

## **RESOLUTION 2017-17**

### **NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS UNDER THE HIGHLANDS OPEN SPACE PARTNERSHIP FUNDING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULE N.J.A.C. 7:70-1 et seq.**

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act), N.J.S.A. 13:20-1 et seq., created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council or Council); and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Act at N.J.S.A. 13:20-2 declares that the New Jersey Highlands is an essential source of drinking water, providing clean and plentiful drinking water for one-half of the State's population, including exceptional natural resources such as clean air, contiguous forest lands, wetlands, pristine watersheds, and habitat for fauna and flora for the citizens of the State; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Act, also includes that “the new regional planning approach and the more stringent environmental regulatory standards should be accompanied, as a matter of wise public policy and fairness to property owners, by a strong and significant commitment by the State to fund the acquisition of exceptional natural resource value lands . . .”; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 17, 2008, the Highlands Council adopted the Highlands Regional Master Plan (RMP) which became effective on September 8, 2008 and which through RMP Goal 1H calls for the protection of critical resources through land preservation and stewardship of open space throughout the Highlands Regions; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 18, 2016, the Highlands Council adopted N.J.A.C. 7:70-1 et seq. which includes the Highlands Open Space Partnership Funding Program (Partnership Program) governing the eligible state and local governments, and charitable conservancies for the acquisition of land for passive recreation and conservation purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Partnership Program provides for an open space matching grant program that would incentivize property owners to seek out contributions from entities interested in land conservation by having the Council match such contributions on a priority basis identified in the Partnership Program, from certain landowners; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 12, 2017, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:70 Subchapter 3, the Partnership Program’s eligibility criteria, the Council Landowner Equity and Land Preservation (LELP) Committee reviewed eligible applications and recommended that the sum of \$1,774,395.00 be allocated to the Partnership Program; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 19, 2017, the Highlands Council, by voice vote, affirmed the recommendation of the LELP Committee to allocate \$1,774,395.00 to the Partnership Program with the specific properties for funding to be identified in a later resolution of the Council; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council wishes to approve specific properties for funding with the funds previously allocated to the Partnership Program; and

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**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 13:20-5.j, no action authorized by the Highlands Council shall have force or effect until ten (10) days, Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays excepted, after a copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Council has been delivered to the Governor for review, unless prior to expiration of the review period the Governor shall approve same, in which case the action shall become effective upon such approval.

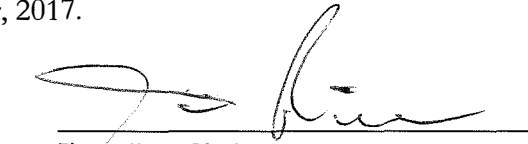
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Highlands Council hereby authorizes the Executive Director to make offers to the following properties subject to the eligibility requirements pursuant to Partnership Program:

<b>County</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Block</b>	<b>Lot</b>
Hunterdon	Lebanon Township	57	13
Hunterdon	Lebanon Township	57	13.01
Hunterdon	Lebanon Township	57	13.02
Hunterdon	Lebanon Township	56	11
Warren	Greenwich Township	18	3
Warren	Greenwich Township	19	1
Warren	Franklin Township	41	1
Warren	Franklin Township	42	1
Warren	Washington Township	16	4
Warren	Franklin Township	34	9
Warren	Franklin Township	18	26
Warren	Franklin Township	41	3
Warren	Franklin Township	41	5
Warren	Franklin Township	41	13
Somerset	Bedminster Township	51	2
Somerset	Bedminster Township	51	3
Passaic	West Milford Township	5008	1
Passaic	West Milford Township	5008	2
Passaic	West Milford Township	5101	3
Passaic	West Milford Township	5101	4

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**NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS WATER PROTECTION AND PLANNING COUNCIL**  
**APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS UNDER THE HIGHLANDS OPEN SPACE**  
**PARTNERSHIP FUNDING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULE**  
**N.J.A.C. 7:70-1 et seq.**

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 7th day of December, 2017.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Jim Rilee, Chairman

Vote on the Approval of The Resolution	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Councilmember Alstede	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Carluccio	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Dougherty	_____	✓	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Dressler	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Francis	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Holtaway	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember James	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	✓
Councilmember Richko	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Sebetich	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Tfank	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Visioli	✓	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Vohden	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____
Councilmember Walton	_____	_____	✓*	_____	_____	_____
Chairman Rilee	_____	_____	✓	_____	_____	_____

\* Member Walton voted "yes" on the resolution but abstained on the Lebanon Township properties (Block 57, Lots 13, 13.01, and 13.02)