

**COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
RESOLUTION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

WHEREAS, the residents of Hunterdon County have overwhelmingly approved three County Ballot Questions (November 1999, 2004 and 2008) authorizing the Board of Chosen Freeholders to implement and continue an Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Plan was adopted on March 15, 2016, to provide the Board of Chosen Freeholders with policy guidance, including administrative and cost-effective ways to advance Hunterdon County's open space, farmland and historic preservation goals and objectives; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Chosen Freeholders have authorized an annual levy not to exceed three cents (\$0.03) per one hundred dollars (\$100) of the total County equalized real property value for each County Question; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Chosen Freeholders have established grant programs to facilitate farmland, open space and historic preservation through the County's Municipal and Nonprofit partners who support and seek to further preservation objectives within Hunterdon County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Chosen Freeholders set the open space tax levy and amount to be raised each year and may, at their discretion, determine the appropriate amount or rate to be distributed and allocated for each purpose permitted by the funding's respective ballot question.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders hereby amends the annual open space funding grant program apportionment as follows:

- 30% Farmland Preservation
- 30% Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant Program
- 25% County Open Space
- 10% Municipal Grant Program
- 5% County Historic Preservation and Historic Preservation Grant Program

All funds which are left unspent, unallocated or unencumbered by the Board of Chosen Freeholders at the end of each calendar year or in accordance with the time frames set forth for spending by County Policy 2008-02 as well as those funds which remain in the fund from prior years, are automatically held in the Open Space Trust Fund account to be utilized, at the discretion of the Board of Chosen Freeholders for all the purposes permitted by the respective Ballot questions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that initial rollover allocations be established in the amount of \$1,500,000.00 for the Farmland Preservation Program, \$1,500,000.00 for the Open Space Acquisition Assistance Grant Program, and \$200,000.00 for the Historic Preservation Grant Program to be added to the existing annual allocation starting in 2019. Future rollover allocations are to be addressed per Board of Chosen Freeholder Policy #2008-02; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an attested copy of this resolution, as adopted, shall be sent to all Municipal Mayors and Clerks of Hunterdon County, Nonprofit organizations involved in land preservation in Hunterdon County and the County Cultural and Heritage Commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a public hearing will be held by the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders on Tuesday, December 18, 2018, at 5:30 p.m., at the Hunterdon County Historic Court House, Second Floor, Main Street, Flemington, New Jersey.