MEDIA RELEASE

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Mayor Dan Hayes Announces the Bridgewater Farmers Market

Grand Opening Celebration to Take Place Sunday, June 25th at 11:00 AM

Bridgewater Mayor Dan Hayes is pleased to announce the "grand opening" of the Bridgewater Farmers Market. The first-ever community marketplace will open June 25, 2017 and continue to operate every Sunday (11:00 AM – 3:00 PM) at the Somerset County Library – Bridgewater Branch located at 1 Vogt Drive, Bridgewater.

The Bridgewater Framers Market will include an official grand opening that will celebrate a vibrant market atmosphere complete with live music and feature an array of the best locally grown produce in Somerset County.

"We are fortunate to have some of the best Jersey Fresh produce and products at our finger tips in Bridgewater Township and are proud to offer a sustainable opportunity for the Somerset County farming community to showcase their goods at the new market," said Mayor Hayes. There will be a diverse mix of fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, eggs, meats, cheeses, organic honey, baked goods and other items available for purchase each Sunday. The farmers market will be open rain or shine. Prominent vendors will include Cheech's Own Cold Brew Coffee, Martenette Farms, Norz Hill Farm and Market, Shibumi Farm and Stonybrook Meadows.

The Bridgewater Farmers Market has been established through a partnership between Bridgewater Township, Empower Somerset, the Somerset County Library System and Healthier Somerset, a coalition that provided support from the Department of Health and a New Jersey Healthy Communities Network grant. "Healthier Somerset is excited to partner with Bridgewater Township on its farmers market in an effort to enhance access to healthy food options and improve the overall health and wellness of community members," comments Serena Collado, Healthier Somerset Convener and Director of Community Health at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Somerset.

For more information on the market please contact Chris O. Poulsen, Director of Human Services by email at <u>cpoulsen@bridgewaternj.gov</u> or by telephone at (908() 725-5750. Follow the market on Face book at BridgewaterFarmersMarketNJ.