

May 22, 2008 SADC Meeting Highlights

Secretary's Report

Secretary Kuperus recognized former SADC member Gary Mount for his service to the SADC and to New Jersey agriculture, as well as his work with the Howell Living History Farm where the SADC's meeting was being held.

Executive Director's Report

The Commercial Nonagricultural Uses/Personal Wireless Service Facility rules will be published in the June 2nd New Jersey Register.

New Jersey Agricultural Land Trust

Andy Strauss and Pat O'Connell, consultants to the New Jersey Agricultural Land Trust, gave the Committee an overview of the newly created land trust, the first in New Jersey with a specific focus on agricultural land and agriculture as an industry. The land trust was the recipient of an \$825,000 grant under the SADC's 2009 nonprofit grant program round.

2009 County Easement Purchase Round

Cumberland County was the only county that chose to participate in the traditional county easement purchase program in the 2009 round. Nine farms submitted valid offers in the bid-down process. A total of \$1 million was allocated for that round, which would fund the six highest-ranked farms.

2009 County Planning Incentive Grant Program

The SADC granted preliminary conditional approval to the county planning incentive grant applications and comprehensive farmland preservation plans submitted by Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Somerset, Sussex and Warren counties. The applications target more than 2,100 farms covering more than 151,000 acres at an estimated total cost of \$2.2 billion.

2009 Municipal Planning Incentive Grant Program

The SADC granted preliminary conditional approval to 37 municipal planning incentive grant applications that have identified 89 project areas in 7 counties, and targeted nearly 1,700 farms covering more than 88,000 acres at an estimated total cost of \$1.38 billion.

FY09 Appropriation Request

The SADC approved a \$94,684,816 million appropriation request that includes \$46 million for the county planning incentive grant program; \$10,834,816 for state acquisitions; \$27.750 million for the municipal planning incentive grant program; \$6.45 million for the nonprofit grants program and \$3.65 million for administration. The sources of the funds are \$73 million in bond funds from the 2007 public question, \$21,162,482 in reprogrammed funds and \$552,334 in fee simple revenues received.