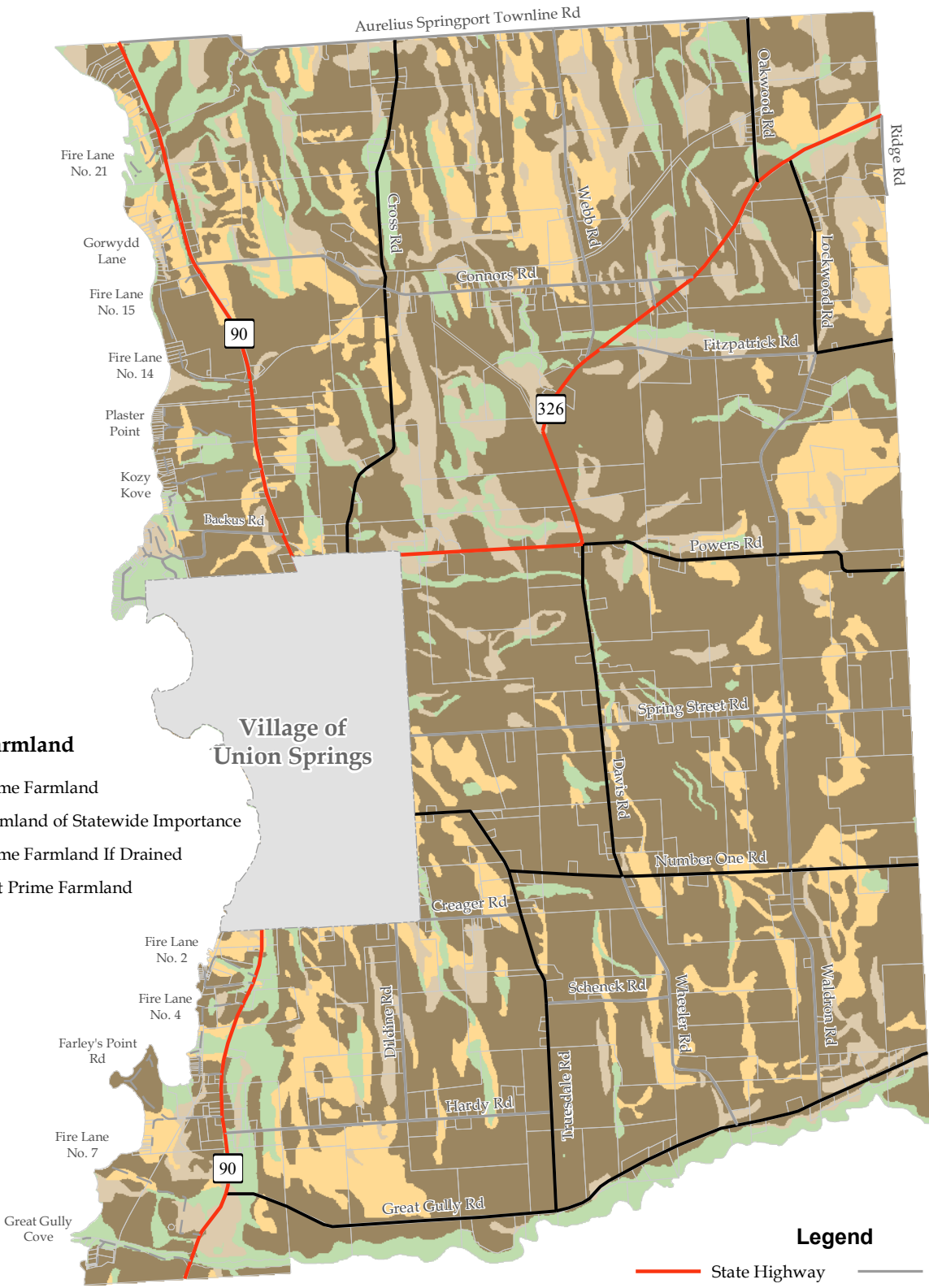
*Area calculation is based on GIS soil data and includes areas within highway rights-of-way.

Cayuga County has a farmland protection program that protects agriculture by preventing the conversion of valuable farmland through the purchase of development rights. Farmland is protected through permanent conservation easements that are maintained and enforced by the American Farmland Trust. Since its implementation in 2001, the program has protected approximately 8,000 acres of farmland throughout Cayuga County. Several agricultural landowners in the Town have participated in this program (Map 5).

A significant portion of the Town is located within a State-designated Agricultural District (Map 5). The Town is subject to the regulations set forth in Article 25-AA of the New York State Agricultural and Markets Law when enacting comprehensive plans, local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. The purpose of the law is to protect agriculture by preventing the unreasonable restriction or regulation of farm operations unless public health or safety is threatened. To be eligible for inclusion in the Agricultural District, lands must meet certain criteria specified by the State, with recertification occurring on a periodic basis.

4.3 ZONING AND LAND USE REGULATIONS

Zoning in the Town of Springport consists of a single zone designated as Agricultural/Residential, which covers the entire town. See Appendix C for the Town of Springport Zoning Law. The zoning regulations were adopted in 1991 with revisions



Prime Farmland

- Prime Farmland
- Farmland of Statewide Importance
- Prime Farmland If Drained
- Not Prime Farmland

Legend

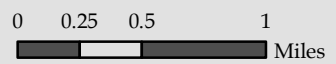
- State Highway
- County Highway
- Local Road
- Private Road

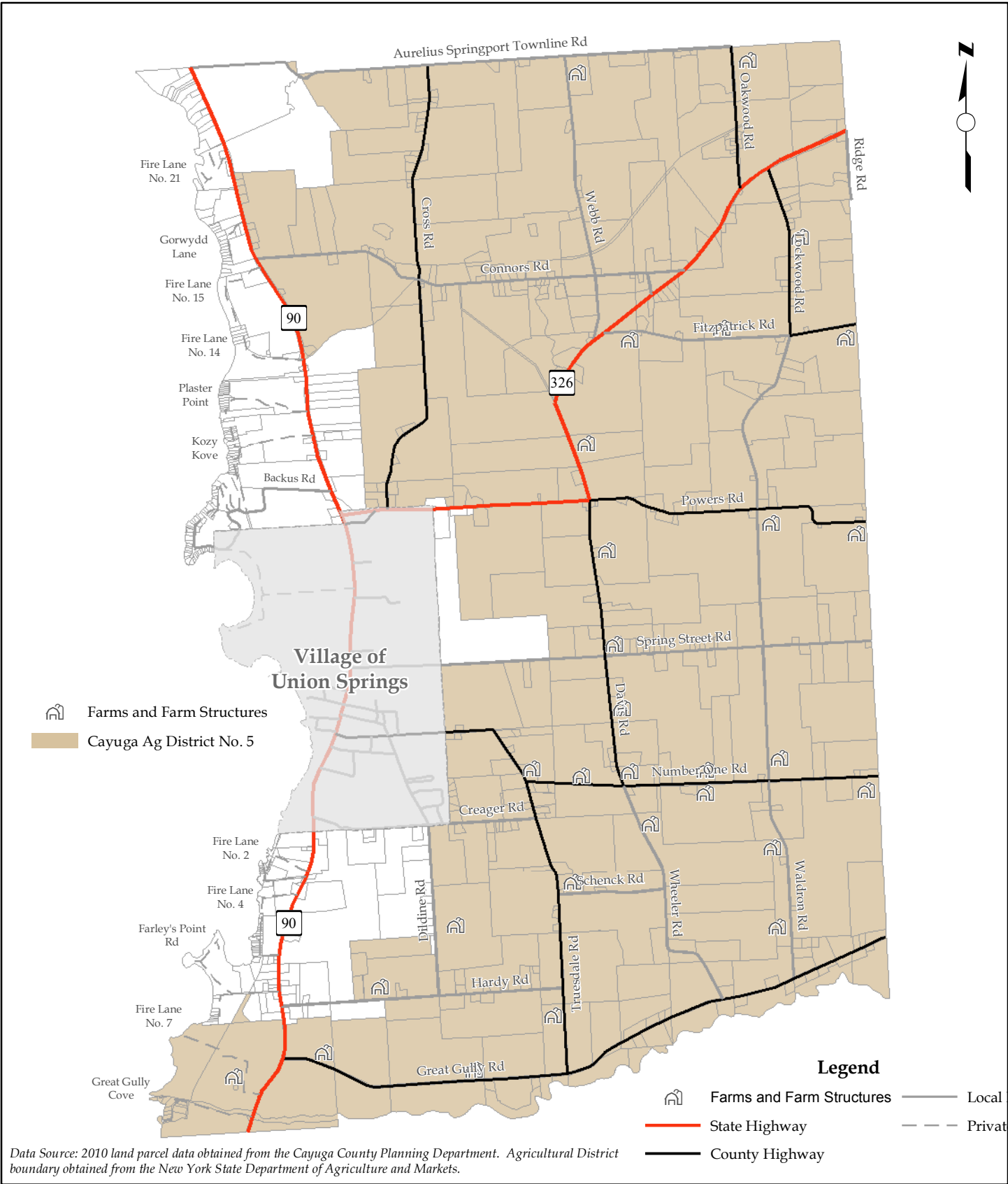
Data Source: 2010 land parcel data obtained from the Cayuga County Planning Department
 Soil data obtained from the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service



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 Map 4 - Prime Agricultural Soil Map

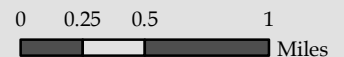




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Map 5 - Agricultural District Map



to the ordinance occurring in 1995 and 2003. Minimum lot size standards are determined based on the availability of public water and sewer. The Town does not have Subdivision Regulations or a Site Plan Review process; however, the zoning regulations specify review processes for various types of uses being considered. See Figure No. 3 for a summary of the Town's review processes.

FIGURE NO. 3
DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCESS

<i>Type of Use</i>	<i>Review Process</i>	<i>Approving Entity</i>
Permitted Uses	Zoning Permit	Zoning Officer
Prohibited Uses	Special Development District	Town Board
Other Undefined Uses	Special Permit	Planning Board

4.4 DEMOGRAPHICS

Population

The Town of Springport's total population for the 2010 decennial census was 2,367. Of these residents, 1,197 reported living within the Village of Union Springs; the Town population residing outside the Village is 1,170. Recent population estimates indicate that population outside the village since 2000 has remained relatively steady with a slight decline over the past decade (12 persons or -1.01 percent). Population growth in the Town as a whole can be attributed to a significant population increase in the Village of Union Springs (123 persons or 11.45 percent).

FIGURE NO. 4
HISTORIC POPULATION

	1990	2000	2010
Total Town	2,198	2,256	2,367
Town Outside Village	1,056	1,182	1,170
Village of Union Springs	1,142	1,074	1,197
Cayuga County	82,313	81,693	80,026

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

FIGURE NO. 5
POPULATION TRENDS

	<i>1990 to 2000</i>		<i>2000 to 2010</i>	
Total Town	58	2.64%	111	4.92%
Town Outside Village	126	11.93%	-12	-1.01%
Village of Union Springs	-68	-5.95%	123	11.45%
Cayuga County	-620	-0.75%	-1,667	-2.04%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Age

The population distribution by age for the Town of Springport is shown in Figure Nos. 6 and 7. Based on the age distribution between 1990 and 2010, the Town is aging. Over the last 20 years, the percentage of total residents who were 65 and older increased from 12.4 percent to 16.9 percent, while residents in the Town outside the Village who were 65 and older increased from 9.4 percent to 15.4 percent. The percentage of minors decreased at a similar rate.

FIGURE NO. 6
2010 AGE DISTRIBUTION

	<i>Springport (Entire Town)</i>		<i>Springport (Town Outside Village)</i>	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Under 18	546	23.01%	248	21.20%
18 to 19 years	63	2.66%	27	2.31%
20 to 24 years	117	4.94%	63	5.38%
25 to 34 years	214	9.04%	97	8.29%
35 to 49 years	507	21.42%	260	22.22%
50 to 64 years	520	21.97%	294	25.13%
65+ years	400	16.90%	181	15.47%
Total:	2,367	100%	1,170	100%
Median Age (Years)	39	X	N/A	X

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

FIGURE NO. 7
AGE DISTRIBUTION TRENDS

	<i>Springport (Entire Town)</i>			<i>Springport (Town Outside Village)</i>		
	<i>1990</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>1990</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2010</i>
Under 18	28.4%	26.4%	23.0%	30.8%	26.7%	21.2%
Age 18 to 64	59.2%	59.0%	60.1%	59.8%	61.1%	63.4%
Age 65 and older	12.4%	14.6%	16.9%	9.4%	12.2%	15.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Housing

Household trend data for the Town of Springport is shown in Figure No. 8. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the number of households in the Town outside the Village grew by 5.87 percent between 2000 and 2010. There were 1,157 households in 2000 and 1,225 households in 2010, an increase of 68 households.

FIGURE NO. 8
HISTORIC HOUSEHOLD TRENDS

	<i>1990</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>Change</i>	
				<i>1990-00</i>	<i>2000-10</i>
Total Town	1,023	1,157	1,225	13.1%	5.87%
Town Outside Village	522	671	691	28.54%	2.98%
Village of Union Springs	501	486	534	-0.023%	9.87%
Cayuga County	33,280	35,477	36,489	6.6%	2.85%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

FIGURE NO. 9
HOUSEHOLD VACANCY RATES

	1990	2000	2010	Change	
				<i>1990-00</i>	<i>2000-10</i>
Total Town	239	292	308	22.17%	5.47%
Town Outside Village	173	235	246	35.83%	4.68%
Village of Union Springs	66	57	62	-13.63%	8.77%
Cayuga County	4,205	4,919	5,044	16.97%	2.54%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The average household size in the Town outside the Village has declined from 3.03 persons per household in 1990 to 2.63 persons per household in 2010. This is a common trend nationally, and when compared regionally the Town is experiencing a similar rate of decline in household size to that of the Village of Union Springs and Cayuga County in general. This trend can be attributed to the increase in the number of single-person households and a decline in the number of children living at home.

FIGURE NO. 10
AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD SIZE

	<i>1990</i>	<i>2000</i>	<i>2010</i>
Total Town	2.80	2.61	2.58
Town Outside Village	3.03	2.71	2.63
Village of Union Springs	2.63	2.50	2.54
Cayuga County	2.83	2.53	2.55

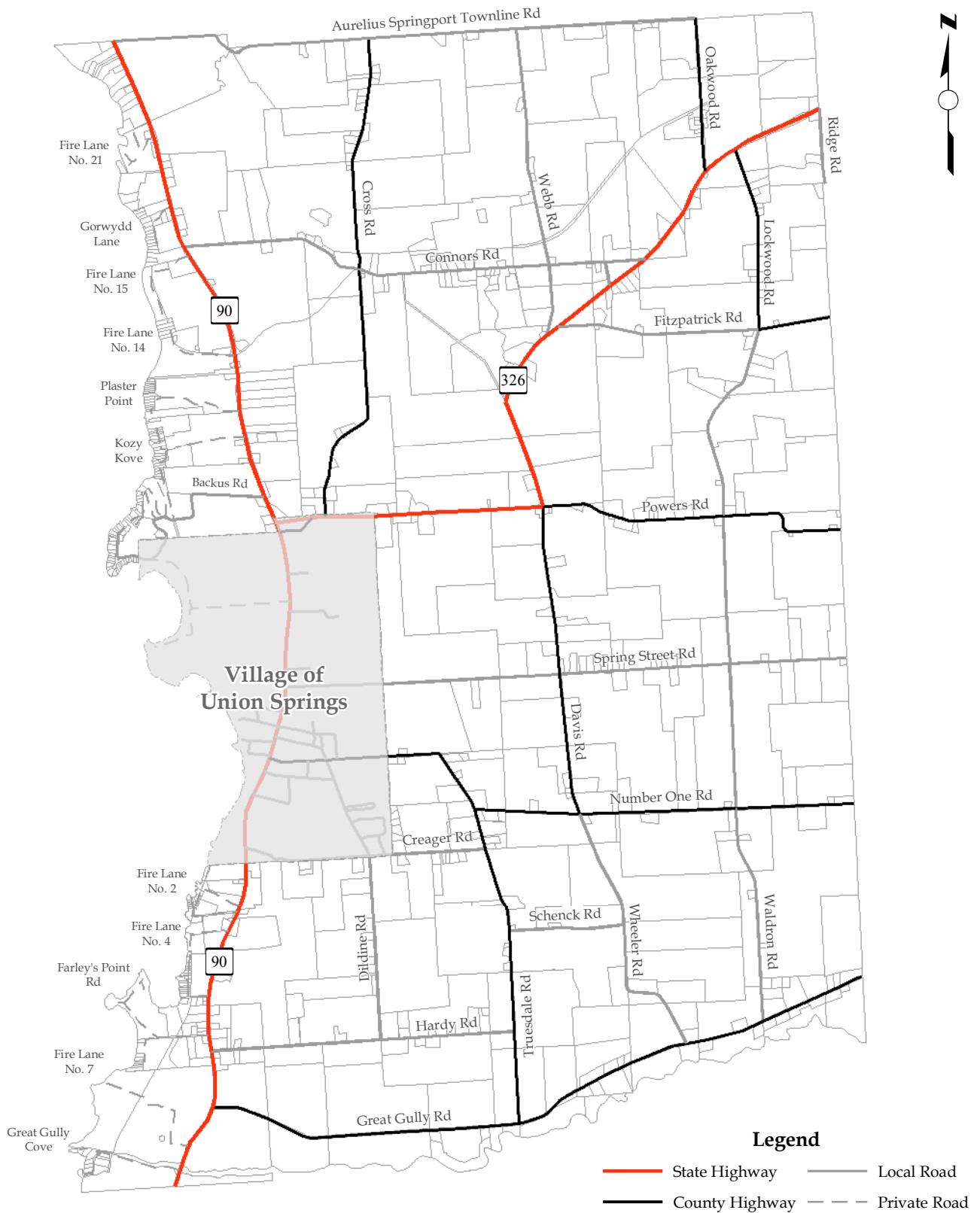
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

4.5 TRANSPORTATION

The Town of Springport has approximately 66 miles of roads within its municipal boundary, excluding the Village of Union Springs (Map 6). A majority of the roads are considered public highways and are maintained by various government entities. See Figure No. 11 for a breakdown of roads by jurisdiction. The Town of Springport fully maintains all Town roads. In addition, the Town provides various maintenance services for County roads under a service agreement with Cayuga County Highway Department. New York State Routes 90 and 326 are maintained by the New York State Department of Transportation. The remaining roads are privately owned and are primarily located along the waterfront. These roads are maintained by individual property owners under various homeowner association agreements.

FIGURE NO. 11
ROAD BREAKDOWN

<i>Jurisdiction</i>	<i>Length (Feet)</i>	<i>Length (Miles)</i>	<i>Percent</i>
State	57,257	10.84	16.25%
County	90,499	17.13	25.68%
Local	147,398	27.91	41.83%
Private	49,798	9.43	14.44%



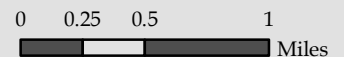
Data Source: 2010 land parcel data obtained from the Cayuga County Planning Department



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Map 6 - Road Network Map



4.6 INFRASTRUCTURE

Public Water Supply

The existing public water system is owned, operated, and maintained by the Town (Map 7). Currently, the Town supplies approximately 1,000 town residents through 563 service connections in 2 separate water districts. Each water district receives water from a different supply source. Water District No. 1 receives its water from the Village of Union Springs. Water District No. 2 receives its water from the City of Auburn through Cayuga County Water and Sewer Authority.

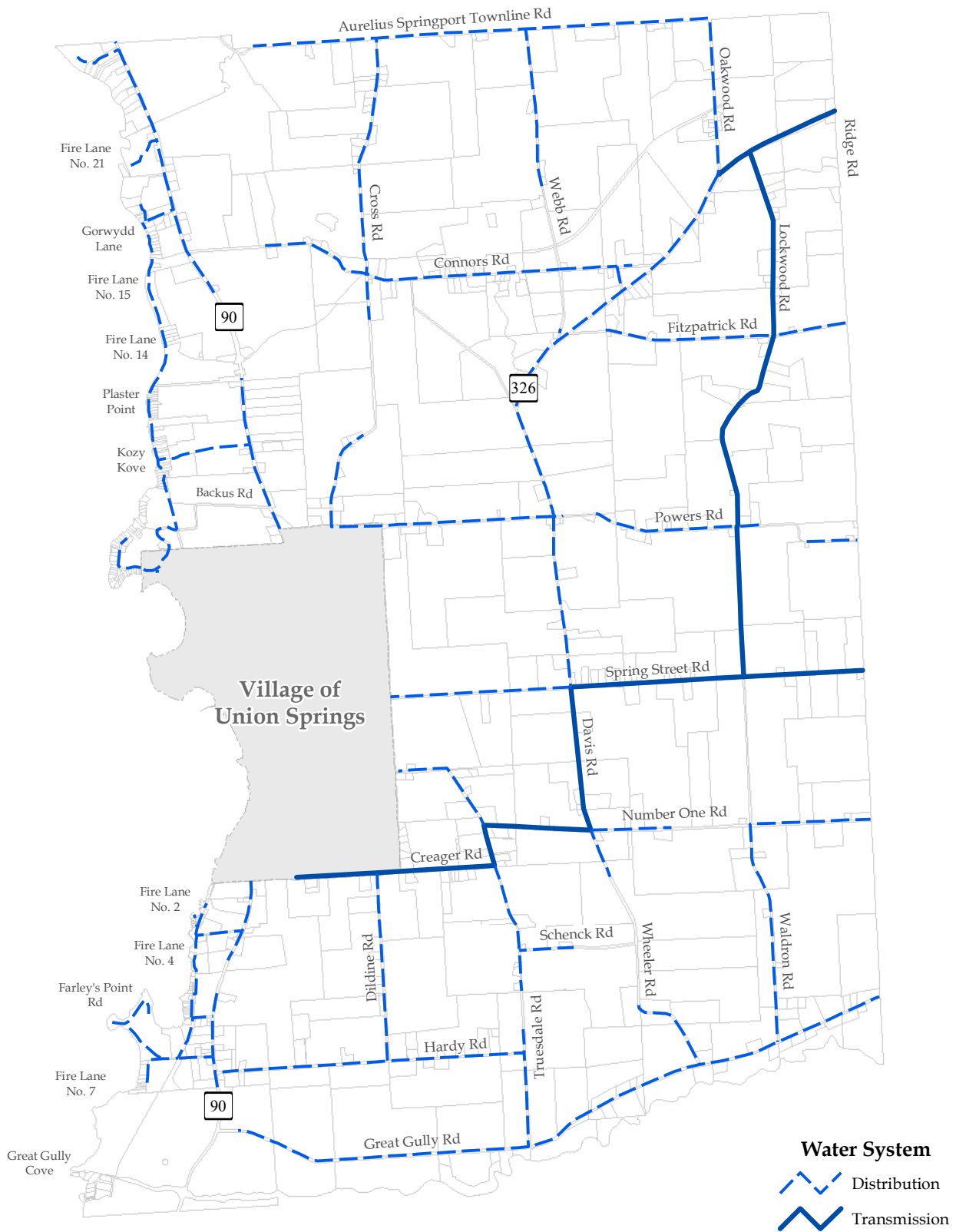
Sanitary Sewer

The existing sanitary sewer system is owned, operated, and maintained by the Town (Map 8). Currently, the Town provides sanitary sewer collection services to approximately 700 residents through 275 connections in one sewer district located along New York State Route 90 and the waterfront. Sewage is collected from residences through a system of grinder pumps and transported through a pipe network of forcemains to a sewage treatment plant in the Village of Union Springs.

Gas Wells

According to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), approximately 75,000 wells have been drilled in the state since the late 1800s; about 14,000 of these are still active with interest growing for new drilling activities in the Marcellus Shale. According to the NYSDEC, gas and oil extraction contribute approximately \$500,000,000 to New York State's economy each year. In addition to gas and oil, wells are also drilled for underground gas storage, geothermal heating/cooling, stratigraphic exploration, and brine disposal. The NYSDEC Division of Mineral Resources administers regulations and a permitting program to regulate well-drilling activity in New York State.

According to the NYSDEC there are 119 natural gas wells in the Town of Springport (Map 9). However, only 110 wells are considered active and currently producing natural gas. See Figure No. 12 for a breakdown of natural gas wells in the Town of Springport. One-hundred and four wells are currently being used for commercial purposes where natural gas is extracted and sold for energy consumption in markets outside of Central New York. The remaining six wells are under private ownership and no longer produce enough gas to remain economically viable for commercial purposes.



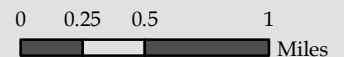
Data Source: 2010 land parcel data obtained from the Cayuga County Planning Department

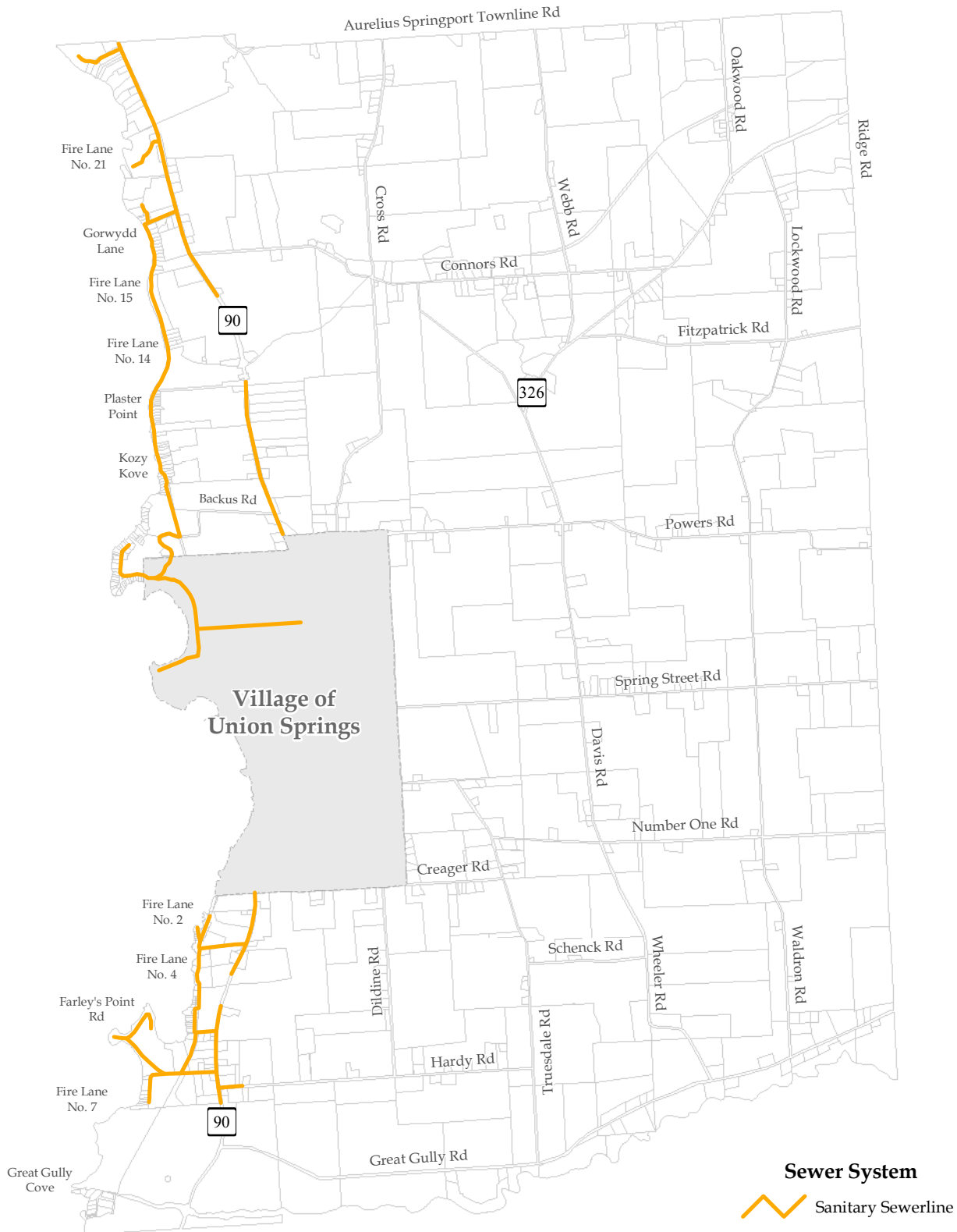



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Map 7 - Water System Map





Sewer System
 Sanitary Sewerline

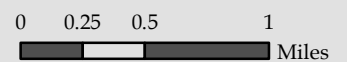
Data Source: 2010 land parcel data obtained from the Cayuga County Planning Department

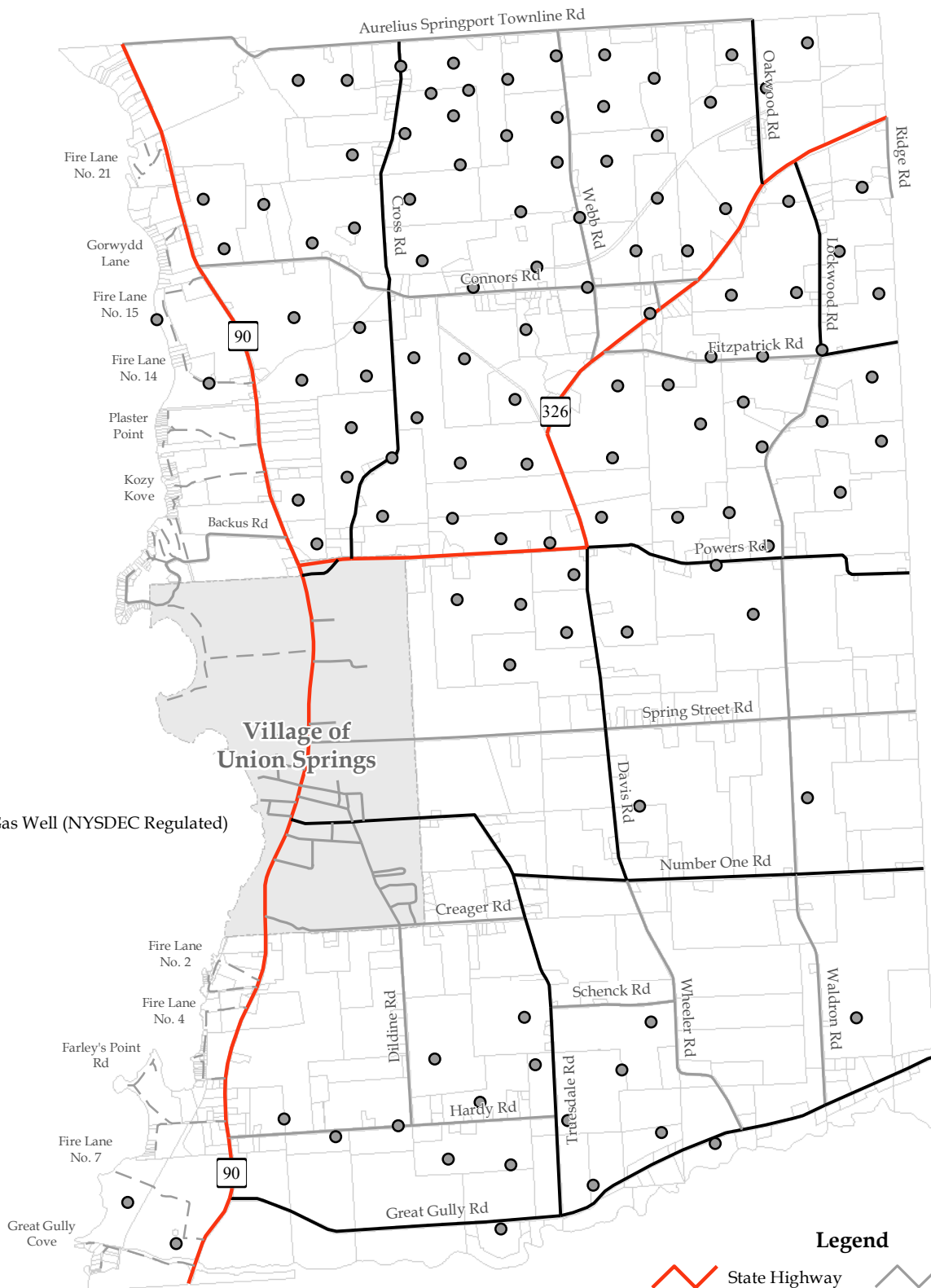


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Map 8 - Sanitary Sewer System Map









● Gas Well (NYSDEC Regulated)

Data Source: 2010 land parcel data obtained from the Cayuga County Planning Department.
Gas well locations are approximate based on information available through NYSDEC.

Legend

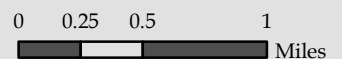
-  State Highway
-  County Highway
-  Local Road
-  Private Road



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Map 9 - Gas Well Map



various regional assets along the Byway by promoting sustainable economic growth through tourism and related development activities.

Historic Sites

There are four individual properties in the Town currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Two sites are located in the Village of Union Springs and two sites are located in the Town outside the Village (Map 10). The listed sites are:

- William Richardson House, 5494 Cross Road (NR# - 04NR05331)
- Peter Yawger House, NYS Route 90 (NR# - 03NR0515)
- Charles-William H. Howland House, 188 Cayuga Street (NR# - 04NR05330)
- Almeron Durkee House, 13 Cayuga Street (NR# - 04NR05329)

Sensitive Archaeological Areas

There are several areas within the Town that are identified by the New York State Historic Preservation Office as archaeologically sensitive. These areas are located in the northern portion of the Town (Map 10). Specific details regarding these areas are generally vague indicating the potential presence of artifacts, fossils or other archaeological items of significance. Development activities with the potential to significantly disturb land in these areas may require the completion of Phase 1A Archaeological Assessment.

Cemeteries

There are a number of cemeteries in the Town, including:

- Thompson (Cross Road) Cemetery
- Miller Family (Schenck) Cemetery
- Lowry Cemetery
- Richardson Cemetery
- Oakridge Cemetery
- Quaker Cemetery

FIGURE NO. 12
NATURAL GAS WELLS

<i>Production Status</i>	<i>Commercial Use</i>	<i>Private Use</i>	<i>Total</i>
Active	104	6	110
Inactive	5	4	9
Total:	109	10	119

Source: NYSDEC Division of Mineral Resources

Natural gas production in the Town of Springport represents a significant part of total gas production in Cayuga County and New York State. See Figure No. 13 for a breakdown of 2010 Natural Gas Production. In 2010, the natural gas production in the Town of Springport was 451,302 Mcf, which was approximately 43 percent of all natural gas production in Cayuga County and approximately 1.34 percent of the natural gas production in New York State.

FIGURE NO. 13
2010 NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

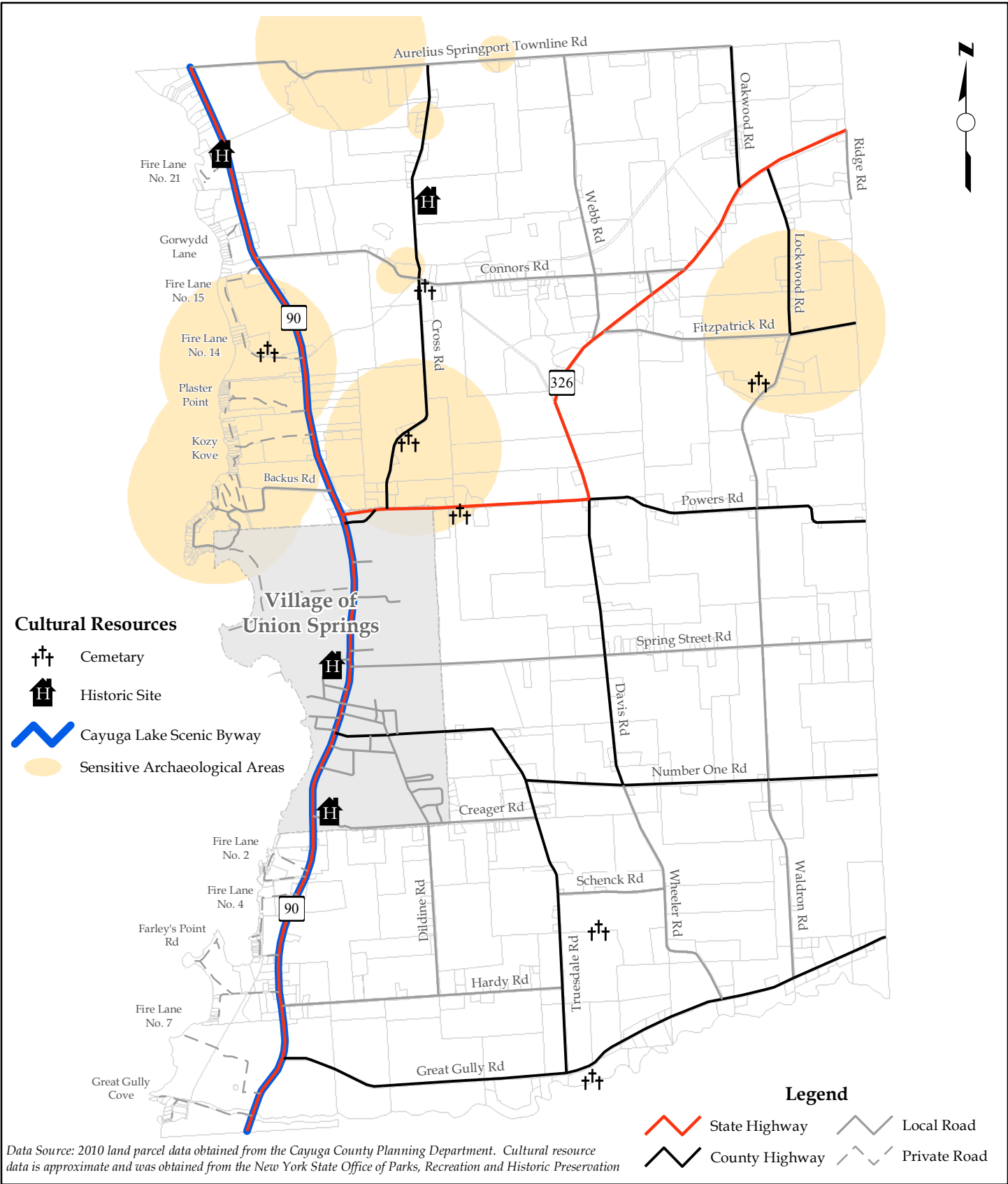
<i>Geographic Location</i>	<i>Number of Gas Wells</i>	<i>Gas Production (Mcf)</i>	<i>Percent of Production</i>
Town of Springport	119	451,302	43% (Cayuga County) 1.34% (New York)
Cayuga County	313	1,043,051	3% (New York)
New York State	13,535	33,661,041	N/A

Source: NYSDEC Division of Mineral Resources

4.7 HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway

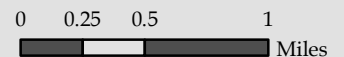
The Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway circles Cayuga Lake, running from Seneca Falls in the north to Ithaca in the south. The portion of the byway that falls within the Town of Springport is located along the waterfront on New York State Route 90 (Map 10). The byway was officially designated a New York Scenic Byway in 2002 by the New York State Department of Transportation. The purpose of the Byway is to capitalize on



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Map 10 - Cultural Resource Map



4.8 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Cayuga Lake Watershed

The Town is part of the Cayuga Lake Watershed (the "Watershed"), which is part of a larger watershed system known as the Oswego River Basin. The Watershed covers approximately 800 square miles and includes 44 municipalities. The Watershed is further subdivided into 46 subwatersheds, of which four are located in the Town (Map 11). These subwatersheds include major watercourses and countless other smaller streams that are tributary to Cayuga Lake. These subwatersheds are:

- Cayuga Village Area subwatershed
- Great Gully subwatershed
- Union Springs Area subwatershed
- Yawger Creek subwatershed

The major watercourses included in these three subwatersheds and many of the Town's small streams are protected by the NYSDEC. Development activity that impacts or alters stream banks may require a NYSDEC permit.

Floodplains

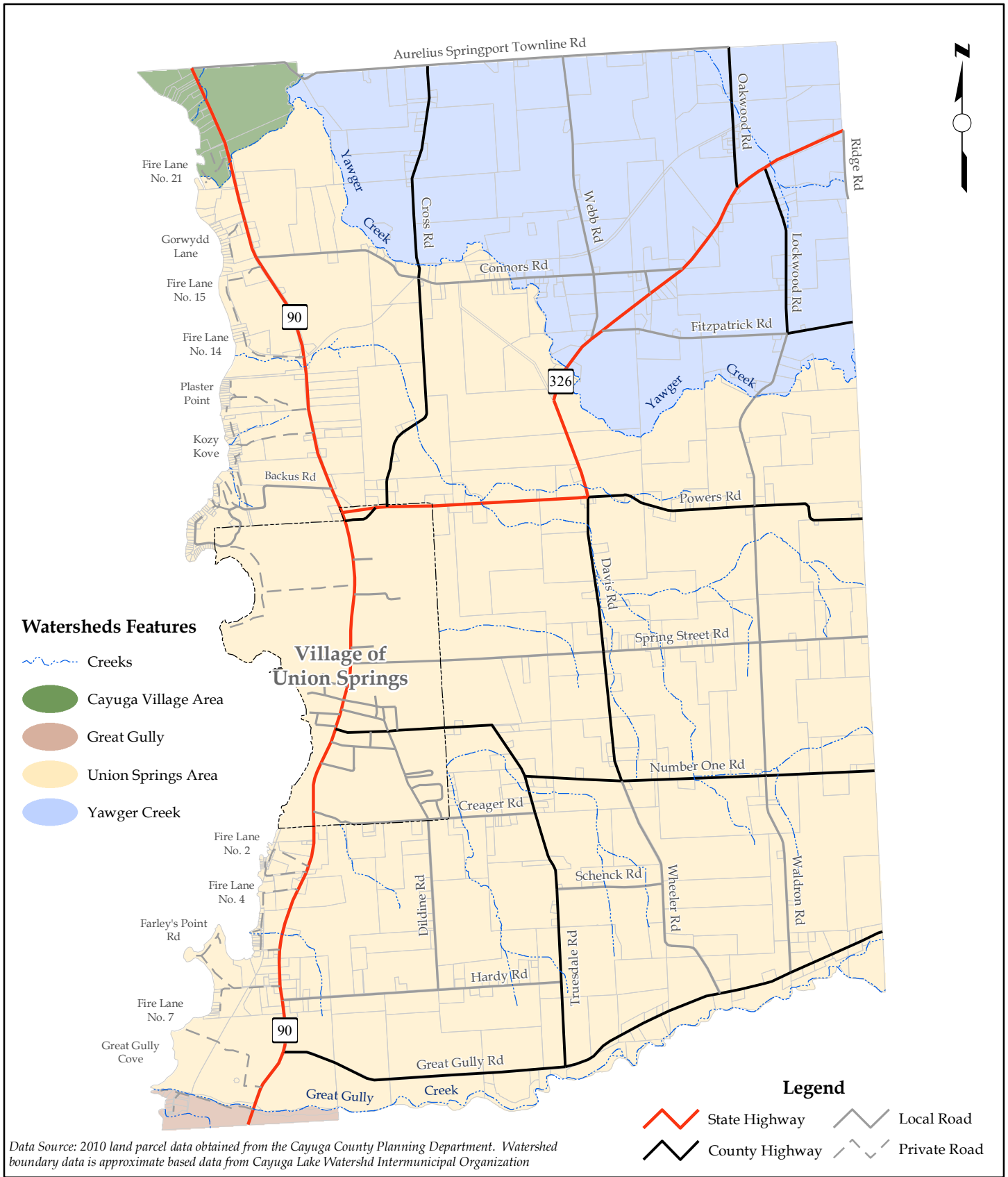
The 100-year floodplain is flat or nearly flat land located around a watercourse that may be inundated with water during a 100-year flood event. A 100-year flood event is defined as a flood that has a 1 percent chance of occurring each year. The floodplain consists of a floodway and flood fringe. The floodway includes the stream channel and areas in close proximity that accommodate stronger flood waters. The flood fringe is an area adjacent to the floodway which does not typically experience strong currents associated with flood waters.

The Federal Government's Emergency Management Agency provides floodplain boundary maps for communities throughout Cayuga County. Areas of the Town within a 100-year floodplain include areas along Yawger Creek, Great Gully Creek, and various other unnamed tributaries to Cayuga Lake (Map 12).

Wetlands

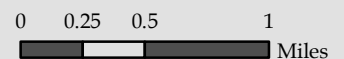
There are approximately 162 acres of freshwater wetlands in the Town (Map 12). These wetlands do not meet the criteria to be considered State-regulated wetlands and are therefore under the jurisdiction of the United States Army Corp of Engineers. A permit

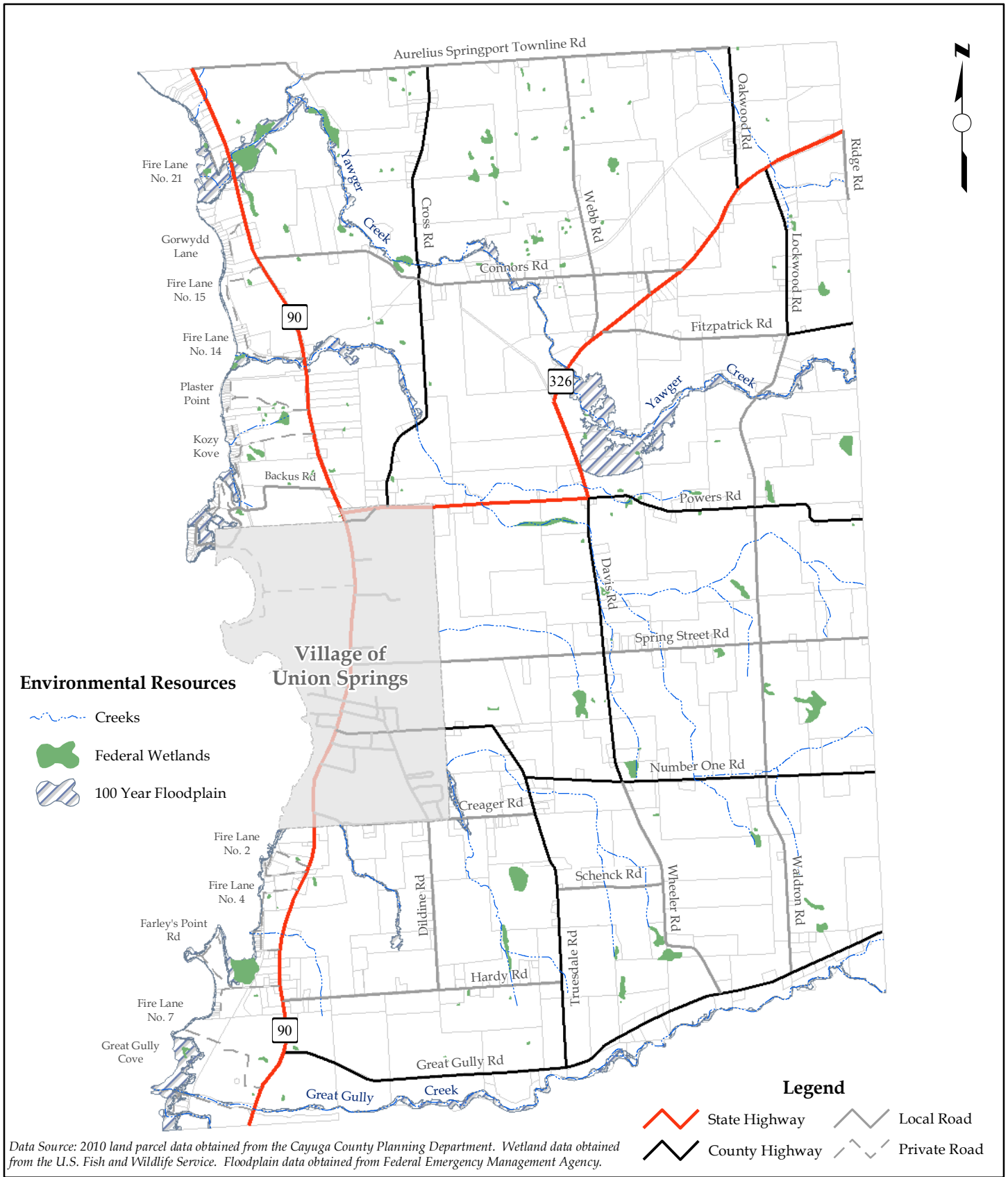
is required for any activity that takes place in or in close proximity to a navigable waterway or wetlands adjacent to a navigable waterway. Under these permits, mitigation measures may be required for activities that impact wetlands such as land clearing, excavation, or other development activities.



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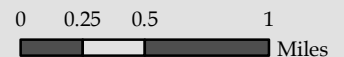
Map 11 - Watershed Map





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Town of Springport Vision Plan Map 12 - Environmental Resource Map



5.0 GOALS AND VISIONING

The Vision Plan is broad in scope and provides a "big picture" perspective on future growth and development in the Town. It is not a policy document, but will serve as a framework from which a Comprehensive Plan will be created. The Vision Statement, Community Planning Principles, and Focus Areas represent the collective effort of the committee to describe the Community's values and desired future for the Town. The Vision Map (Map 13) is intended to complement other components of the Vision. The vision areas are not intended to be zoning districts, but rather are a guide to describe general land-use patterns.

5.1 VISION STATEMENT

The Town of Springport envisions its future as continuing to be a rural community, focusing on the aspects which make it unique: Cayuga Lake, a strong agricultural community, a rural village center, an abundance of open space, and valuable natural resources.

Springport's future depends on the thoughtful placement of development to preserve the scenic and rural character of the Town. Cayuga Lake and the Town's agricultural areas serve as the focal point for Springport's identity and help shape the goals of supporting thoughtful residential growth, agricultural activities, land conservation, economic development, and waterfront revitalization.

Springport will be a progressive community, strengthened by local control through well-considered local land-use controls and community programs that are well-balanced with respect for individual property rights. The Town will focus on maintaining a sustainable quality of life that preserves the rural character of the Town while ensuring opportunities for existing and future generations to live, work, and play.

5.2 COMMUNITY PLANNING PRINCIPLES

- The community planning process should be a citizen-based participatory planning process that involves a broad-based group of stakeholders, including public officials, private-sector professionals and community interest groups.
- The community planning process should be concerned with the long-term sustainability of the community, environment, and local economy.

- The community planning process should endeavor to protect the rural character of the Town and maintain the high quality of life that residents have come to expect and enjoy.
- The community planning process should promote intermunicipal cooperation with neighboring communities to facilitate discussion about regional planning and development issues.

5.3 FOCUS AREAS

5.3.1 RURAL CHARACTER PRESERVATION

Goal

Preserve the rural character of the Town by conserving Open Space, protecting working farmland, and preserving unique scenic, historic and natural features, thereby preserving the visual environment of the Town.

Objectives

- Prevent urban sprawl (development) from engulfing Open Space and agricultural lands.
- Encourage future development to locate in proximity to the Village of Union Springs and along the waterfront, making use of existing infrastructure.
- Encourage lower-density development elsewhere.
- Require new development to mitigate traffic impacts using methods that do not require the expansion of roads and highways.
- Enhance existing Open Space and agricultural lands by minimizing the impacts of air, noise, and water pollution.
- Encourage the use of aesthetic designs in new construction that are compatible with or enhance the surrounding development and features.
- Required commercial development to reflect the rural character of the Town.

5.3.2 WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION

Goal

Revitalize and strengthen the local economy by encouraging the development of waterfront property into an appropriate mix of uses and densities that are compatible with the rural character of the Town.

Objectives

- Promote public access and enjoyment of Cayuga Lake.
- Work cooperatively with the Village of Union Springs to form a waterfront revitalization committee to explore physical improvements and economic development opportunities within the Local Revitalization Boundary.
- Work cooperatively with the Village of Union Springs to promote Frontenac Park as a community-wide asset.
- Encourage future development to locate in proximity to the Village of Union Springs and along the waterfront, making use of existing infrastructure.
- Preserve high-value scenic view sheds along the Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway.
- Revise local zoning codes and other land-use regulations to encourage compact development patterns along the waterfront.

5.3.3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Goal

Support the continued viability of existing businesses, and encourage/promote the establishment of new enterprises by providing a business-friendly environment.

Objectives

- Engage economic development agencies, local businesses, and civic institutions serving the area in cooperative efforts to promote the Town as a tourist destination.
- Provide the opportunity for commercial development to locate near water, sewer, and appropriate transportation infrastructure.
- Promote the development of appropriately sized businesses that reflect the rural character of the Town, and prohibit unwanted development, such as large franchise or chain stores.

- Revise the local zoning code and other land-use controls to ensure they support appropriately sized businesses that reflect the rural nature of the Town.

5.3.4 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND FARMLAND PROTECTION

Goal

Ensure the viability of farming and agricultural lands in the Town of Springport.

Objectives

- Help maintain and protect working farmland to aid in the preservation of the Town's rural and agrarian nature.
- Encourage the Town to form an agricultural advisory committee consisting of farmers and agricultural landowners with the primary purpose to advise the Town of agricultural issues.
- Encourage the development and implementation of a formal town-based agricultural farmland protection plan to be integrated with all future Town planning and economic development activities.
- Minimize the impacts of noise, air, and water pollution that can harm field crops and livestock.
- Discourage the conversion of farmland and valuable agricultural soils by encouraging development in areas less suitable for farming.
- Minimize the conflict between development and farms by discouraging the extension of sewer lines and water lines into agricultural districts.
- Revise local zoning code and other land-use controls to ensure they support farms, farm markets and related enterprises.
- The preservation of farmland should be equally and fairly supported by the residents of the Town, the County, New York State, and Federal Governments.

5.3.5 OPEN SPACE PRESERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Goal

Conserve, protect, and enhance Open Space land, particularly stream corridors, scenic vistas, and wooded areas. Preserve and protect lands that serve as natural habitats, natural drainage channels, and storage basins for stormwater.

Objectives

- Minimize the negative visual impacts of development so as to preserve the scenic qualities of wildlife habitats, waterways, areas with steep slopes, Cayuga Lake, and other lands having scenic significance.
- Support the use of development techniques that maximize the amount of preserved Open Space in subdivisions and preserve the open view sheds.
- Promote the use of stormwater management techniques during building construction to eliminate drainage problems.
- Minimize the negative impacts of erosion, sedimentation, and drainage on important natural resources.
- Protect groundwater aquifers from further contamination caused by improper waste treatment and disposal and other activities.
- Encourage active participation of all community stakeholders in preserving the Town's natural resources, such as Cayuga Lake, streams, floodplains, wetlands, as well as natural terrain, wildlife habitat and air quality.
- Preserve the Town's night-time environment by mitigating potential impacts from light pollution.

5.3.6 GROWTH MANAGEMENT

Goal

Manage the built environment to maintain the character of the Town, ensure a healthy natural environment, and conserve local infrastructure.

Objectives

- Reduce the need for construction of new roads and water and sewer extensions by directing development to areas of the Town already served by existing utilities.
- Promote the availability of diverse, high-quality, affordable, and attractive residential dwellings in locations properly served by existing infrastructure.
- Provide adequate, properly located, and well-maintained publicly-owned facilities and equipment for service to Town residents.
- Seek cooperative agreements with other municipalities, where appropriate, to provide new services or enhance existing services for Town residents.
- Encourage the preservation of natural resources.

- Encourage participation and cooperation amongst town government, the Village of Union Springs, the school district, the business sector, and town residents in managing the growth and resources of the community.
- Employ Smart Growth principles, such as those that encourage future development to be located where public services and infrastructure are consistent with the capacity of resources.

5.4 VISION MAP

Agriculture

"Agriculture" identifies areas where farming is the primary land use activity. The vision for this area is to limit development to appropriate uses and scales to mitigate conflicts with working farms and ensure a critical mass of land remains to promote the viability of farming.

Rural Residential

"Rural Residential" identifies areas where residential development can be compatibly mixed with agricultural activities. The vision for these areas is to allow residential development to occur on appropriately sized lots to maintain the traditional rural character of the Town.

Waterfront Residential

"Waterfront Residential" identifies areas along the Waterfront that have the potential to accommodate compact residential development due their proximity to Cayuga Lake and the availability of public utilities. The vision for these areas is to allow residential development to occur on appropriately sized lots consistent with the scale and nature of current development patterns.

Waterfront Commercial Node

"Waterfront Commercial" identifies areas along the Waterfront with direct access to Cayuga Lake that have the potential to accommodate a limited number of water-based retail commercial uses. The vision for these areas is to allow water commercial activity that can be compatibly mixed with existing lakefront residential uses.

Scenic Byway Commercial Corridor

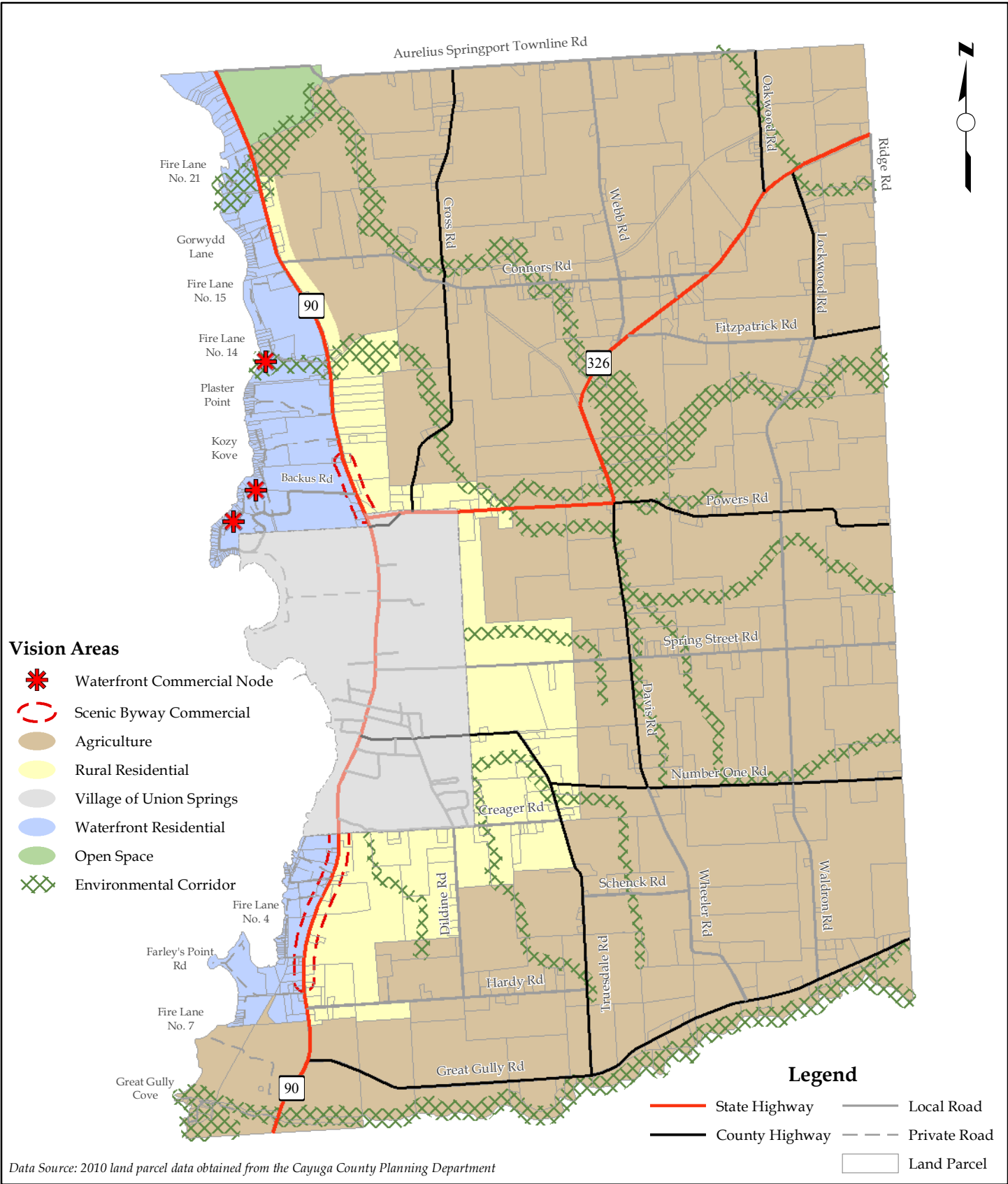
"Scenic Byway Commercial Corridor" identifies areas along Route 90 where commercial development would be encouraged to capitalize on the unique nature of the Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway. The vision for these areas is to allow sustainable development that enhances the Byway and serves the needs of the motoring public. Development patterns will vary and should complement existing development to preserve, promote and enhance the Byway through tourism and related development activities.

Open Space

"Open Space" identifies areas within the Town where future development will be prohibited. The vision for these areas is to maintain the natural environment for passive recreational and educational purposes.

Environmental Corridor

"Environmental Corridors" identifies sensitive environmental areas where future development may adversely impact the community and Cayuga Lake. The vision for these areas is to maintain the natural environment by limiting the potential for development in these areas.



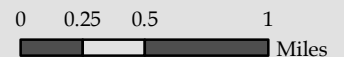
Data Source: 2010 land parcel data obtained from the Cayuga County Planning Department



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Town of Springport Vision Plan

Map 13 - Vision Map



APPENDIX A

PROJECT DOCUMENTATION

APPENDIX B

COMMUNITY PLANNING SURVEY RESULTS

APPENDIX C

TOWN OF SPRINGPORT ZONING LAW