

CHAPTER 494

AN ACT appropriating \$80,539,578 from constitutionally dedicated corporation business tax revenues and various Green Acres funds to assist local government units to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. As used in this act:

“Constitutionally dedicated corporation business tax revenues” means corporation business tax revenues dedicated pursuant to Article VIII, Section II, paragraph 6 of the State Constitution in the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” for the acquisition or development of lands by local government units for recreation and conservation purposes in accordance with the provisions of P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-43 et seq.).

“Densely or highly populated municipality” means a municipality with a population density of at least 5,000 persons per square mile, or a population of at least 35,000 persons, according to the latest federal decennial census.

“Densely populated county” means a county with a population density of at least 5,000 persons per square mile according to the latest federal decennial census.

“Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund” means the fund established pursuant to section 19 of P.L.1999, c.152 (C.13:8C-19).

“Green Acres bond act” means P.L.2009, c.117, P.L.2007, c.119, P.L.1995, c.204, P.L.1992, c.88, P.L.1989, c.183, P.L.1987, c.265, and P.L.1983, c.354.

“Highly populated county” means a county with a population density of at least 1,000 persons per square mile according to the latest federal decennial census.

“Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” means the fund established pursuant to section 6 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-48).

“Stewardship activity” means the same as the term is defined in section 3 of the “Preserve New Jersey Act,” P.L.2016, c.12 (C.13:8C-45).

2. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the following sums for the purpose of providing grants or loans, or both, to assist local government units to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to section 4 of this act and for the purpose of providing grants or loans, or both, to assist local government units to develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes pursuant to section 5 of this act:

a. \$76,802,956 from constitutionally dedicated corporation business tax revenues. Of the amount appropriated pursuant to this subsection, the sum of \$2,170,956 is available due to interest earnings on the constitutionally dedicated corporation business tax revenues; and

b. \$3,736,622 from the “Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund” and any Green Acres fund established pursuant to a Green Acres bond act, made available due to loan repayments and interest earnings.

3. There is appropriated from the General Fund to the “Preserve New Jersey Green Acres Fund” the sum of \$76,802,956 to implement the provisions of this act.

4. a. The following planning incentive acquisition projects to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
Oakland Boro	Bergen	Boro of Oakland Open Space & Recreation Plan	\$500,000
River Vale Twp	Bergen	Watershed Property Acquisition	500,000
Burlington County	Burlington	Planning Incentive	1,000,000
Bordentown Twp	Burlington	Bordentown Twp Open Space Acq	500,000
Eastampton Twp	Burlington	Planning Incentive	111,500
Evesham Twp	Burlington	Planning Incentive	750,000
Medford Twp	Burlington	Open Space Incentive	500,000
Moorestown Twp	Burlington	Open Space Preservation Plan	500,000
Mount Laurel Twp	Burlington	Mt Laurel Acquisition Plan	750,000
Gibbsboro Boro	Camden	Greenway Acquisition	400,000
Caldwell Boro	Essex	Caldwell OSRP Update	250,000
Livingston Twp	Essex	Livingston Twp Open Space Acquisition	500,000
Verona Twp	Essex	Verona Open Space Acquisition	500,000
Gloucester County	Gloucester	Open Space Plan	1,000,000
Bethlehem Twp	Hunterdon	Open Space Plan Implementation	500,000
Delaware Twp	Hunterdon	Open Space Acquisition	500,000
Kingwood Twp	Hunterdon	Open Space Plan	500,000
Raritan Twp	Hunterdon	Land Acquisition Plan	500,000
Readington Twp	Hunterdon	Greenway Incentive Plan	500,000
Union Twp	Hunterdon	Union Twp Open Space Plan	500,000
Mercer County	Mercer	Mercer County Planning Incentive	1,250,000
Hamilton Twp	Mercer	Hamilton Township Open Space Acquisition	750,000
Lawrence Twp	Mercer	Open Space Plan Acquisition	500,000
Pennington Boro	Mercer	Pennington Greenbelt Planning Incentive	375,000
Princeton Boro	Mercer	Princeton Open Space Acquisition	500,000
Robbinsville Twp	Mercer	Green Links Program	500,000
West Windsor Twp	Mercer	West Windsor Planning Incentive	500,000
Middlesex County	Middlesex	Middlesex County Open Space Acquisition	1,250,000
North Brunswick Twp	Middlesex	North Brunswick Plan	750,000
South Brunswick Twp	Middlesex	Open Space Acquisition	750,000
Monmouth County	Monmouth	Planning Incentive Acquisition	1,250,000
Holmdel Twp	Monmouth	Holmdel Planning Incentive Acquisition	500,000
Howell Twp	Monmouth	Planning Incentive 2	750,000
Millstone Twp	Monmouth	Millstone Planning Incentive- Project Evergreen	500,000
Madison Boro	Morris	Madison Boro Open Space Acquisition	500,000
Ocean County	Ocean	Planning Incentive Grant	1,000,000
Manchester Twp	Ocean	Planning Incentive	750,000
Point Pleasant Beach Boro	Ocean	Open Space & Recreation Acquisition	500,000
Passaic County	Passaic	Open Space Plan Acquisitions	1,250,000
Somerset County	Somerset	County Open Space Acquisition	1,000,000
Bernardsville Boro	Somerset	Bernardsville Boro Open Space & Recreation Land Acquisition	500,000
Montgomery Twp	Somerset	Open Space Acquisition 5	500,000
Peapack - Gladstone Boro	Somerset	Open Space Acquisition	500,000
Frankford Twp	Sussex	Frankford Twp Planning Incentive	462,500

Union County	Union	Open Space & Recreation Plan	1,500,000
TOTAL			\$29,349,000

b. The following projects to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes located in municipalities eligible to receive State aid pursuant to P.L.1978, c.14 (C.52:27D-178 et seq.), either as of June 30, 2021 or the effective date of this act, are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
Bloomfield Twp	Essex	Third River Park and Preserve	\$1,000,000
Union City	Hudson	4100 Palisade Ave Acq	1,000,000
Rahway City	Union	East Cherry Street Park Acq	179,000
TOTAL			\$2,179,000

c. The following standard acquisition projects to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
East Rutherford Boro	Bergen	Richard Outwater House Acq	\$500,000
Wood-Ridge Boro	Bergen	Wood-Ridge Recreation Complex Acq	750,000
Edison Twp	Middlesex	Glendale Park Acq	750,000
Fair Haven Boro	Monmouth	Spagnuolo Acq	500,000
Lincoln Park Boro	Morris	Lincoln Park Floodplain Acq	213,518
Mountainside Boro	Union	Our Lady of Lourdes Fields	478,000
TOTAL			\$3,191,518

d. The following site-specific incentive acquisition projects to acquire lands for recreation and conservation purposes are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
Lambertville City	Hunterdon	Closson Property Acq	\$500,000
Parsippany-Troy Hills Twp	Morris	Kosut Tract Acq	400,000
Hardwick Twp	Warren	White Lake Natural Resource Area Addition	265,000
TOTAL			\$1,165,000
GRAND TOTAL			\$35,884,518

5. a. The following projects to develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, located in municipalities eligible to receive State aid pursuant to P.L.1978, c.14 (C.52:27D-178 et seq.) either as of June 30, 2021 or the effective date of this act, or sponsored by densely populated counties, are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
Atlantic City	Atlantic	Gardner's Basin Improvements	\$596,450

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Pleasantville City	Atlantic	Bayview Avenue	633,333
Cliffside Park Boro	Bergen	Waterfront Park	
Garfield City	Bergen	Gorge Road Park	187,500
Hackensack City	Bergen	Improvements	
Burlington County	Burlington	Columbus Park	1,200,000
Pemberton Twp	Burlington	Improvements	
Vineland City	Cumberland	Columbus & Carver	1,200,000
Essex County	Essex	Park Improvements	
Belleville Twp	Essex	Willingboro Lakes	1,000,000
Bloomfield Twp	Essex	Improvements Ph II	
East Orange City	Essex	Pemberton Sports	1,200,000
Newark City	Essex	Filed Lighting	
Orange City Twp	Essex	Romano Complex	1,200,000
Glassboro Boro	Gloucester	Improvements	
Bayonne City	Hudson	Multi-Park	1,519,525
Hoboken City	Hudson	Improvements 2021	
Hoboken City	Hudson	Fairway Park	601,954
Jersey City	Hudson	Improvements	
Kearny Town	Hudson	Clarks Pond South &	503,160
Kearny Town	Hudson	Vassar Field Improvements	
Weehawkin Twp	Hudson	Oval Parks Improvements	1,200,000
West New York Town	Hudson	Broadway Park	1,200,000
Trenton City	Mercer	Military Park	1,200,000
Carteret Boro	Middlesex	Improvements	
Old Bridge Twp	Middlesex	S. Delsea Dr. Sports	1,000,000
Perth Amboy City	Middlesex	Complex Turf Project	
Brick Twp	Ocean	DiDomenico Park & Pool	1,200,000
Brick Twp	Ocean	Cove Park	576,300
Passaic County	Passaic	Waterfront Improvements	
Passaic City	Passaic	Southwest Park	1,200,000
Paterson City	Passaic	Development	
Hillside Twp	Union	Leonard Gordon Park	1,200,000
Plainfield City	Union	Harvey Field Improvement	1,200,000
Roselle Boro	Union	Passaic River	1,200,000
TOTAL		Shoreline & Dock	
		Waterfront Multi-Use	1,200,000
		Pavilion II	
		Washington Park	537,964
		Improvement	
		Amtico Square	1,200,000
		Skatepark Complex	
		Arthur Kill River	1,200,000
		Walk North	
		Cottrell Farm	1,200,000
		Park Development	
		Veteran Memorial Park	1,200,000
		Improvements	
		Mallard Point Park	712,500
		Redevelopment	
		Multi-Park	1,102,536
		Improvements 2	
		Dundee Island Park	1,800,000
		Phase II	
		Multi-Park Improvements	1,200,000
		2021	
		Vista Park Development	221,558
		Project	
		Athletic Courts	304,550
		Resurfacing Project	
		Rushmore Ave. Rec.	1,200,000
		Complex – Phase II	
		Home Terrace Park	1,200,000
		Improvement	
			\$35,297,330

b. The following projects to develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, located in densely or highly populated municipalities or sponsored by highly populated counties, are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
Egg Harbor Twp	Atlantic	Tony Canale Park Expansion	\$900,000
Bergen County	Bergen	Riverside County Park South	1,500,000
Fairview Boro	Bergen	Bergen Boulevard Park	90,000
North Arlington Boro	Bergen	Fisher Field Improvements	117,683
Wallington Boro	Bergen	Hathaway Park Improvements	219,384
Ewing Twp	Mercer	ESCC Pool Area Improvements	524,390
Freehold Boro	Monmouth	Liberty Park Improvements	127,243
Highlands Boro	Monmouth	Snug Harbor Skate Park	599,013
Middletown Twp	Monmouth	Multi-Park Improvements	737,750
Seaside Heights Boro	Ocean	North Bayfront Boat Ramp	286,500
Bound Brook Boro	Somerset	Billian Legion Park Development	70,325
TOTAL			\$5,172,288

c. The following standard park development projects are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
Hamilton Twp	Atlantic	Leipe Recreation Complex Expansion	\$600,000
Hazlet Twp	Monmouth	North Hazlet Community Park	600,000
Carneys Point Twp	Salem	Recreation Complex Improvements	600,000
TOTAL			\$1,800,000

d. The following projects for stewardship activities are eligible for funding with the moneys appropriated pursuant to section 2 of this act:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT	COUNTY	PROJECT	APPROVED AMOUNT
Evesham Twp	Burlington	Black Run Preserve Stewardship	\$50,000
Cumberland County	Cumberland	Trail Development on Mid-County Park	486,060
Belleville Twp	Essex	Fairway Park River Bank Walkway	267,012
Washington Twp	Gloucester	Washington Lake Park – Phase II	315,000
Westville Boro	Gloucester	Thomas West Park Pond Improvements	65,540
Mercer County	Mercer	Watson’s Creek Living Shoreline	150,000
Middletown Twp	Monmouth	Poricy Park Watershed Improvements	143,500
Millstone Twp	Monmouth	Barnegat Bay Preserve	108,330
Passaic County	Passaic	Lambert Castle Landscape Restoration	500,000
Bound Brook Boro	Somerset	North Park Project	300,000
TOTAL			\$2,385,442
GRAND TOTAL			\$44,655,060

6. a. Any transfer of funds, or change in project sponsor, site, or type, listed in section 4 or 5 of this act shall require the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

b. To the extent that moneys remain available after the projects listed in section 4 or 5 of this act are offered funding pursuant thereto, any project of a local government unit that previously received funding appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes, or that receives funding approved pursuant to this act, shall be eligible to receive additional funding, as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor.

7. a. There is reappropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection the unexpended balances, due to project withdrawals, cancellations, or cost savings, of the amounts appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund to assist local government units to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, for the purposes of providing:

(1) grants or loans, or both, to assist local government units to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, for projects approved as eligible for such funding pursuant to this act; and

(2) additional funding, as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection, to any project of a local government unit that previously received funding appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes or that receives funding approved pursuant to this act, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor. Any such additional funding provided from a Green Acres bond act may include administrative costs.

b. There is appropriated to the Department of Environmental Protection such sums as may be, or may become, available on or before June 30, 2022, due to interest earnings or loan repayments in any "Green Trust Fund" established pursuant to a Green Acres bond act or in the "Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund," for the purpose of providing:

(1) grants or loans, or both, to assist local government units to acquire or develop lands for recreation and conservation purposes, for projects approved as eligible for such funding pursuant to this act; and

(2) additional funding, as determined by the Department of Environmental Protection, to any project of a local government unit that previously received funding appropriated or reappropriated from any Green Acres bond act, any annual appropriations act, or the Garden State Green Acres Preservation Trust Fund for recreation and conservation purposes or that receives funding approved pursuant to this act, subject to the approval of the Joint Budget Oversight Committee or its successor. Any such additional funding provided from a Green Acres bond act may include administrative costs.

8. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 18, 2022.