

**2008-104**  
**MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY**

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO PETITION THE HIGHLANDS  
 COUNCIL FOR PLAN CONFORMANCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act), N.J.S.A. 13:20-1 et seq., finds and declares that protection of the New Jersey Highlands is an issue of State level importance because of its vital link to the future of the State's drinking water supplies and other key natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Act creates a coordinated land use planning system requiring the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council) to prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan for the Highlands Region and requiring that within nine to fifteen months after September 8, 2008, each county and municipality located wholly or partially in the Preservation Area must submit a Petition for Plan Conformance to the Highlands Council for that portion of its jurisdiction lying within the Preservation Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Act specifies that conformance with the Regional Master Plan (Plan Conformance), requires revisions to municipal and county master plans and development regulations, as applicable, to the development and use of land to align them with the goals, requirements and provisions of the Regional Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance Guidelines require that for jurisdictions with any lands in the Preservation Area, a Notice of Intent to conform to the Regional Master Plan must be submitted to the Highlands Council as soon as practicable, but not later than February 1, 2009, and that for any lands in the Planning Area, a Notice of Intent may be submitted at any time; and

**WHEREAS**, Mansfield Township lies within the Highlands Region as defined by the Highlands Act; and


**WHEREAS**, Mansfield Township believes that it is in the best interest of the Township of Mansfield to conform to the Regional Master Plan.

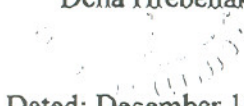
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of Mansfield Township hereby provides the Highlands Council with this Notice of Intent to petition the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance for all lands lying within the Preservation Area.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this Notice of Intent additionally specifies that the Township Committee of Mansfield Township intends to include all lands lying with the Planning Area in the petition. In accordance with the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance Guidelines, this Notice of Intent not binding with respect to lands within the Planning Area.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, this Notice of Intent provides notice to the Highlands Council that the Township of Mansfield has set December 1, 2009 as the target date for submission of a Petition of Plan Conformance.

TOWNSHIP OF MANSFIELD

By:   
Dena Hrebenak, Clerk



Dated: December 10, 2008