

40 Years



**New Jersey
Meadowlands
Commission**

1969-2009

NJMC NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Brian Aberback, Public Information Officer
Phone: 201-460-4619 • Cell: 201-615-8570
brian.aberback@njmeadowlands.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 28, 2009

NJMC Helps Developers Build and Save Green

LYNDHURST, N.J. – The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission (NJMC) today passed green development guidelines to help builders become more energy efficient and qualify for NJMC financial incentives. The green building and redevelopment incentives offer immediate financial benefits and promote sustainable building practices that result in long-term energy cost savings.

“The NJMC’s green building incentives are a valuable resource for any commercial, industrial, or residential builder, especially in the current economic climate,” said Joseph Doria, Chairman of the NJMC and Commissioner of the state Department of Community Affairs. “These guidelines make it easier for builders to navigate the path to cost savings and reflect the NJMC’s proactive stance in promoting smart economic growth.”

Developers who meet criteria established by the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, or comparable programs, are eligible for partial refunds of zoning fees and density bonuses. They also receive top priority in the plan review process.

The guidelines provide direction on how to conserve energy and reduce pollution in all aspects of construction, from choosing building materials and heating and cooling systems, to landscaping choices and garbage disposal methods. In addition to its green building incentives, the NJMC discounts a portion of plan review fees for building proposals that contain a solar energy element and provides free planning help to District municipalities through its solar Municipal Assistance Program.

In another NJMC effort to promote sustainable growth, the Commission also released at today’s meeting a guidebook to help communities plan sensible future development. Through its Sustainable Communities Planning Service the NJMC has been helping the Town of Kearny in its visioning process for a planned train station and transit-oriented redevelopment of the surrounding area. The new, free guidebook, titled “Community Visioning in the New Jersey Meadowlands,” is a useful tool for planners, public officials, business owners and residents that explains the visioning process. Community visioning has proven instrumental in helping towns and cities plan for and achieve smart growth and economic development.

“Sustainable building principles and the use of renewable and alternative energy must be embraced now to ensure future prosperity,” said Robert Ceberio, Executive Director of the NJMC. “The NJMC has shown over the past four decades that energy conservation and economic growth can go hand-in-hand, and we are committed to helping the larger community realize the short- and long-term benefits of green building.”

###