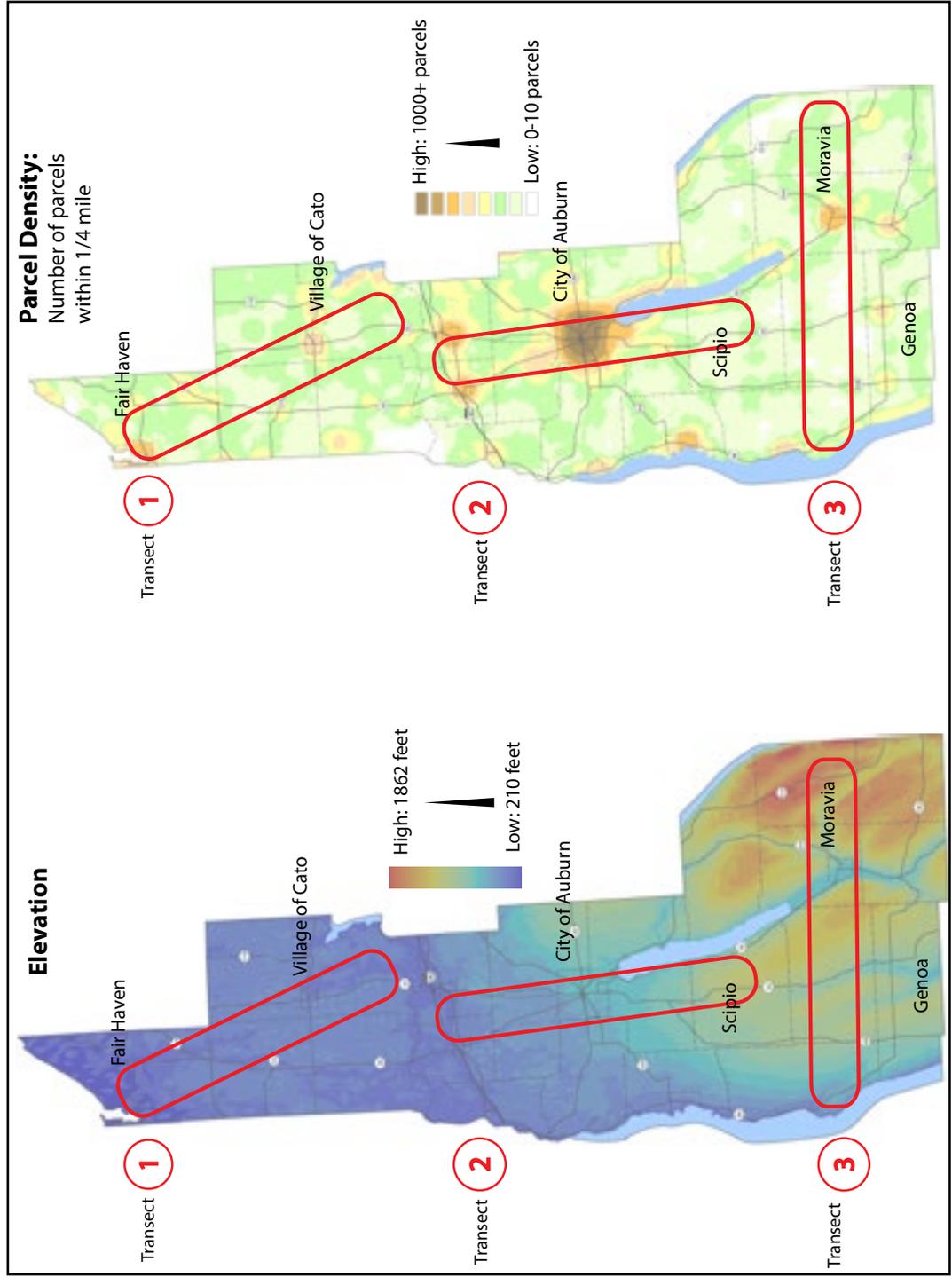


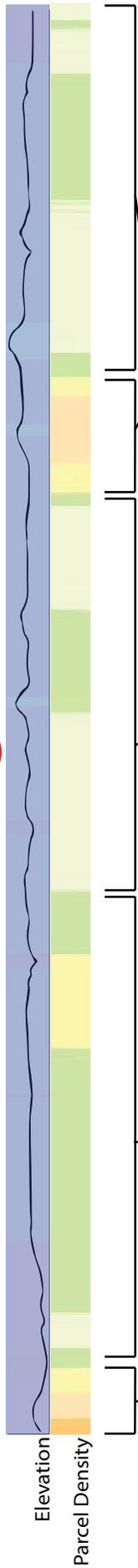
Agricultural Transects: A Planning Tool

Cayuga County's environmental diversity in terms of topography and soils has led to a diversity of viable agricultural and non-agricultural uses. When developing land use policies, it is important to consider these variations and to create policies and laws that are appropriate. Transects, or cross sections, are a useful tool to conceptualize the diversity of land uses throughout the county and how the various land uses gradually, or abruptly, change from one to another.

Several cross sections of the county were chosen to conceptualize the various land uses found throughout the county and how land use policies and development patterns may impact agriculture over time. Each cross section schematic includes a summary and visual example of the major land uses found in the segments along that transect, and highlights land use policy considerations pertinent to each. These transects can be used by communities to conceptualize their local land use policies and development patterns, and how they may impact agriculture.



Transect 1



Village of Fair Haven & Surroundings



Dominant Landscape

Medium density residential, commercial, civic development surrounded by forest, wetland and agricultural land. Active agricultural lands within Village limits.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities

Restaurants that use local ingredients, retail outlets that sell locally produced foods. Cash crops and specialty crops, winery.

Limitations

Wetlands and variable soils make large-scale agriculture difficult.

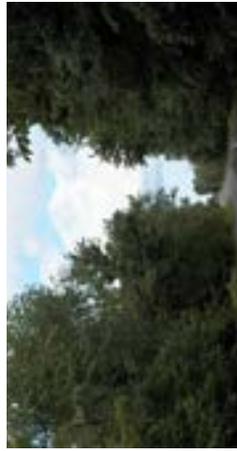
Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture

Water district expansion, new residential development and development pressure from tourist activities may result in parcels that are inefficient to farm and may create neighbor conflicts.

Land Use Policy Considerations

- The potential negative impact of sign ordinances on farm accessory activities such as roadside stands, u-picks and farm markets.
- The benefits of allowing a wide array of accessory uses and off-site support businesses on the viability of farm operations.

Dominated by Natural Lands



Dominant Landscape

Forest and other natural lands with few relatively small agricultural areas. Low density residential with areas of moderate density residential.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities

Cash crops, dairy and livestock.

Limitations

Wetlands and variable soils make large-scale agriculture difficult.

Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture

Subdivisions and new residential development may result in parcels that are inefficient to farm and may create neighbor conflicts.

Land Use Policy Considerations

- The benefits of allowing a wide array of accessory uses on the viability of farm operations.

Drumlin Cropland & Forest



Dominant Landscape

Cropland and forest with drumlin hills. Pockets of medium density residential.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities

Diverse agricultural production: fruits, vegetables, nurseries, honey, cash crops, dairy and livestock.

Limitations

Drumlins and narrow valleys alternate to create areas that can be either too dry or too wet for crops. Hilly terrain can also make larger scale production difficult.

Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture

Subdivisions and new residential development may result in parcels that are inefficient to farm and may create neighbor conflicts.

Land Use Policy Considerations

- The potential negative impact of sign ordinances on farm accessory activities such as roadside stands, u-picks and farm markets.
- The benefits of allowing a wide array of accessory uses on the viability of farm operations.

Village of Cato & Surroundings



Dominant Landscape

Medium density residential, commercial and civic development. Active agricultural lands within Village limits.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities

Specialty crops, roadside stands and cash crops.

Limitations

Competition for space with other Village land uses such as homes and businesses.

Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture

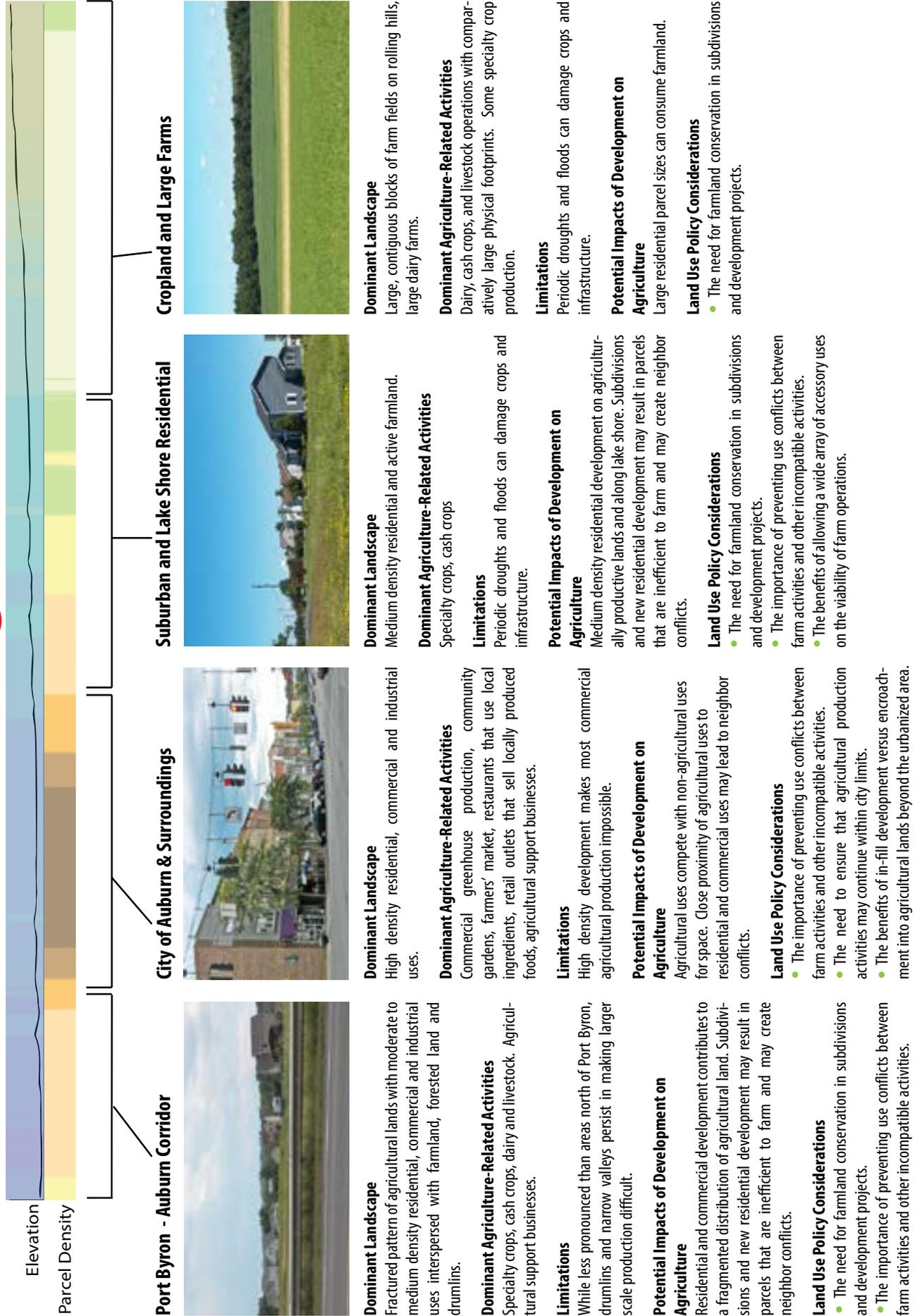
Local comprehensive plan and agriculture and farmland protection plan call for increased development within the Village to protect agricultural lands in the towns of Cato and Ira.

Land Use Policy Considerations

- The potential negative impact of sign ordinances on farm accessory activities such as roadside stands, u-picks and farm markets.

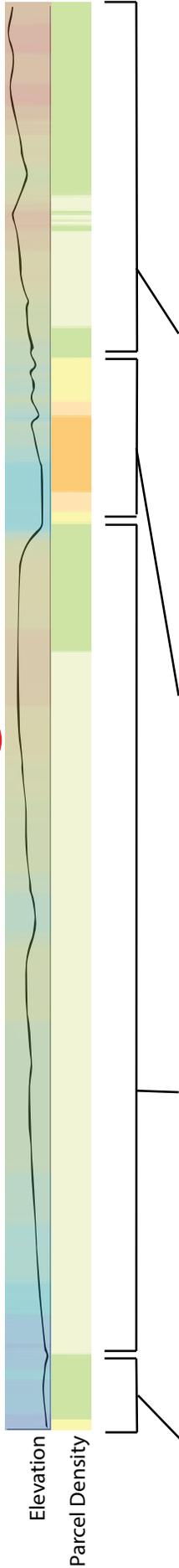
Transect

2



Transect

3



Lake Shore Residential and Tourism



Dominant Landscape
Low to moderate residential densities with lake access or lake views, tourism businesses, cash crops, forested land.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities
Wineries and other agri-tourism businesses, cash crops.

Limitations
Steeper slopes near lakeshore may make cultivation more challenging.

Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture
Development pressures from tourism industry, residential uses.

- Land Use Policy Considerations**
- The need for farmland conservation in subdivisions and development projects.
 - The importance of preventing use conflicts between farm activities and other incompatible activities.
 - The benefits of allowing a wide array of accessory uses on the viability of farm operations.

Cropland and Large Farms



Dominant Landscape
Large, contiguous blocks of farm fields on rolling hills, punctuated by large dairy farms and hamlets.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities
Cash crops, dairy, livestock, specialty crops.

Limitations
Periodic droughts and floods can damage crops and infrastructure.

Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture
Large residential parcel sizes can consume farmland.

- Land Use Policy Considerations**
- The need for farmland conservation in subdivisions and development projects.

Village of Moravia & Surroundings



Dominant Landscape
Medium density residential, commercial, industrial uses.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities
Farmers' market, agricultural support businesses.

Limitations
Medium density development limits the areas suitable for commercial agricultural production within Village limits.

Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture
Slow encroachment of moderate to medium density residential and commercial development to the south and east of the Village may lead to parcels that are inefficient to farm and may create neighbor conflicts.

- Land Use Policy Considerations**
- The potential negative impact of sign ordinances on farm accessory activities such as roadside stands, u-picks and farm markets.
 - The need for farmland conservation in subdivisions and development projects.
 - The benefits of in-fill development versus encroachment into agricultural lands beyond urbanized areas.

Variable Terrain, Forested Land



Dominant Landscape
Steep slopes and higher elevations. Forested land, timber and Christmas tree stands, with some cropland.

Dominant Agriculture-Related Activities
Timber, Christmas trees, cash crops.

Limitations
Steep, variable terrain limits larger scale production.

Potential Impacts of Development on Agriculture
Slow encroachment of moderate density residential and commercial development may lead to parcels that are inefficient to farm and may create neighbor conflicts.

- Land Use Policy Considerations**
- The need for farmland conservation in subdivisions and development projects.
 - Forest and steep slope preservation to protect natural resources.