



## JOINT PRESS RELEASE

### **Little Leaf Farms and Yancey County Formally Sign Incentive Contract, Site Development for \$91M Project to Begin**

For Immediate Release

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Little Leaf Farms and Yancey County have officially executed documents entering into an incentive agreement paving the way for the state-of-the-art 20-acre greenhouse project to move forward. With the execution of the formal incentive agreement Yancey County has immediately begun the steps necessary to acquire the new site for the project and to grade and prepare the site for Little Leaf Farms to begin construction.

“As with many things 2020 and the ensuing COVID-19 health crisis and other initial site concerns brought a delay to this project. Despite these circumstances, Little Leaf Farms has continued to patiently continue to work with Yancey County and the Yancey County Economic Development Commission to move this project forward. Their continued dedication to this project and to the impact that it will have on the economic future of Yancey County is very much appreciated” said Yancey County EDC Director Jamie McMahan.

The new Little Leaf Farms facility will be located on a portion of a 97-acre parcel of land to be acquired by Yancey County along Highway 80 and Hickory Springs Road in the Micaville community. The site is adjacent to the former Hickory Springs Manufacturing facility recently acquired by The Quartz Corporation. “The development of this site in the proposed location will not only energize the economic health of Yancey County as a whole it will also reinvigorate the economic vitality of the Micaville Community” added McMahan.

“It is an exciting time here in Yancey County. I appreciate all the hard work that Little Leaf Farms has put in to get to this point. We look forward to them being a part of our Community and welcome them with open arms” said County Manager Lynn Austin.

In exchange for receiving the graded site from Yancey County, Little Leaf Farms, in multiple phases will invest up to \$91,000,000 in construction and development of its new facility and will create up to 100 new jobs.

Commenting on the execution of the formal agreement Yancey County Commission Chairman Jeff Whitson provided the following statement “We are so thankful that this great company, Little Leaf Farms, has been able to hang in there with us through a complicated 2020. We are looking forward to the ground-breaking of this awesome project, and I am sure that the wait will be worthwhile.”

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