**SAMPLE RESOLUTION**

**(*NAME OF MUNICIPALITY*)**

**SUBMISSION OF PETITION FOR PLAN CONFORMANCE**

**TO THE HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL**

**FOR LAND IN THE PRESERVATION AREA**

**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 significant 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

**WHEREAS**,the Highlands Act requires that within nine to 15 months after the effective date of the Regional Master Plan, or September 8, 2008, each municipality located wholly or partially in the Preservation Area shall submit revisions to the municipal master plan, development regulations and other regulations, as applicable to the development and use of land in the Preservation Area, as may be necessary to conform them with the goals, requirements and provisions of the Regional Master Plan (Plan Conformance); and

**WHEREAS**, *(Name of Municipality)* is located in the Highlands Region with lands lying within the both the Preservation Area and Planning Area, as defined by section 7 of the Highlands Act; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council in July of 2019 adopted Plan Conformance Procedures outlining the process and procedures for petitioning the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council shall make grant funds available for all mandatory aspects of Plan Conformance in accordance with the Plan Conformance Grant Program, and shall also make available grant funds for the discretionary aspects of Plan Conformance as determined by the Highlands Council; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the (*Governing Body* *of**Name of Municipality)* hereby submits this Petition for Plan Conformance to the Highlands Council, as it relates to the development and use of land for the Preservation Area only, in accordance with the Highlands Act, the Regional Master Plan, and the Highlands Plan Conformance Guidelines; and

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_