

discussion for each forum.
...through written or verbal communications with the State Planning Commission or its Plan Development Committee, or the local negotiating committees.
...through the recommendations of the State Planning Advisory Committees.

THE PROCESS CONCLUDES

...when the highest degree of agreement has been reached by the negotiating parties. A list of all agreements, disagreements and concerns from each county will be forwarded to the State Planning Commission, the subject county and its respective municipalities.

The Plan Development Committee will then submit a proposed Interim State Development and Redevelopment Plan to the State Planning Commission for its consideration. The Committee's proposed plan shall reflect the results of the comparison and negotiation phases of cross-acceptance.

Approval of the Interim State Plan by the State Planning Commission concludes the negotiation phase of cross-acceptance and initiates the final phase, known as "issue resolution."


** Refers to either County or Municipal Negotiating Committees*

Prepared By:
The New Jersey Office of State Planning
150 West State Street, CN 204
Trenton, N.J., 08625



Tomorrow's
New Jersey

The
New Jersey
Office of
State Planning
150 West State St.
CN 204
Trenton
New Jersey
08625



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New Jersey

*The
NEW JERSEY
State Planning Commission*

A Guide to Cross- Acceptance Negotiations

In January 1989, New Jersey's county and municipal governments joined the State Planning Commission in developing a strategic plan to promote economic growth and protect the State's natural resources. Through a process known as cross-acceptance, these three levels of government are working to eliminate conflicts and inconsistencies between their various plans and programs.



Negotiating Cross-Acceptance

New Jersey's planning process is one of the most comprehensive State policy initiatives undertaken within recent memory. It is bringing 21 county governments, 567 municipalities, the 19 agencies of State government, various interest groups and the general citizenry together to reach a consensus on how to manage our growth in ways we can afford.

In the first phase of cross-acceptance, counties and municipalities compared the Preliminary State Development and Redevelopment Plan to their own plans and programs. During the second phase, negotiation, each of these parties will work to reconcile their differences. The negotiation phase will culminate in the publication of an Interim State Plan.

A third phase, called issue resolution, will follow negotiations. During issue resolution, the Interim Plan and an assessment of its impacts measured against traditional development practices (trend) will be reviewed again by the counties, municipalities and the public. These documents will be presented and discussed at public hearings that will be held across the State. Sixty days after the last of these hearings, the issue resolution phase — and the cross-acceptance process itself — ends. Adoption of the State Development and Redevelopment Plan will follow shortly thereafter.

Because so many perspectives and interests will come to the table simultaneously during the negotiation phase, it is seen as perhaps the most complex stage of the cross-acceptance process. This brochure describes the negotiation phase in greater detail.

THE GOAL

...is to attain compatibility between the plans and programs of each level of New Jersey government.

SETTING THE AGENDA FOR DISCUSSION ARE THE

...the Preliminary State Development and Redevelopment Plan;
...the County Comparison Phase Reports;
...the Municipal Reports (with views that differ from their respective county reports);
...the Public Comments & Recommendations.

THE PARTIES INVOLVED ARE

...the State Planning Commission, represented by its Plan Development Committee;
...the county planning boards, or a committee made up of at least two of its members and staff; and
...municipalities that submitted reports can be represented by a committee designated by the local governing body.

IT BEGINS

...with meetings between the Office of State Planning Staff and the Local Negotiating Committees.*

Three types of issues are being discussed:

■ **Plan-related** issues are directly tied to strategies or policies proposed in the Preliminary Plan;

■ **Concerns** involve issues that have been raised in the county or municipal reports, but are not linked to specific Plan policies or strategies;

■ **Implementation** issues often go be-

yond the Plan's proposals to questions about how State policy will be applied under particular circumstances. The authority to make such determinations rests, however, with the executive, legislative or judicial branches of government. Nevertheless, these issues will be acknowledged and addressed in an Implementation Report prepared by the State Planning Commission. The Report will accompany the release of the Interim State Plan.

The local negotiating committee and the Office of State Planning staff work together to establish the agenda for negotiations with the Plan Development Committee.

THE DIALOGUE CONTINUES

...and staff agreements are confirmed by the Plan Development Committee and the local negotiating committees.

...alternatives and solutions are explored for disagreements remaining from the staff level discussions.

THESE AGREEMENTS ARE BROUGHT

...to the State Planning Commission and the county and local governing bodies for affirmation.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IS ASSURED

...through the publication of "periodic reports," entitled *Negotiation Update*. *Negotiation Update* lists the agreements and remaining disagreements between the Plan Development Committee and the local negotiating committees. The reports are available at the Office of State Planning, county planning offices and State depository libraries.

...through public forums scheduled by the Plan Development Committee. Agreements and disagreements published in *Negotiation Update* will be the focus of