



**COUNTY OF BERGEN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

One Bergen County Plaza • 4<sup>th</sup> Floor. • Hackensack, N.J. 07601-7076  
Tel. (201) 336-6446 • Fax (201) 336-6449

**Dennis McNerney**  
*County Executive*

**Farouk Ahmad, P.E.**  
*Department Director*

July 12, 2010

Re: Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund

Dear Municipal Representative:

Funds for the 2010 funding round of the Bergen County Open Space, Recreation, Farmland & Historic Preservation Trust Fund are available for land acquisition, historic preservation and municipal park development projects. We are pleased to extend an invitation to all interested municipalities to apply for Trust Fund grants. Project requests and approvals will be made using these newly available funds, as well as supplemental funding from prior project cancellations and withdrawals.

The Department of Planning and Economic Development administers the Trust Fund program and has made available all application forms, and current rules & regulations, on the Trust Fund homepage website:

[www.co.bergen.nj.us/planning/os](http://www.co.bergen.nj.us/planning/os)

As you may know, the Trust Fund's Municipal Park Improvement & Land Acquisition Program has been managed by the Bergen County Division of Community Development. **Starting with the 2010 Trust Fund round, this program will now be administered by the Division of Open Space within this Department. While this administrative change has occurred, the same application and review procedures remain as it was under the Division of Community Development. The Historic Preservation Trust program will continue to be administered by the Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs.**

Since 1999, the Bergen County Trust Fund program has assisted municipalities and non-profit organizations in the acquisition of open space for recreational and conservation purposes, historic and farmland preservation, as well as the development of outdoor recreational facilities. The County of Bergen continues this commitment to preserve Bergen County's natural resources, improve parks and is proud to be able to continue the tradition of partnering with its municipalities and non-profit organizations to serve the people of our county.

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### **Important Deadlines**

- Application Deadline – Completed applications, including all required attachments, must be **received** by the Department of Planning and Economic Development or the Division of Cultural & Historic Affairs by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 8, 2010**. Please follow application instructions.
- Appraisal Reports – **For land acquisition projects**, an appraisal is to be conducted in accordance with the Trust Fund appraisal procedure policy statement and must be submitted to the Department of Planning and Economic Development by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 29, 2010**. The Post Appraisal Project Finance Sheet (page 19 of the application) – must be prepared **AFTER** your appraisal has been completed and submitted to the Department of Planning and Economic Development with your appraisal report(s) by **4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 29, 2010**.

### **Important Information About Appraisals and Funding Amounts for Open Space Land Acquisition**

The County of Bergen does not provide 100% of the acquisition cost of the open space property. The County limits its Trust Fund award grant, when combined with all other identified funding amounts and sources such that the total of all identified acquisition monies does not exceed your **appraised value**. See “Section 9: Trust Fund Award Limits” in *The Open Space Partnership of Bergen County: County Program Policy and Procedures Manual*, which can be found on the Department’s website.

### **Additional Information**

Questions on the application requirements can be directed to Robert Abbatomarco at (201) 336-6442 or by email at [RAbbatomarco@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:RAbbatomarco@co.bergen.nj.us). Questions on Historic Preservation applications can be directed to T. Robins Brown, at (201)336-7294 or by email at [RBrown@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:RBrown@co.bergen.nj.us). A copy of this letter can be found at the Department’s website.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Farouk Ahmad  
Director

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