RESOLUTION NO: 09-71

TOWNSHIP OF GREEN COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY



NOTICE OF INTENT TO PETITION THE HIGHLANDS COUNCIL FOR PLAN CONFORMANCE WITHIN THE HIGHLANDS PRESERVATION AREA AND

STATEMENT OF INTENT TO PURSUE PLAN ENDORSEMENT WITH THE STATE PLANNING COMMISSION WITHIN THE HIGHLANDS PLANNING AREA

WHEREAS, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act), N.J.S.A. 13:20-1 et seq., finds and declares that protection of the New Jersey Highlands is an issue of State level importance because of its vital link to the future of the State's drinking water supplies and other key natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act creates a coordinated land use planning system requiring the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council) to prepare and adopt a Regional Master Plan for the Highlands Region and requiring that within nine to 15 months after September 8, 2008, each county and municipality located wholly or partially in the Preservation Area must submit a Petition for Plan Conformance to the Highlands Council for that portion of its jurisdiction lying within the Preservation Area; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Act specifies that conformance with the Regional Master Plan (Plan Conformance) requires revisions to municipal and county master plans and development regulations as applicable to the development and use of land to align them with the goals, requirements, and provisions of the Regional Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Highlands Council's Plan Conformance Guidelines require that for jurisdictions with any lands in the Preservation Area, a Notice of Intent to conform to the Regional Master Plan must be submitted to the Highlands Council as soon as practicable, but not later than February 1, 2009 and that for any lands in the Planning Area, a Notice of Intent may be submitted at any time; and

WHEREAS, Green Township, Sussex County lies within the Highlands Region as defined by the Highlands Act; and

WHEREAS, the Green Township Committee understands that it is statutorily required, for those portions of Green Township within the Highlands Preservation Area, to conform to the Regional Master Plan.

AND WHEREAS, the State Planning Act recognizes that New Jersey requires sound and integrated land use planning and coordination of planning at all levels of government in order to conserve the state's natural resources, revitalize the urban centers, protect the quality of the environment, and provide needed housing and adequate public services at a reasonable cost while promoting beneficial economic growth, development and renewal; and

WHEREAS, Plan Endorsement is a voluntary review process developed by the State Planning Commission to provide the technical assistance and coordination of the State for municipalities,

counties, and regional agencies to meet the goals of the State Planning Act and State Development and Redevelopment Plan (State Plan); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Plan Endorsement process is to increase the degree of consistency among municipal, county, regional and state agency plans with each other and with the State Plan and to facilitate the implementation of these plans and guide where and how development and redevelopment can be accommodated in accordance with the State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines incorporate, and expand upon, the principles of the Municipal Land Use Law in order to help towns plan for a sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines require the preparation and submission of a Municipal Self-Assessment Report as the means by which a municipality assesses the consistency of its existing community vision and planning documents with the State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Green Township Committee desires to obtain Plan Endorsement from the State Planning Commission for those portions of the Township in the Highlands Planning Area; and

WHEREAS, Green Township shall prepare a Municipal Self-Assessment Report pursuant to the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, Green Township shall create a Plan Endorsement Citizens' Advisory Committee to review the Municipal Self-Assessment Report and for submission to the State Planning Commission and the Office of Smart Growth towards Green Township's pursuit of Plan Endorsement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Green Township Committee hereby provides the Highlands Council with this Notice of Intent to petition the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance for only those lands lying within the Preservation Area.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, This Notice of Intent additionally specifies that the Green Township Committee intends to specifically exclude all lands lying within the Planning Area from this petition to the Highlands Council for Plan Conformance.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this Notice of Intent provides notice to the Highlands Council that the Green Township Committee has set December 7, 2009 as the target date for submission of a Petition for Plan Conformance to the Highlands Council.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Green Township Committee hereby expressly states the intention of Green Township to pursue Plan Endorsement by the State Planning Commission for those portions of the Township in the Highlands Planning Area; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Green Township Committee authorizes the drafting and submission of a Municipal Self-Assessment Report for submission to the Office of Smart Growth for consideration and review as part of the effort to pursue Plan Endorsement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of Green Township shall transmit a copy of this Resolution and the Notice as required by the State Planning Rules to the State Planning Commission and the Office of Smart Growth.

DATED: March 23, 2009

I, Linda Peralta, Township Clerk of the Township of Green, County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing resolution to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting held on March 23, 2009.

Linda Peralta, Clerk/Administrator

Record of Vote:

	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Mr. Chirip	15+ V			
Mrs. EsenIohr	and 1			
Mr. Michaud	anc			
Mr. Raffay				
Mr. Conkling	./			

I, Linda Per	alta, Towns	ship Clerk of	the Township of Green, do hereby certify	y this document to be a true co	py of the original which is	on file in my office
Date: 3	26	07	the Township of Green, do hereby certify	Linda Peralta, Ta	ownship Clerk, Township	Of Green