



**RESOLUTION OF THE DELAWARE AND RARITAN CANAL COMMISSION 2018-1:
SUPPORT FOR CITIZEN-BASED HISTORIC PRESERVATION EFFORTS IN THE
BOROUGH OF STOCKTON**

WHEREAS, the Legislature declared at N.J.S.A. 13:13A-1 that the Delaware and Raritan Canal is a resource of historic value to the citizens of New Jersey, and that the Commission should prepare, adopt, and implement a Master Plan for the physical development of the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 3 of the Master Plan for the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park sets forth a series of principles and objectives which serve to guide decisions about the physical development of the canal park, and that among these goals and objectives is the preservation of the canal park as an historic resource; and

WHEREAS, while the Delaware and Raritan Canal and 17 structures relating to the canal's 19th century operation have been placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, the Commission notes that the historic character of the canal is comprised of more than just the locks, milestones, canal houses, spillways and other features of the canal structure; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware and Raritan Canal's immediate surroundings, namely, the communities through which it flows, also serve an important part of its historic character, and the canal's historic setting is surprisingly intact, comprising 10 nationally-registered historic districts along its route and several other districts and individual buildings that are eligible for inclusion on the federal and State registers of historic places; and

WHEREAS, the development of the canal park and especially the review of projects in Commission Review Zone "A" in a way that emphasizes and protects the historic character of the canal enables users of the park to learn and value this important element of the New Jersey's historic heritage, and that by evoking the canal's historic past, the canal park provides a meaningful context within which neighboring historic sites are enhanced; and

WHEREAS, as recognized by the Master Plan and the Commission's regulations at N.J.A.C. 7:45-1.4(a)3, respectively, development patterns adjacent to the canal near an historic site can alter the relationship of that site with the surrounding environment, and that the area seen from the canal and its towpath should be preserved in a manner that reflects the canal's historic nature; and

WHEREAS, the Commission makes these findings, which are consistent with and in furtherance of the provisions of the "Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park Law of 1974," and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto, without prejudice toward any proposed application it may receive for any governmental or private project submitted now or in the future;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission supports initiatives and efforts of the residents of Stockton Borough that seek to preserve the historic character of that municipality in a manner that supports and complements the goals and objectives of the Master Plan for the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park.
2. That a copy of this resolution, signed by the Chairman and attested by the Secretary, be transmitted to the governing body of the Borough of Stockton, Hunterdon County.



John Loos, Vice Chairman

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the resolution adopted by the Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission at their meeting of March 21, 2018.



John Hutchison, Secretary