
Department of Housing, Economic Development & Commerce
Division of City Planning



Memorandum

DATE: June 7, 2011

TO: See Distribution List

FROM: Mayor and Council
Division of City Planning

SUBJECT: Transfer of Resolutions and Ordinance in Support of Sustainable Jersey Certification

As you know, Jersey City is in many ways, ahead of the curve. In April 2007, a USA Today cover story recognized Jersey City as, “ A Model For The Urban Future,” further describing the City’s comeback as a template for how to handle booming population. Jersey City’s bid for Sustainable Jersey Silver Certification continues that commitment toward smart growth practices.

For your reference, we have enclosed a Zoning Ordinance Amendment and four (4) Resolutions recently passed by the City council.

- 1. ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO THE LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE ZONING**
- 2. RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY PLEDGING SUPPORT AND IMPLIMENTATION OF SUSTAINABLE LAND USE PRACTICES**
- 3. RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY FOR SUPPORT OF NEW JERSEY’S WILDLIFE ACTION PLAN**
- 4. RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY FOR SUPPORT OF COMPANION ANIMAL MANAGENMENT PLAN**
- 5. RESOLUTION OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JERSEY CITY TO ESTABLISH A COMPLETE STREETS POLICY**

As you know, Jersey City has many projects and programs in place that follow the guidelines of the Sustainable Jersey Initiative, The City's application for certification requires that a formal statement supporting these initiatives and a pledge to continue to advance them in the future be adopted by the City Council. The adoption of the above ordinance and resolutions formalizes Jersey City's support for these policies and programs. They are being shared with you because play a key professional role in assuring that they are implemented in day to day practice.

Sustainable Jersey Certification shows a commitment to promote policies that embody a more sustainable approach; of healthy lifestyles, reduced consumption, environmental stewardship, and education. More and more people of Jersey City are growing vegetables and buying local produce in farmers markets. They are choosing to recycle and reduce consumption. The City seeks to support these trends and make these more sustainable options readily available to them throughout the community. We seek to empower people with City sponsored and community based environmental initiatives and to give them the tools they need to make informed choices.

The Green Committee is spearheading this effort along with the leadership of the Mayor's office and City Planning Division. With this strong base, we hope to achieve a Silver certification and become a leader in sustainable practices for all urban centers of the State of New Jersey.



The Sustainable Jersey Certification is a prestigious designation for local governments in New Jersey that want to go green, save money, and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term. This is exactly in line with the goals and objectives of the Jersey City Initiative, ***Making Jersey City Greener, 365 Days a Year*** and the many projects and partnerships that have evolved and continue to grow because of this effort. ***Until recently, Green was seen as an alternative. Now, it is synonymous with what it means to design and live responsibly.***

The Sustainable Land Use Practices Resolution is a pledges to promote the principles of smart growth, implement green building design, require the construction of a wide range of housing choices and densities, implement the creation of walkable neighborhoods, encourage the expansion and use of mass transit and sustainable transportation choices, and seek the preservation and protection of open space that can be used for ecological, recreational and agricultural purposes. Examples of how the City is fulfilling these desirable goals are provided in the resolution.

The Resolution Supporting the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan is a pledge by the City to support for the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan and its Conservation Goals and Strategies. Although, many people may not initially see the need for this in our dense, urban City, they may not realize that Jersey City contains many acres of vacant land preserved for open space. Three of our largest areas are: wetlands of the Hackensack Meadowlands District portion of Jersey City, Lincoln Park and the new Hackensack Riverfront Park acquisition and wetland restoration of the Marion Greenway Park; and the 280 Acre Liberty State Park.

The Resolution Supporting Companion Animal Management is to insure the City continues to promote and enforce acceptable methods of companion animal management. An action that also supports the goals and objectives of the overall NJ Wildlife Action Plan referenced above. Respecting the health of companion animals and insuring that they do not pose a threat to other natural open space areas as well.

Jersey City is committed toward creating streets corridors and intersections that safely accommodate all users of all abilities.

Sustainable Zoning changes that are proposed acknowledge that we have a growing urban agricultural sector within the City. We are therefore, adding definitions and guidelines for Community Gardening, Commercial agriculture, green roofs and roof-top gardens.

(Distribution List)

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