

New Jersey Pinelands Commission PRESS RELEASE

June 9, 2006

Contact: Paul Leakan Phone: 609.894.7300 E-mail: <u>info@njpines.state.nj.us</u>

Pinelands Commission approves Hammonton's plans to demolish its existing municipal building and build a new municipal complex

NEW LISBON, N.J. – During its regular monthly meeting today, the New Jersey Pinelands Commission voted 13-0 to approve the Town of Hammonton's plans to demolish its existing municipal building and replace it with a new municipal complex.

Under the application approved by the Commission, the town plans to tear down its current 13,000-square-foot municipal building at the corner of Central Avenue and Vine Street. The Town will replace the building with a new 26,714-square-foot municipal complex with associated parking improvements onsite.

The Commission also approved a second application in which Hammonton plans to remove and relocate a 1,150-square-foot former Town Hall that is located adjacent to the town's existing municipal building. The 1,150-square-foot former Town Hall was constructed in 1887 and is a contributing building to Hammonton's Commercial Historic District.

The former Town Hall will be relocated to a 0.926-acre lot on an existing grassed area at Veteran's Park in order to accommodate construction of the new municipal complex. It will face School House Lane and will be visible from Vine Street and Bellevue Avenue. The town has indicated that the former Town Hall will be used as a meeting place, a museum and as part of community events conducted at the park.

####