

Passaic County Petition for Plan Conformance Highlands Council (Chester Township, N.J. – December 16, 2010)



PASSAIC COUNTY
BOARD OF CHOSEN
FREEHOLDERS

TAHESHA WAY, ESQ.
Freeholder Director

BRUCE JAMES
Deputy Director

TERRY DUFFY

JAMES GALLAGHER
GREYSON HANNIGAN, ESQ.

PAT LEPORE

SONIA ROSADO

PASSAIC COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

80 Years of Planning 1929—2009

Investing in the Future: Open Space

The Passaic County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund is designed to facilitate the acquisition of open space within the County for preservation, as well as to fund redevelopment of parks, through a designated levy on real property.

Two questions were added to the November 5, 1996 Ballot: an Open Space and Park Improvement Fund referendum and an Open Space Acquisition referendum. Both were approved by voters, and ultimately consolidated.

The Passaic County Freeholders adopted a resolution on September 3, 1997 establishing an Advisory Committee for the pro-

gram. In order to generate revenues to fund the program, a resolution was adopted on February 3, 1999 authorizing the implementation of an "Open Space Tax."

A recommendation was made for the tax rate for the calendar year 1999 to be fixed at 1 cent per \$100 of assessed value.

Studies have shown that proximity to open space and parkland increases property values, while costs in terms of municipal services are relatively insignificant.

Since 2001, the Open Space Trust Fund has amassed approxi-



GREAT FALLS OF THE PASSAIC RIVER

mately \$35 million and has helped to preserve nearly 2,000 acres; in addition, the trust has funded improvements to numerous municipal and county parks.

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From left: Judy Thornton, Highlands Council Liaison to Passaic County; Passaic County Senior Planner Michael Lysicatos; Passaic County Open Space Coordinator Kathleen Caren; Highlands Council Acting Chairman Jack Schrier; and Highlands Council Executive Director Eileen Swan.

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From left: Passaic County Open Space Coordinator Kathleen Caren and Passaic County Senior Planner Michael Lysicatos at the December 16th Highlands Council meeting.

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The Changing Geography of Passaic County



At the time of the American Revolution, Passaic County was actually part of Bergen and Essex counties, with the Passaic River forming a natural boundary between the two counties.

Named after the river which powered the factories of the American Industrial Revolution, Passaic County was formed in 1837, and was made up of seven towns.

Today, the sixteen towns of Passaic County represent a geographic cross section of New Jersey, from the historic cities of Paterson and Passaic, to rural West Milford and Ringwood.

PASSAIC COUNTY PLANNING BOARD Chairman THOMAS WILLIAMSON, Vice Chairman MIGUEL DIAZ, Freeholder Director TAHESHA WAY, Deputy Director BRUCE JAMES, Freeholder TERRY DUFFY, STEVEN EDMOND, STEPHEN MARTINIQUE, JOSEPH MELTZER, VINCENT OLIVO, LYNDA WILSON, WILLIAM GERVENS

(Courtesy: Passaic County Website <http://www.passaiccountynj.org/>)

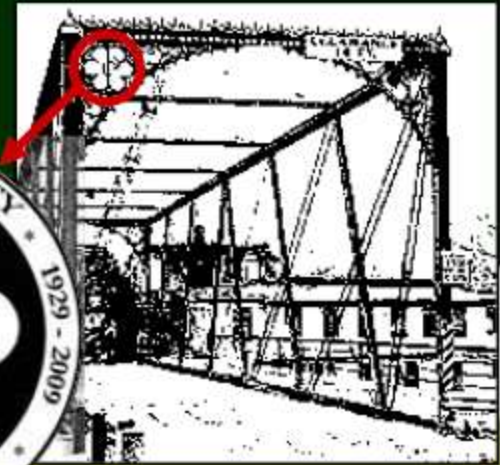


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in turn spurred other redevelopment projects in the area.

In June 2005, the Board of Chosen Freeholders, on the recommendation of the County Planning Board, adopted a Corridor Enhancement Program to allow for small-scale improvement

placed in Passaic County by the New Jersey Commission on Historic Sites in 1932. Corridor Enhancement fees will also be used to fund improvements of the intersection of Paterson-Hamburg Turnpike and Valley Road.



FORMER LINCOLN STREET BRIDGE,
PATERSON



Current Planning Efforts in Passaic County

TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

Madison Avenue Rail-Corridor Study

SUSTAINABLE LAND-USE PLANNING

*Transportation Element Update of
Passaic County Master Plan*

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

*Restoration of NJ Historic Markers
Commemorating Revolutionary War Events*

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM

(GIS) MAPPING

GIS Resources Website

PLAN REVIEW

County Urban Design Guidelines

URBAN DESIGN VISIONING

Hamilton Street & Court House Plaza

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

*Molly Ann Brook Watershed
Management Plan*

Anniversary Logo

The "PC" Monogram Design for our 80th Anniversary Logo was inspired by the beautiful iron work on the former Lincoln Street Bridge over the Passaic River in Paterson. It represents excellence in design and pride in the past with an eye to the future.

The Passaic County Planning Department would like to extend a Special Thanks to all officials and employees, past and present, who contributed to 80 years of Planning in Passaic County.

(Courtesy: Passaic County Website <http://www.passaiccountynj.org/>)

HIGHLANDS REGIONAL



MASTER PLAN
2008

Photos by Nathan McLean / New Jersey Highlands Council

Highlands Council Meeting

December 16, 2010

