

**RESOLUTION 2021-28**  
**APPROVAL OF PLAN CONFORMANCE GRANT FUNDING FOR LAKE**  
**MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR BYRAM TOWNSHIP (SUSSEX COUNTY)**

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act (Highlands Act) has created a public body corporate and politic with corporate succession known as the Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council (Highlands Council); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 6.g the Highlands Act authorizes the Highlands Council to enter into any and all agreements or contracts and execute any and all instruments to carry out any power, duty or responsibility assigned to it under the Highlands Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 14 of the Highlands Act expressly requires mandatory Plan Conformance for municipalities located wholly or partially in the Preservation Area, which must revise and conform their local master plan and development regulations, as they relate to development and use of land in the Preservation Area, with the goals, requirements, and provisions of the Regional Master Plan within 15 months of adoption thereof, or December 8, 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 15 of the Highlands Act provides for voluntary Plan Conformance where any municipality located wholly or partially in the Planning Area may voluntarily revise and conform their local master plans and development regulations, as they relate to the development and use of land in the Planning Area, with the goals, requirements, and provisions of the Regional Master Plan at any time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Act provides that Highlands Council approval of a Petition for Plan Conformance confers specific benefits on the conforming municipality including planning grants, technical assistance, state aid, priority for projects, tax stabilization funds, a strong presumption of validity and extraordinary deference in the event of legal challenge, and legal representation; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 18 of the Highlands Act obligates the Highlands Council to establish a grant funding program to reimburse municipalities for reasonable expenses associated with Plan Conformance; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 18, 2008, the Highlands Council approved Resolution 2008-73 to provide grant funding for the Highlands municipalities to cover the reasonable expenses associated with revisions to master plans, development regulations or other regulations to conform them to the Regional Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council encourages every Highlands municipality to participate in the implementation of the Regional Master Plan and provides grants to assist Highlands municipalities in conforming with and implementing the goals, policies, and objectives of the Regional Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, Byram Township is in need of reimbursement-based grant funding in order to address the Highlands Act requirements for Plan Conformance:

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**Plan Conformance Funding**  
**(not-to-exceed amount):**

<b>Municipality/County</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Byram Township	Lake Management Plan	\$150,000

**WHEREAS**, the Highlands Council staff recommends that the Highlands Council authorize the execution of a Plan Conformance Grant Agreement Byram Township for the funding allotted to the above-referenced task in the amounts designated, not to exceed, \$150,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the above-referenced \$150,000 allocation will be included in the FY 2022 Highlands Protection Fund Capital Budget; and

**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.

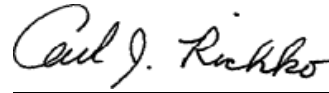
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Highlands Council hereby authorizes the Executive Director to execute a Plan Conformance Grant Agreement with Byram Township in the not-to-exceed amount as set forth above; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Executive Director is authorized to make any amendments to the Highlands Implementation Plans and Schedule of the above-listed municipality consistent with direction from the Highlands Council, to properly effectuate the intent of the Council and thereafter execute the Implementation Plans and Schedule on behalf of the Council.

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**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Highlands Council at its regular meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 2021.



Carl J. Richko, Chairman

<b>Vote on the Approval of This Resolution</b>	<b>Motion</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Councilmember Alstede			√			
Councilmember Dougherty						√
Councilmember Dressler			√			
Councilmember Francis			√			
Councilmember Holtaway	√		√			
Councilmember James			√			
Councilmember Sebetich			√			
Councilmember Van Abs			√			
Councilmember Visioli			√			
Councilmember Vohden		√	√			
Chairman Richko			√			