ASSEMBLY, No. 2436

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

220th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 14, 2022

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman PARKER SPACE

District 24 (Morris, Sussex and Warren)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Wirths, Umba, Assemblywoman Sawyer and Assemblyman Sauickie

SYNOPSIS

Excludes farmland and certain other lands from definitions of "redevelopment area" and "rehabilitation area" in "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/12/2023)

AN ACT concerning the designation of farmland and certain other land as a redevelopment area or rehabilitation area under the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," and amending P.L.1992, c.79.

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

- 1. Section 3 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-3) is amended to read as follows:
 - 3. As used in [this act] P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.):

"Bonds" means any bonds, notes, interim certificates, debentures, or other obligations issued by a municipality, county, redevelopment entity, or housing authority pursuant to P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 [et al.] et seq.).

"Comparable, affordable replacement housing" means newly-constructed or substantially rehabilitated housing to be offered to a household being displaced as a result of a redevelopment project, that is affordable to that household based on its income under the guidelines established by the Council on Affordable Housing in the Department of Community Affairs for maximum affordable sales prices or maximum fair market rents, and that is comparable to the household's dwelling in the redevelopment area with respect to the size and amenities of the dwelling unit, the quality of the neighborhood, and the level of public services and facilities offered by the municipality in which the redevelopment area is located.

"Development" means the division of a parcel of land into two or more parcels, the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any building or other structure, or of any mining, excavation, or landfill, and any use or change in the use of any building or other structure, or land or extension of use of land, for which permission may be required pursuant to the "Municipal Land Use Law," P.L.1975, c.291 (C.40:55D-1 et seq.).

"Electric vehicle charging station" means an electric component assembly or cluster of component assemblies designed specifically to charge batteries within electric vehicles by permitting the transfer of electric energy to a battery or other storage device in an electric vehicle.

"Governing body" means the body exercising general legislative powers in a county or municipality according to the terms and procedural requirements set forth in the form of government adopted by the county or municipality.

"Housing authority" means a housing authority created or

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

1 continued pursuant to [this act] P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.).

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"Housing project" means a project, or distinct portion of a project, which is designed and intended to provide decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings, apartments, or other living accommodations for persons of low and moderate income; such work or undertaking may include buildings, land, equipment, facilities, and other real or necessary, convenient, or desirable personal property for appurtenances, streets, sewers, water service, parks, gardening, preparation, administrative, community, recreational, educational, welfare, or other purposes. The term "housing project" also may be applied to the planning of the buildings and improvements, the acquisition of property, the demolition of existing structures, the construction, reconstruction, alteration, and repair of the improvements and all other work in connection therewith.

"Parking authority" means a public corporation created pursuant to the "Parking Authority Law," P.L.1948, c.198 (C.40:11A-1 et seq.), and authorized to exercise redevelopment powers within the municipality.

"Persons of low and moderate income" means persons or families who are, in the case of State assisted projects or programs, so defined by the Council on Affordable Housing in the Department of Community Affairs, or in the case of federally assisted projects or programs, defined as of "low and very low income" by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

"Public body" means the State or any county, municipality, school district, authority, or other political subdivision of the State.

"Public electric vehicle charging station" means an electric vehicle charging station located at a publicly available parking space.

"Public housing" means any housing for persons of low and moderate income owned by a municipality, county, the State, or the federal government, or any agency or instrumentality thereof.

"Public hydrogen fueling station" means publicly available equipment to store and dispense hydrogen fuel to vehicles according to industry codes and standards.

"Publicly assisted housing" means privately owned housing which receives public assistance or subsidy, which may be grants or loans for construction, reconstruction, conservation, or rehabilitation of the housing, or receives operational or maintenance subsidies either directly or through rental subsidies to tenants, from a federal, State, or local government agency or instrumentality.

"Publicly available parking space" means a parking space that is available to, and accessible by, the public and may include on-street parking spaces and parking spaces in surface lots or parking garages, but shall not include: a parking space that is part of, or associated with, a private residence; or a parking space that is

reserved for the exclusive use of an individual driver or vehicle or for a group of drivers or vehicles, such as employees, tenants, visitors, residents of a common interest development, or residents of an adjacent building.

 "Real property" means all lands, including improvements and fixtures thereon, and property of any nature appurtenant thereto or used in connection therewith, and every estate, interest and right, legal or equitable, therein, including terms for years and liens by way of judgment, mortgage, or otherwise, and indebtedness secured by such liens.

"Redeveloper" means any person, firm, corporation, or public body that shall enter into or propose to enter into a contract with a municipality or other redevelopment entity for the redevelopment or rehabilitation of an area in need of redevelopment, or an area in need of rehabilitation, or any part thereof, under the provisions of [this act] P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), or for any construction or other work forming part of a redevelopment or rehabilitation project.

"Redevelopment" means clearance, replanning, development, and redevelopment; the conservation and rehabilitation of any structure or improvement, the construction and provision for construction of residential, commercial, industrial, public, or other structures and the grant or dedication of spaces as may be appropriate or necessary in the interest of the general welfare for streets, parks, playgrounds, or other public purposes, including recreational and other facilities incidental or appurtenant thereto, in accordance with a redevelopment plan.

"Redevelopment agency" means a redevelopment agency created pursuant to subsection a. of section 11 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-11) or established heretofore pursuant to the "Redevelopment Agencies Law," P.L.1949, c.306 (C.40:55C-1 et al.), repealed by [this act] P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), which has been permitted in accordance with the provisions of [this act] P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.) to continue to exercise its redevelopment functions and powers.

"Redevelopment area" or "area in need of redevelopment" means an area determined to be in need of redevelopment pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and C.40A:12A-6) or determined heretofore to be a "blighted area" pursuant to P.L.1949, c.187 (C.40:55-21.1 et seq.) repealed by [this act] P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), both determinations as made pursuant to the authority of Article VIII, Section III, paragraph 1 of the Constitution. A redevelopment area may include lands, buildings, or improvements which of themselves are not detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare, but the inclusion of which is found necessary, with or without change in their condition, for the effective redevelopment of the area of which they are a part. A

- 1 "redevelopment area" or "area in need of redevelopment" shall not
- 2 <u>include (a) any land actively devoted to agricultural or horticultural</u>
- 3 <u>use that is valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the "Farmland</u>
- 4 Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.), (b) any land that has been valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the
- 5 <u>any land that has been valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the</u> 6 <u>"Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et</u>
- 7 seq.) in the 10 years prior to a determination pursuant to sections 5
- 8 and 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and C.40A:12A-6), or (c)
- 9 any real property that is not classified pursuant to the requirements
- of N.J.A.C.18:12-2.2 as Class 2 "residential property," Class 4A
- 11 "commercial property," Class 4B "industrial property," or Class 4C
- 12 "apartments" for property tax purposes, except when the site is
- 13 <u>subject to remediation and cleanup of environmentally hazardous</u>
- 14 <u>materials or contaminants in accordance with State or federal law.</u>

"Redevelopment entity" means a municipality or an entity authorized by the governing body of a municipality pursuant to subsection c. of section 4 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-4) to implement redevelopment plans and carry out redevelopment projects in an area in need of redevelopment, or in an area in need of rehabilitation, or in both.

"Redevelopment plan" means a plan adopted by the governing body of a municipality for the redevelopment or rehabilitation of all or any part of a redevelopment area, or an area in need of rehabilitation, which plan shall be sufficiently complete to indicate its relationship to definite municipal objectives as to appropriate land uses, public transportation and utilities, recreational, and municipal facilities, and other public improvements; and to indicate proposed land uses and building requirements in the redevelopment area or area in need of rehabilitation, or both.

"Redevelopment project" means any work or undertaking pursuant to a redevelopment plan; such undertaking may include any buildings, land, including demolition, clearance, or removal of buildings from land, equipment, facilities, or other real or personal properties which are necessary, convenient, or desirable appurtenances, such as but not limited to streets, sewers, utilities, parks, site preparation, landscaping, and administrative, community, health, recreational, educational, and welfare facilities, and zero-emission vehicle fueling and charging infrastructure.

"Rehabilitation" means an undertaking, by means of extensive repair, reconstruction, or renovation of existing structures, with or without the introduction of new construction or the enlargement of existing structures, in any area that has been determined to be in need of rehabilitation or redevelopment, to eliminate substandard structural or housing conditions and arrest the deterioration of that area.

"Rehabilitation area" or "area in need of rehabilitation" means any area determined to be in need of rehabilitation pursuant to section 14 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-14). "Rehabilitation area"

or "area in need of rehabilitation" shall not include (a) any land actively devoted to agricultural or horticultural use that is valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.), (b) any land that has been valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.) in the 10 years prior to a determination pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-5 and C.40A:12A-6), or (c) any real property that is not classified pursuant to the requirements of N.J.A.C.18:12-2.2 as Class 2 "residential property," Class 4A "commercial property," Class 4B "industrial property," or Class 4C "apartments" for property tax purposes, except when the site is subject to remediation and cleanup of environmentally hazardous materials or contaminants in accordance with State or federal law.

"Zero-emission vehicle" means a vehicle certified as a zero emission vehicle pursuant to the California Air Resources Board zero emission vehicle standards for the applicable model year, including but not limited to, battery electric-powered vehicles and hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

"Zero-emission vehicle fueling and charging infrastructure" means infrastructure to charge or fuel zero-emission vehicles, including but not limited to, public electric vehicle charging stations and public hydrogen fueling stations.

(cf: P.L.2021, c.168, s.1)

2. This act shall take effect immediately and apply to any redevelopment plan adopted by a governing body of a municipality after the effective date of this act.

STATEMENT

This bill amends the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law," P.L.1992, c.79 (C.40A:12A-1 et seq.), to specify that certain farmland and certain other lands cannot be included in a redevelopment area, an area in need of redevelopment, a rehabilitation area, or an area in need of rehabilitation under that law.

Specifically, this bill amends the definitions of "redevelopment area" and "rehabilitation area" used in the law to specifically exclude: (1) land actively devoted to agricultural or horticultural use that is valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964," P.L.1964, c.48 (C.54:4-23.1 et seq.); (2) land valued, assessed, and taxed pursuant to the "Farmland Assessment Act of 1964" in the 10 years prior to a determination pursuant to the "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law"; and (3) land that is not classified pursuant to the requirements of N.J.A.C.18:12-2.2 as Class 2 "residential property," Class 4A

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- "commercial property," Class 4B "industrial property," or Class 4C
- 2 "apartments" for property tax purposes.
- 3 The exclusions provided in the bill from the definitions of
- 4 "redevelopment area" and "rehabilitation area" would not apply to
- 5 lands subject to remediation and cleanup of environmentally
- 6 hazardous materials or contaminants in accordance with State or
- 7 federal law.