R-11-787 10-25-2011

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE PASSAIC COUNTY HIGHLANDS REGULATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF PASSAIC COUNTY LANDS AND FACILITIES

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act), N.J.S.A. 13:20-1, et seq. finds and declares that protection of the New Jersey Highlands is an issue of State level importance because of its vital link to the future of the State's drinking water supplies and other key natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act creates a coordinated land use planning system requiring the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council) to prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan for the Highlands Region and requiring that each county and municipality located wholly or partially in the Preservation Area submit a Petition for Plan Conformance to the Highlands Council for that portion of its jurisdiction lying within the Preservation Area; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act specifies that conformance with the Regional Master Plan (Plan Conformance) requires revisions to municipal and county master plans and development regulations as applicable to the development and use of land to align them with the goals, requirements, and provisions of the Regional Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance Guidelines require that for jurisdictions with any lands in the Preservation Area, a Highlands Regulations for Development of County Lands and Facilities document be adopted to conform to the Regional Master Plan; and **WHEREAS** the County of Passaic lies within the Highlands Region as defined by the Highlands Act; and

**WHEREAS** the said Highlands Council has indicated that the County's Highlands Regulations for Development of Lands and Facilities are acceptable subject to the holding of public hearing by the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders; and

**WHEREAS**, the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders held a public hearing on September 13, 2011 on the subject of the County's Highlands Regulations for Development of Lands and Facilities, and no comments were received from the public; and

WHEREAS, the Freeholder Committee for Planning & Economic Development discussed the matter at its October 18, 2011 meeting and recommended for approval;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders that it hereby authorizes adoption of the Passaic County's Highlands Regulations for Development of Lands and Facilities.

JRS/meg This resolution was requested by:

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Reviewed by:

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ANTHONY J. DE NOVA COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

WILLIAM J. PASCRELL, III

WILLIAM J. PASCRELL COUNTY COUNSEL

## **RECORD OF VOTE**

NV ABS RES SEC Y N Freeholder Ciambrone Hannigan James Lepore Marotta O'Connell Dir. Duffy N=no NV=not voting Y=yes ABS=abstain RES=moved SEC=seconded

Dated: October 25, 2011