NEW JERSEY STATE PLANNING COMMISSION P.O. Box 820 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0820

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

LT. GOVERNOR TAHESHA L. WAY SECRETARY OF STATE

THOMAS K. WRIGHT

CHAIRMAN

WALTER C. LANE Executive Director/Secretary

Date: December 17, 2025

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RESOLUTION

APPROVAL OF THE FINAL STATE DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT PLAN AND THE FINAL INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

WHEREAS, the State Planning Commission (hereafter the "Commission"), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:18A-199 of the State Planning Act (N.J.S.A. 52:18A-196 to -207), is required to periodically revise and readopt the State Development and Redevelopment Plan (hereafter also referred to as the "State Plan" or the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, in order to carry out this statutory responsibility, the Commission has, pursuant to its rulemaking authority under N.J.S.A. 52:18A-203, promulgated regulations which are set forth at N.J.A.C. 15:30 (hereafter the "State Planning Rules") and which, in part, govern the manner in which the Cross-Acceptance process shall be conducted; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Planning Advocacy (hereafter "OPA"), in performing the required steps of the Cross-Acceptance process, met with representatives of all twenty-one (21) counties and the New Jersey Highlands Council, and published two (2) Interim Reports summarizing these negotiations; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has formally concluded the Cross-Acceptance process, pursuant to N.J.A.C 15:30-4.6, with the approval of the Statement of Agreements and Disagreements resulting from said negotiations on September 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, as provided in N.J.S.A. 52:18A-202.1 and N.J.A.C. 15:30-4.7(a), the Commission is required to produce an Impact Assessment which describes the impacts of the policies and strategies proposed in the State Plan ("plan impacts") relative to the impacts that would likely occur without a State Plan ("trend impacts"), and shall identify desirable changes to be incorporated into the Final State Plan; and

WHEREAS, at the direction of the Commission, OPA has contracted with Rowan University and Rutgers University to prepare the Impact Assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Commission approved the Impact Assessment on August 6, 2025 and disseminated it as required by N.J.A.C. 15:30-4.7(b); and

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WHEREAS, as provided in N.J.S.A 52:18A-201(b)(6), OPA is required to prepare and submit to the Commission a draft Infrastructure Needs Assessment as an aid in the preparation of the State Plan, which details "alternate growth and development strategies which are likely to produce favorable economic, environmental and social results"; and

WHEREAS, at the direction of the Commission, OPA has contracted with Rutgers University to prepare the draft Infrastructure Needs Assessment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C 15:30-5.1, upon consideration of the Interim Reports, the Statement of Agreements and Disagreements, and the Impact Assessment, the Commission is required to prepare and approve for distribution a draft Final State Plan, which will also include the draft Infrastructure Needs Assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Commission acknowledged and accepted the draft Final State Plan, prepared by the Commission's Negotiating Committee, and the draft Infrastructure Needs Assessment, prepared by Rutgers University, at its September 15, 2025 Special Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Commission disseminated the draft Final State Plan, which includes the draft Infrastructure Needs Assessment, to each county board of commissioners, county executive or administrator, county clerk, municipal mayor, municipal planning board or land use board, municipal clerk, all designated negotiating entities, those interested persons and organizations who have registered with OPA pursuant to N.J.A.C 15:30-1.6(b), and to the public, via email and through posting to the OPA website; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted six (6) public hearings as required by N.J.A.C. 15:30-5.2(a), with the final hearing occurring on October 17, 2025, and received and considered oral and written comments on both the draft Final State Development and Redevelopment Plan and the draft Infrastructure Needs Assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has given careful consideration to the reports, comments, and communications it has received from municipalities, counties, regional entities, various agencies of the State government, private organizations and interests, and members of the public over the entire Cross-Acceptance process and subsequent public comment and review periods; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has directed OPA to incorporate the input generated during the Cross-Acceptance process and subsequent public comment and review periods into a Final State Plan, and, as a component thereof, a Final Infrastructure Needs Assessment; and

WHEREAS, in adopting the State Plan, the Commission intends that the Plan will be utilized in a fair and effective manner consistent with the State Planning Act, the Fair Housing Act, and all other pertinent legislation, as well as in a manner consistent with the contents of the Plan itself; and

WHEREAS, in adopting the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, the Commission intends to assist municipalities, counties, regional entities, and State government agencies in the implementation and utilization of the Plan, through the Plan Endorsement process, and through technical and planning assistance provided by OPA; and

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WHEREAS, in adopting the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, the Commission wishes to recognize the immeasurable efforts of all the public officials, professionals, and private citizens who have participated in the update of the Plan; and

WHEREAS, in adopting the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, the Commission formally acknowledges that all requests to amend the State Plan Policy Map received during the Cross-Acceptance process and the subsequent public comment and review periods will be addressed required under NJAC 15:30-8.3 and without prejudice after the adoption of the State Development and Redevelopment Plan; and

WHEREAS, in adopting the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, the Commission authorizes OPA to make any non-substantive changes to the Plan for the purposes of grammar and consistency, and to provide the most accurate and current data available, in preparation of the State Development and Redevelopment Plan for formal publication.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission, consistent with its responsibilities under the State Planning Act, hereby adopts the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, including the Infrastructure Needs Assessment, and authorizes its release and distribution by OPA as soon as practicable; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED_that the Commission directs OPA to provide notice of its adoption of the Final State Plan as required under N.J.A.C. 15:30-1.7(i); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Commission directs OPA to electronically disseminate the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, which includes the Infrastructure Needs Assessment, to each county board of commissioners, county executive or administrator, county clerk, municipal mayor, municipal planning board or land use board, municipal clerk, those interested persons and organizations who have registered with OPA pursuant to N.J.A.C 15:30-1.6(b), and to the public, via email and through posting to the OPA website; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director and staff of OPA are hereby authorized and directed to take such other actions as may be necessary or appropriate for the implementation of this resolution.

I hereby certify that this resolution was duly adopted by the State Planning Commission at its meeting on December 17, 2025

Walter C. Lane, Secretary State Planning Commission Date: December 17, 2025

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