

November 4, 2025

Montgomery County Industrial Development Agency

Attn: Ken Rose, Chief Executive Officer

9 Park Street

Fonda, NY 12068

Subject: Comments Regarding Amazon PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) Request

Dear Mr. Rose and Members of the Montgomery County IDA,

The **Alliance for Florida Farmland** respectfully submits the following comments regarding the proposed Amazon Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) request. Our organization represents approximately 200 active members, most of whom are local taxpayers deeply invested in the well-being and sustainable development of our community.

Concerns Regarding the PILOT Request

Amazon has not offered any community incentives or indicated any expectations for contributions to local parks, recreational areas, or other public amenities to offset the green space they intend to develop. Instead, their messaging has focused on the taxes they claim they would pay- including school taxes—and the benefits these payments would purportedly bring to the host community, without initially disclosing an intention to seek a PILOT agreement.

Impact on the Community

Amazon's request for a 15-year tax abatement under the PILOT program suggests a lack of meaningful commitment to the community that would host their operations and employees. Since the project's initial proposal, Amazon has reduced the number of anticipated local hires. Despite this reduction, the development would still increase wear and tear on local roads, exacerbate traffic congestion, and heighten overall traffic levels throughout surrounding county communities.

These effects will inevitably increase demand for public services and impose environmental and social costs—costs that would ultimately be borne by local taxpayers. Furthermore, with Amazon's operations expected to rely heavily on robotics, the anticipated economic benefit from local employment and spending would be minimal.

Recommendation

Given these circumstances, we urge the Montgomery County IDA to fully consider the financial implications of hosting Amazon and the resulting burden on local taxpayers. We respectfully recommend that the Amazon PILOT request be **denied**.

The proposed development site could instead be utilized by a company willing to create more substantial local employment opportunities, offer higher wages, and act as a responsible, tax-paying community partner contributing its fair share to the local economy.

Thank you for your time and attention to these important concerns.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Florida Farmland