## RESOLUTION RE:  SUSSEX COUNTY'S CONFORMANCE TO THE HIGHLANDS REGIONAL MASTER PLAN IN THE PRESERVATION AREA ONLY

**WHEREAS,** the New Jersey Highlands Water Preservation and Planning Act (Act) was signed into law on June 7, 2004; and

**WHEREAS,** one of the provisions of that Act was that the counties and municipalities with lands depicted in the Highlands Preservation Area were required to bring their master plans and development regulations into conformance with the Regional Master Plan (RMP) within eight to fifteen months after adoption of that Plan by the Highlands Council; and

**WHEREAS,** since May of 2007, the County of Sussex has been prepared to discuss matters of conformance with the Highlands Plan (not then adopted) as this was also required in connection with the State Planning Commission's endorsement of the Sussex County Strategic Growth Plan (SGP); and

**WHEREAS,** the Highlands Council has had a copy of the adopted and endorsed SGP for the past two and one half years, during which time the Council developed the RMP and a myriad of proposed amendments and rules for consideration and potential adoption by counties and municipalities; and

**WHEREAS,** the conditions of Plan Endorsement remain in effect for the County of Sussex as does the County's intent to achieve conformance with the RMP; and

**WHEREAS,** the County is mindful of the substantial efforts undertaken by the staff of the Highlands Council to prepare the RMP and proposed model plan amendments and rule amendments; and
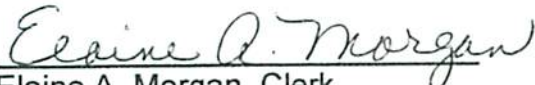
**WHEREAS,** notwithstanding the prior understanding, much of the information offered by the Highlands Council for consideration by the County appears to be outside the County's statutory jurisdiction or is a burdensome unfunded mandate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the County of Sussex will continue to review the various draft model documents offered by the Highlands Council; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the County stands ready to react to comments from the Highlands Council, or its staff, relative to specific issues the Council may have with the endorsed SGP; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this Resolution be forwarded to Eileen Swan, Executive Director, New Jersey Highlands Council, 100 North Road, Chester, NJ 07930; the mayors of: Byram Township, 10 Mansfield Drive, Stanhope, NJ 07874; Green Township, P.O. Box 65, 150 Kennedy Road, Tranquility, NJ 07879; Hardyston Township, 149 Wheatsworth Road, Hardyston, NJ 07419; Sparta Township, 65 Main Street, Sparta, NJ 07871; Vernon Township, 21 Church Street, Vernon, NJ 07462; Franklin Borough, 46 Main Street, Franklin, NJ 07416; Hamburg Borough, 16 Wallkill Avenue, Hamburg, NJ 07419; Hopatcong Borough, 111 River Styx Road, Hopatcong, NJ 07843; Ogdensburg Borough, 14 Highland Avenue, Ogdensburg, NJ 07439; and Stanhope Borough, 77 Main Street, Stanhope, NJ 07874; the Boards of Chosen Freeholders of: Bergen County, One Bergen County Plaza, 4th Floor, Hackensack, NJ 07601; Hunterdon County, Route 12 County Complex, Bldg. #1, P.O. Box 2900, Flemington, NJ 08822-2900; Morris County, P.O. Box 900, Morristown, NJ 07963-0900; Passaic County, Totowa Business Center, 930 Riverview Drive, Suite 250, Totowa, NJ 07512; Somerset County, 20 Grove Street, P.O. Box 3000, Somerville, NJ 08876; Warren County, Administration Building, 165 County Road 519 South, Belvidere, NJ 07823-1949; Hon. Steven V. Oroho, District 24, NJ State Senator, 115 Demarest Road, Suite 2B, Sparta, NJ 07871; Hon. Allison Littell McHose, District 24, NJ State Assemblywoman, 115 Demarest Road, Suite 2B, Sparta, NJ 07871; Hon. Gary G. Chiusano, District 24, NJ State Assemblyman, 115 Demarest Road, Suite 2B, Sparta, NJ 07871; and the Division of Planning.

Certified as a true copy of the
Resolution adopted by the
Board of Chosen Freeholders
on the 16th day of December, 2009.

*Elaine A. Morgan*

Elaine A. Morgan, Clerk
Board of Chosen Freeholders
County of Sussex

| RECORD OF VOTE | | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| FREEHOLDER | AYE | NAY | N.V. | ABS | MOVE | SEC |
| Crabb | ✔ | | | | | |
| Parrott | ✔ | | | | | ✔ |
| Vetrano | ✔ | | | | | |
| Wirths | ✔ | | | | ✔ | |
| Zellman | ✔ | | | | | |

N.V. - Not Voting     SEC - Resolution Seconded
MOVE - Resolution Moved     ABS - Absent