



**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

December 22, 2009

NJDEP Green Acres Program  
(or current resident)  
501 East State Street Station Plaza  
Building 5, Ground Floor  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0412

Re: Notice of Public Hearing  
Proposed Major Diversion of  
Green Acres Land  
City of Garfield  
Bergen County, New Jersey  
Our File No. GF-1224G

To Whom It May Concern:

Please take notice that the City of Garfield ("City") and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("NJDEP") hereby give notice in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.8, and N.J.S.A. 13:8B-5 that a Public Hearing (the "Hearing") will take place on **Tuesday, January 26, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. in the City's municipal building**, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, New Jersey 07026 to discuss a proposed major diversion of Green Acres-encumbered parkland and release of a NJDEP-held conservation easement from the parkland.

The City has submitted an application to the NJDEP's Green Acres Program for the diversion of approximately 0.57 acres of Green Acres-encumbered land located in the City of Garfield adjacent to River Drive, otherwise known as Block 140, Lots 24 (0.26 acres), 45 (0.06 acres) & 49 (0.25 acres). The City is applying for the aforementioned diversion in order to improve a 4,600 linear foot (0.87 mile) portion of River Drive. The road improvement project will begin at Outwater Lane and extend north along the Passaic River to its intersection with Martha Avenue. The proposed activities involve the widening, realignment and intersection improvements necessary to upgrade the existing County road and improve driver safety. As part of this project, the City proposes to construct a waterfront park adjacent to the Passaic River complete with a biking/jogging path, paver sidewalks, two (2) parking areas, one (1) pavilion and other features such, as landscaping improvements and decorative lighting fixtures. The 0.56-acre portion of Green Acres funded parkland will be utilized as public right-of-way to achieve the necessary roadway geometry and minimum safety requirements.

In order to compensate for the above-mentioned diversion, the City proposes to acquire and conserve as open space Block 7.02 Lot 1.02 (0.71 acres), Block 213.02 Lot 1 (0.05 acres), Block 140 Lot 100.02 (0.23 acres) and a portion of River Drive (0.19 acres). The total compensation area of 1.18 acres will satisfy the Green Acres requirement to replace the 0.57-acre diversion area at a 2:1 ratio.

The NJDEP holds a conservation restriction on Block 140, Lot 45 as a result of funding provided to the City's predecessor in title. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:8A-5, the proposed release of the conservation easement from an approximately 0.0575-acres of the property is necessary to facilitate the River Road improvements.

Members of the public are invited to attend and participate in the Hearing. At the Hearing, the plans and other information regarding the proposed diversion and conservation easement release will be available for review. The hearing will be hosted by the City, and presentations will be made by the City's representatives and professionals, as well as by the City's engineer Boswell McClave Engineering. The final application package submitted to Green Acres for the proposed diversion is available for inspection prior to the hearing in the Office of the Municipal Clerk of the City of Garfield, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, New Jersey 07026, during regular business hours.

In the event that a citizen or organization so desires, they may submit written comments to the City on the proposed diversion and conservation easement release in lieu of attending the Hearing in person. Written comments should be sent no later than February 10, 2010, directed to: City of Garfield, Attention: Municipal Clerk, 111 Outwater Lane, Garfield, New Jersey 07026; with a copy to New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program, Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship, PO Box 412, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0412 (Attention: Robert Rodriguez).

Very truly yours,

BOSWELL McCLAVE ENGINEERING



Frank J. Rossi

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