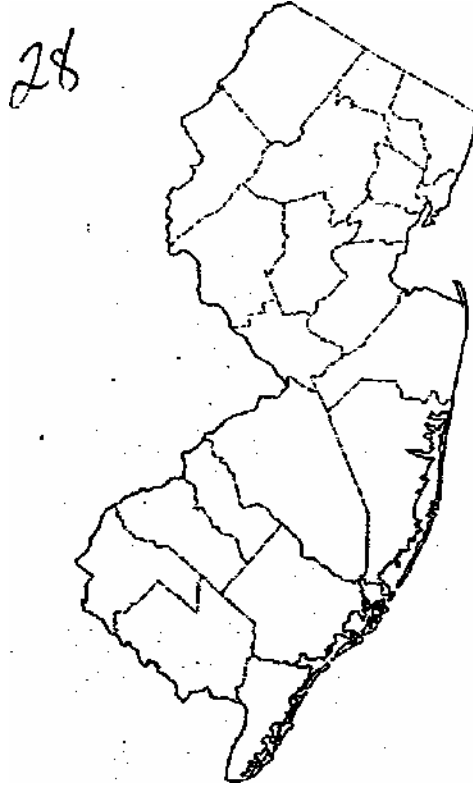


What is Cross-Acceptance?...

Cross-acceptance is the process of comparing municipal and county plans and regulations with the Preliminary State Development and Redevelopment Plan in an effort to achieve consistency and compatibility across the various levels of government in New Jersey.



This brochure is a summary of how the cross-acceptance process works. More Information, about cross-acceptance is available in an official document called the "State Planning Rule." To obtain a copy of the Rule or for additional Information, please write to the **State Planning Commission at 150 West State Street, CN 204, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, or call (609) 292-7156.**

Q: HOW DOES A MUNICIPALITY PARTICIPATE IN CROSS-ACCEPTANCE?

First, a municipality should work closely with its county officials during the comparison of municipal and county plans with the State Plan.

Second, a municipality, if it disagrees with any portion of the report filed by the county, may file its own report with the State Planning Commission.

Q: HOW WILL THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATE IN CROSS-ACCEPTANCE¹?

Numerous opportunities for public comments will occur prior to and during cross-acceptance. There will be:

- Twenty-one public informational meetings — one in each county;
- Public participation as outlined in each county's cross-acceptance work program;
- A public hearing in each county on its cross-acceptance report; and
- " At least six public hearings on the draft final State Development and Redevelopment Plan.

Throughout the cross-acceptance process, the public may file comments directly with the State Planning Commission.

WHAT ARE THE KEY EVENTS BEFORE CROSS-ACCEPTANCE?

These events occur *before* cross-acceptance begins:

- * At least 90 days before the cross-acceptance process begins:
- * The Office of State Planning distributes a draft of the Preliminary Plan to State agencies and the public for comment.
- * Within 10 working days after this draft is released:
- * The Office of State Planning makes at least three public presentations of the draft of the Preliminary Plan.
- * Within 45 days after receiving the draft Preliminary Plan:
 - The State agencies submit comments and recommendations regarding the draft to the Office of State Planning.
- * Within 60 days after the draft Preliminary Plan is released:
 - The public may submit comments and recommendations regarding the draft to the Office of State Planning.

Soon after receiving comments and recommendations from State agencies and the public, the Office of State Planning submits this information and its staff recommendations to the State Planning Commission. The State Planning Commission may revise the draft document based upon comments and recommendations received. The revised document — Preliminary State Development and Redevelopment Plan — is released to begin cross-acceptance.

Each county will receive a Cross-Acceptance Manual, an application form for financial assistance of up to \$20,000.00, and a request for either a Notice of Participation or a Notice of Waiver.

Q: WHAT EVENTS OCCUR DURING CROSS-ACCEPTANCE?

I. These events occur *during* the first six months of cross-acceptance:

- * Within 45 days of receipt of the State Preliminary Plan:
 - Each county files either a Notice of Participation or a Notice of Waiver. Should a county not file either notice, or should it choose to file a Notice of Waiver, the State Planning Commission will designate a negotiating entity for that county. Counties may also choose to work together to complete the cross-acceptance process.

- Each county or negotiating entity will submit a proposed work program to the Office of State Planning outlining how they will conduct cross-acceptance.

* Between Day 45 and Day 90:

- Each county or negotiating entity will convene a public informational meeting jointly with the State Planning Commission.
- During the first six months:
 - Each county or negotiating entity will compare municipal, county, and State plans and regulations, and prepare a draft cross-acceptance report.
 - The county will finalize the cross-acceptance report, hold public hearings, and transmit its final report to the State Planning Commission.

Litest events occur during the remaining six to nine months of cross-acceptance:

The Office of State Planning will study these county reports and recommend revisions to the State Planning Commission. The State Planning Commission will study these and other revisions and will hold six public hearings across the State. Then, the State Planning Commission will consider adoption of the final State Development and Redevelopment Plan.

Q: WHERE DOES CROSS-ACCEPTANCE FIT INTO THE PROCESS OF PREPARING THE PLAN?

The cross-acceptance process is regarded by the State Planning Commission as part of the *planning* process, not part of the implementation process. Accordingly, cross-acceptance officially begins when the State Planning Commission releases the Preliminary Plan. Cross-acceptance is a process which is unique to New Jersey; therefore, it is difficult to anticipate how long it will take. The State Planning Commission expects the process to take between 12 and 15 months. Cross-acceptance will be completed 30 days after the last of the six public hearings held by the State Planning Commission prior to adoption of the final State Development and Redevelopment Plan.

Q: HOW DOES CROSS-ACCEPTANCE WORK?

For administrative purposes, the cross-acceptance process will be coordinated by area planning managers from the Office of State Planning. Five areas of the State have been designated and a manager assigned to each area for the cross-acceptance process.

The five areas have been geographically designated as follows: Northeast (Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Passaic, and Union); Northwest (Hunterdon, Morris, Sussex, and Warren); Central (Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, and Somerset); Southwest (Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, and Salem); and Southeast (Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, and Ocean).

If you need assistance during cross-acceptance, please feel free to contact the Office of State Planning at (609)292-7156.

Driven by a legislative and popular mandate, the State Planning Commission is working to ensure that tomorrow's New Jersey is as prosperous as today's.

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Meeting Information