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NEWS FROM NEW YORK FARM BUREAU

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NY FARM BUREAU STATEMENT ON PROPOSED AGREEMENT TO REDUCE NEW YORK CITY CARRIAGE HORSES

New York Farm Bureau has serious concerns with the current proposed agreement to reduce the number of carriage horses in New York City. A reduction in the number of animals is unwarranted and could be detrimental to not only the long term stability of the horse carriage business, but to the animals as well. Currently, there are an appropriate number of well-cared for horses available to cover for those that are being treated for illness or furloughed every year to farms upstate for a bit of rest. The number of horses should be maintained.

The horse carriages are an important part of the tourism industry in New York City. It is unfair to penalize the drivers and horse owners who have maintained a reputable trade that is still connected to agriculture and have demonstrated a high standard of animal care that is well documented. Any reduction is misguided, especially before a new stable could be built in Central Park, as Mayor de Blasio is requesting. We urge members of the New York City Council to oppose the agreement that is on the table.

Last year, the presidents of New York Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau Federation sent letters to Mayor Bill de Blasio asking him to end his push for a horse carriage ban in New York City.

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New York Farm Bureau is the State's largest agricultural lobbying/trade organization. Its members and the public know the organization as "The Voice of New York Agriculture." New York Farm Bureau is dedicated to solving the economic and public policy issues challenging the agricultural community. www.nyfb.org