

Resolution for Council Consideration – Adopted 11/03/10

Tidelands Resource Council Resolution Bridge Policy

Preamble:

Bridges are permanent aerial structures over state owned tidelands.

The State of New Jersey currently licenses individual bridges throughout the State. This proposal would consolidate the bridge licenses for each entity within the State. Bridge grants are available if requested, but not always done so. The State would prepare one license for all the bridges in each entity that are within tidelands. For example, a Salem County bridge license would list each bridge by location and waterway and include all bridges under Salem County's jurisdiction.

The current system requires each and every bridge to be licensed individually. This creates tracking issues both at the Bureau of Tidelands and with the regulated entities. Many of these bridge payments are made by counties with payment voucher. A lot of paperwork is processed back and forth to make relatively small payment amounts – most frequently under \$1,000.00.

There is also no clear cut policy on how bridges are to be priced. Keep in mind bridges are generally built for the public good so prices less than a standard license fee should be appropriate.

It also is apparent that many of these bridges are not covered by any Tidelands vehicle and should be accounted for in some fashion.

Resolution:

A letter would be sent to every county and State agency and ask if the county, municipality, or other government sectors (NJ Transit/ PATH/Parkway Commission) asking for a list of bridges under their jurisdiction. Locations with municipality, block, lot, bridge size (square footage over Tidelands) with associated surveys would be required.

Once a list is submitted a SINGLE license would be prepared. This would eliminate the need for the entity to keep track of multiple licenses that have various payment due dates.

The impact of these bridges is negligible and represents about 25% of surface value. Therefore, at \$5,000.00 per acre or \$0.11/SF (a typical value for wetlands), the license would be worth \$0.03/SF. Therefore, 10,000 square foot bridge would be assessed \$300.00.

The following practices concerning Bridge Licenses shall be effective immediately upon approval by the Council (NOTE: This is not an all-inclusive list):

1) Staff's Discretion:

The formulation, addition, deletion, modification and interpretation of written and unwritten practices concerning boat club licenses are made at the discretion of the Bureau of Tidelands' staff subject to review and ultimate approval of the Tidelands Resource Council or its successors.

2) Measurement:

License fees shall be based on the actual square footage of the area occupied by the bridge. The license area will be measured by a licensed surveyor or licensed engineer. Existing site plans can be used. No structure will require a two foot buffer.

3) Compensation:

The license fee for the first year shall be based on state-wide base rate of \$0.03/s.f./yr, which would be applied to the area of the submerged tidelands occupied by structures.

Each year, for the full term of the license, the annual payment shall be subject to an adjustment of plus 2 and ½ percent (+2.5%).

The license shall be for a ten year period.

Table 1: Proposed changes to Tidelands boat club license fees

October 14, 2010

| | Began in 2008 | 2010 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| | <u>Current</u> | <u>Proposed</u> |
| Minimum Fee | \$100, \$220, \$340 | \$100 |
| Payment Schedule | Annual | Annual |
| Term | 7 years | 10 years |
| Annual Inflation Adjustment | 0 | +2.5% |

RATE SCHEDULE

Base Rate in 2010: \$0.03/sqft

Minimum Fee in 2010: \$100 per bridge

Increase of Base Rate per Year: 2.50%

| Year | Base Fee | Minimum Fee |
|------|----------|-------------|
| 2010 | \$0.03 | \$100 |
| 2011 | \$0.03 | \$100 |
| 2012 | \$0.03 | \$100 |
| 2013 | \$0.03 | \$100 |
| 2014 | \$0.03 | \$100 |
| 2015 | \$0.03 | \$100 |
| 2016 | \$0.03 | \$100 |
| 2017 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2018 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2019 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2020 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2021 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2022 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2023 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2024 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2025 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2026 | \$0.04 | \$100 |
| 2027 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2028 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2029 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2030 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2031 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2032 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2033 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2034 | \$0.05 | \$100 |
| 2035 | \$0.06 | \$100 |
| 2036 | \$0.06 | \$100 |
| 2037 | \$0.06 | \$100 |
| 2038 | \$0.06 | \$100 |
| 2039 | \$0.06 | \$100 |
| 2040 | \$0.06 | \$100 |