

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-320

RESOLUTION ENDORSING AND SUPPORTING CUMBERLAND COUNTY'S APPLICATION FOR A NJDEP GREEN ACRES URBAN AID GRANT FOR ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 6503/LOT 35 AND BLOCK 7304/LOT 35.1 IN THE CITY OF VINELAND FOR PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Conservation Foundation was unsuccessful in securing a grant from the USDA Forest Service Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program for the acquisition of 602 acres of land known as Block 6503/Lot 35 and Block 7304/Lot 35.1, which was supported by the City of Vineland; and

WHEREAS, the property is adjacent to preserved farmland and lands held by the City of Vineland, and nearby to preserved lands held by the State of New Jersey and the Nature Conservancy, which create a regional network of open spaces to preserve the ecologically unique Manantico and Manumuskin Watersheds; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the property is located in the river protection zone of the Maurice River National Scenic and Recreational River, a designated waterway of the US National Park Service Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers Program; and

WHEREAS, preservation of the property is in line with the visions, goals, zoning and standards of the Vineland City Master Plan, Land Use Code and Zoning Regulations, the Cumberland County Open Space and Recreation Master Plan as well as other natural and community resource planning and protection efforts; and

WHEREAS, preservation of the property will protect water quality, enhance wildlife habitat, preserve the City's open space landscape and promote long-term community sustainability and efficiency of government services and uses such as hiking, hunting and other outside recreational activities; and

WHEREAS, Cumberland County intends to partner with the New Jersey Conservation Foundation and other agencies and organizations, including the William Penn Foundation and the Open Space Institute, to fund acquisition of the property; and

WHEREAS, the Open Space and Conservation goals of Vineland City include the protection of public open space, creation of recreational activities and acquisitions which protect sensitive environmental resources including stream corridors, forests and native vegetation, while providing for outside recreational activities and to support and partner with State and non-profit conservation programs;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Vineland that City Council endorses and supports Cumberland County's application for a NJDEP Green Acres Urban Aid grant for the acquisition of Block 6503/Lot 35 and Block 7304/Lot 35.1 in the City of Vineland for preservation and open space purposes.

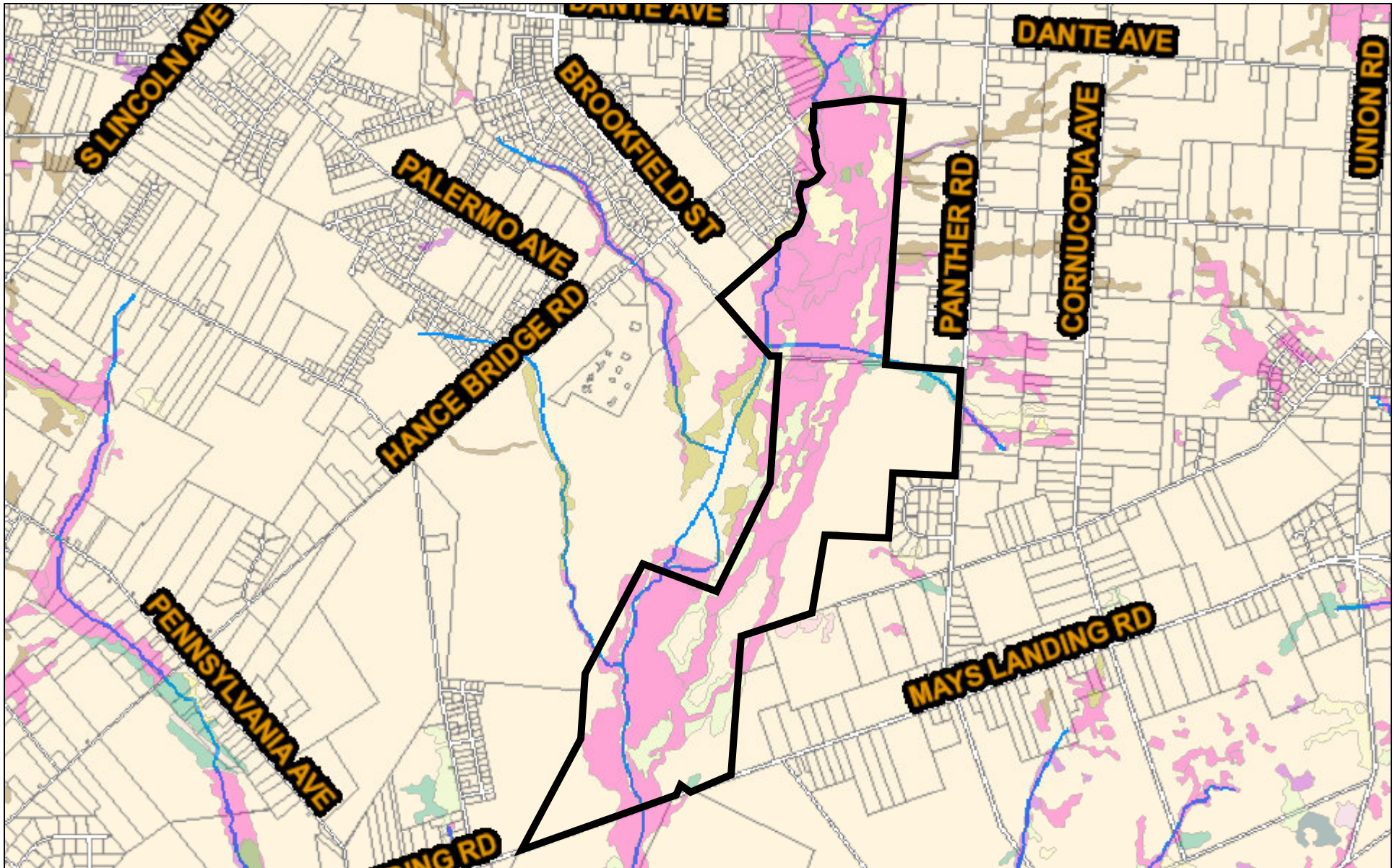
Adopted:

President of Council

ATTEST:

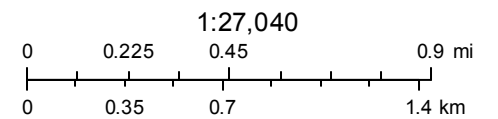
City Clerk

PHELAN PROPERTY



January 21, 2016

Street Names (Label)



Reid Wanda

From: Elliott-Shaw, Cathy <Cathy.Elliott-Shaw@dep.nj.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2016 10:18 AM
To: Hicks Kathie
Cc: Matt Pisarski (mattpi@co.cumberland.nj.us); Wald-Wittkop, Courtney; Stern, Lisa; Seyboldt, Susan
Subject: RE: Urban Aid question

Good Morning Kathie,

As follow up to our telephone conversation, this will confirm that an application submitted by Cumberland County to acquire property located in Vineland will not limit Vineland City's ability to apply for Green Acres funding.

I have copied Courtney Wald-Wittkop, Team Leader for the Green Acres Southern Team. Please feel free to reach out to Courtney or me if additional information is needed.

Regards,
Cathy

From: Hicks Kathie [mailto:khicks@vinelandcity.org]
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2016 2:06 PM
To: Elliott-Shaw, Cathy
Cc: Matt Pisarski (mattpi@co.cumberland.nj.us)
Subject: RE: Urban Aid question

Cathy,

Matt has asked for an endorsement from Vineland to apply for a grant to match the County's open space funding for the purchase of the Phelan property. Before City Council will consider his request, Council President Anthony Fanucci wants to know if this would impact Vineland at all. I left you voice mail, but getting a written response via e-mail is probably better. Could you provide a bit of clarification regarding the statement concerning a single award in a given funding round? If Cumberland County were to apply for a grant for the acquisition of the Phelan property in Vineland, would this impact Vineland's independent application for Green Acres funding for our parks?

Your guidance is most appreciated.

Kathie

Kathleen M. Hicks, Supervising Planner
Vineland Planning Division
640 E. Wood St.
P.O. Box 1508
Vineland, NJ 08362-1508

From: Elliott-Shaw, Cathy [mailto:Cathy.Elliott-Shaw@dep.nj.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 3:31 PM
To: mattpi@co.cumberland.nj.us

Cc: Hicks Kathie <khicks@vinelandcity.org>; fran@njconservation.org; Stern, Lisa <Lisa.Stern@dep.nj.gov>

Subject: FW: Urban Aid question

Good afternoon Matt,

It was nice speaking with you this afternoon about the acquisition of a property located in Vineland City. Please find below a brief summary of the details of our conversation.

Funding for Urban Aid municipalities is provided through our Local Assistance Program. Although the application process is the same as for other municipalities, Urban Aid municipalities are eligible for 75% grant funding for acquisition projects. Cumberland County and/or Vineland City are both eligible to apply for this funding to acquire property located in Vineland City. However, the parties should be aware that typically each applicant can receive only one Green Acres award in a given funding round, and the County and/or the City may have other funding needs.

Unfortunately we don't know when our next funding round will be scheduled. In the meantime, the County and/or the City can request an at-risk letter, which would allow the parties to move forward with the acquisition, and remain eligible for funding as a reimbursement, should funding be approved in the future. If the parties would like to pursue this, they should be sure to inform and work closely with the Green Acres project manager, as the transaction must comply with all Green Acres requirements to ensure eligibility.

I have copied Lisa Stern, as you mentioned that NJ Conservation Foundation is taking the lead on this acquisition, and appraisals may be underway.

I hope this helps. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 609-341-2053.

Regards,

Cathy

Cathy Elliott-Shaw
NJDEP, Green Acres Program
Mail Code 501-01
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625
Telephone: 609-341-2053
Please note new email address: cathy.elliott-shaw@dep.nj.gov

From: Matt Pisarski [<mailto:MATTPI@co.cumberland.nj.us>]
Sent: Friday, May 06, 2016 4:11 PM
To: Seyboldt, Susan
Cc: khicks@vinelandcity.org; Fran Rapa (fran@njconservation.org)
Subject: Urban Aid question

Hi Susan:

Now that Sunset Lake is closed (YAY!) I am starting to look at what may be next for Cumberland County. We have a project in the City of Vineland referred to as the Phelan-Murray property (aerial attached). It is about 600 acres and N.J. Conservation Foundation is spearheading this one. I understand that there is a source of funding at DEP referred to as Urban Aid funding and that Vineland is one of the eligible communities for this funding. I am unfamiliar with the source

– is it separate from the Green Acres funding the County would apply for? Do you think it would be a good source for Vineland to look into as a municipal contribution to the potential transaction? I have copied Kathy Hicks herein, who is the Planning Director for City of Vineland. I am also attaching a resolution from City Council, which shows municipal support for this acquisition. We are just starting to think about a funding plan for this one, and thought this Urban Aid funding might be a great resource.

Thanks,
Matt

Matthew E. Pisarski, AICP, PP

Assistant Planning Director

County of Cumberland

164 W. Broad Street

Bridgeton, NJ 08302

T: (856) 453-2175

F: (856) 453-9138

E: mattpi@co.cumberland.nj.us

See a video about Cumberland County by clicking [here](#)!