

Highlands Executive Order 114

The Governor approved the Highlands Regional Master Plan on September 5, 2008 and signed an Executive Order that outlined additional measures regarding the Plan.

The Executive Order called for:

- The reauthorization of the Garden State Preservation Trust and consideration of a statewide TDR program to meet the agricultural preservation and open space needs of the Highlands region.
- A reasonable extension of the requirement for dual appraisals beyond the June 30, 2009 time period, set forth in the Highlands Act for agricultural preservation and open space acquisitions.
- \$10 million dollars in funding to the Highlands Development Credit Bank from the State TDR Bank.
- The Highlands Council to work with COAH, the DEP and DCA to review the growth projections for consistency with the RMP and to create realistic opportunities for municipalities to address their actual growth share obligations.
- Clustering to be part of center-based, transit-oriented or mixed-use development or one that is consistent with the state's smart growth principles and municipally or regionally planned through Plan Conformance.
- The DEP to adopt and enforce strict standards for water mitigation projects, and ensure that no water allocation permits are issued for development projects or Water Quality Management Plan amendments approved within a HUC14 subwatershed that is in, or is anticipated to be in, a deficit of net water availability until a Municipal Water Use and Conservation Management Plan is approved by the Highlands Council and fully implemented.