

TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE
COUNTY OF CAPE MAY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION
606-11

Date: December 5, 2011

Subject: Requesting Cape May County Freeholders consider submitting a New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Programs Local Government Assistance Application for Land Acquisition and Park Development

Introduced By: Mayor DeLanzo

Seconded By: Committeemember Doughty

Vote-Aye: Committeemember Doughty, Mayor DeLanzo

NAY: Committeemember Lockwood

WHEREAS, Cape May County is eligible to receive up to \$900,000 for land acquisition and park development for the County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Program by applying for a matching grant offered through NJDEP Green Acres Program; and

WHEREAS, Green Acres matching grant funding can be used to acquire land for recreation and conservation purposes including ocean, bay and/or river waterfront, or a lake, pond, beach or stream that provides opportunity for physical and visual public access, swimming, water sports, fishing and/or boating; a natural area such as a wildlife preserve, forest and/or wetland that provides opportunity for conservation, nature observation, water quality and water supply protection, camping and/or hiking; an historic property; or land suitable for playgrounds, athletic fields, and other types of active and passive outdoor recreation facilities or opportunities; and

WHEREAS, Green Acres loan funding can be used for the development of land for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes, which must be accessible to the public; and

WHEREAS, nineteen other counties in the state regularly apply for and receive matching funds from the State Green Acres Program; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 1989, Cape May County voters approved by a two to one margin, a ballot question endorsing the establishment of a trust fund to preserve open space and agricultural lands; and

WHEREAS, the Trust is funded by a county property tax of one cent per \$100 of assessed valuation and raised \$5.5 million toward land preservation last year; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 Cape May County Open Space and Recreation Plan recognizes that open space is of special importance to the County's future; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 Cape May County Open Space and Recreation Plan recognizes that the County has an open space deficit of 4,001 acres and is in need of additional public recreational land and open space and therefore, recommends the maintenance and expansion of the existing County Park System, and the continuation of the County's Open Space Preservation Program in conjunction and coordination with other public and private open space preservation programs; and

WHEREAS, the County Comprehensive Plan states that the County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Program, in conjunction with State Green Acres and other programs and land trust, is expected to reduce the County open space deficit; and

WHEREAS, two goals of the Open Space and Recreational Plan are to encourage coordinated open space and recreational; planning, acquisition and development initiatives of state, county, and local governments and conservation organizations; and to effectively use funds from the Cape May County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Program, and other sources of funding that may become available; and

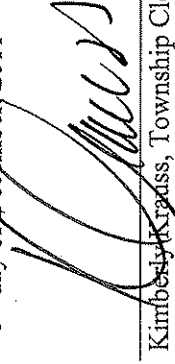
WHEREAS, ecotourism in Cape May County generates over \$522 million annually; and

WHEREAS, over \$260 million was approved through the last funding round of the "2009" Green Acres Bond Act" for local government open space acquisition and park development projects; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee, of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, at the request of the Middle Township Environmental Commission, we hereby request the Cape May County Freeholders to consider submitting an NJDEP Green Acres Program Local Government Assistance Application for Land Acquisition and Park Development.

I, Kimberly Krauss, Township Clerk of the Township of Middle, Cape May County, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a meeting of said Middle Township Committee, held on December 5, 2011 and said Resolution was adopted by not less than a two-thirds vote of the members of the Township Committee.

Witness my hand and seal of
the Township of Middle, this
5th day of December, 2011



Kimberly Krauss, Township Clerk