

STOCKTON COLLEGE

THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Stockton College Master Plan Approved by New Jersey Pinelands Commission

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Tim Kelly
Office of Public Relations
Galloway Township, NJ 08240
Tim.Kelly@stockton.edu
(609) 652-4950

Galloway Township, NJ- The New Jersey Pinelands Commission unanimously approved, on Friday, September 10, 2010, a Facilities Master Plan of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey that permanently preserves more than 1,200 acres of land while providing room for needed College expansion of its physical plant.

"Friday's announcement is the culmination of a considerable effort by the Pinelands Commission and Stockton," said President Herman J. Saatkamp, Jr. "Protection of the environmentally sensitive Pinelands area of Galloway Twp. has been a mutual priority of the Commission and the College. We are quite pleased to have developed a plan that will benefit New Jersey students while preserving one of the state's most precious natural resources, our Pinelands."

The College's previous Master Plan had been in effect since 1990. Proposed changes to the plan were subject to review and approval in accordance with the Commission's Comprehensive Management Plan. Citing increased enrollment and projections of future growth, Stockton's Trustees adopted a new plan in December 2009 and submitted it to the Pinelands Commission in April 2010.

The resolution that approved the College's Master Plan will permanently protect 1,257 acres on and near Stockton's campus, including 170 developable acres that were not previously designated for protection in the College's 1990 Facilities Master Plan. The new plan increases the size of the College's development area to a total of 450 acres. The resolution states: "Permanent protection of these 1,257 acres effectively implements the 1990 Facilities Master Plan and will be of greater benefit to Pinelands resources than the restrictions contemplated in the 1990 Facilities Master Plan."

A public hearing to receive testimony on Stockton's new plan was conducted by the Commission in July.

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“The Pinelands Commission is pleased to approve a plan that will benefit the Pinelands' environment through the permanent preservation of 1,257 acres of land, while also enabling the College to plan for future expansion amidst increased enrollment,” said Communications Officer Paul Leakan.

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