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2015-2016 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 7, 2015

Introduced by Sen. MARCELLINO -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Infrastructure and Capital Investment

AN ACT to amend the executive law and the state finance law, in relation to establishing the New York state growth interagency task force

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEM-BLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The executive law is amended by adding a new article 43 to 2 read as follows: 3

ARTICLE 43

NEW YORK STATE SMART GROWTH INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE SECTION 925. DEFINITIONS.

925-A. NEW YORK STATE SMART GROWTH INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.

925-B. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TASK FORCE.

S 925. DEFINITIONS. AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE:

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- 1. "SMART GROWTH PRINCIPLES" MEANS THE FOLLOWING:
- A. PUBLIC INVESTMENT: TO PLAN SO AS TO ACCOUNT FOR AND MINIMIZE THE 10 ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COSTS OF NEW DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING INFRASTRUCTURE 11 COSTS SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION, SEWERS AND WASTE-WATER TREATMENT, WATER, 12 SCHOOLS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS; 13
- B. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: TO ENCOURAGE REDEVELOPMENT OF EXISTING COMMU-14 15 NITY CENTERS, AND TO ENCOURAGE NEW DEVELOPMENT IN AREAS WHERE TRANSPOR-16 TATION, WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE ARE READILY AVAILABLE;
- 17 C. CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION: TO PROTECT, PRESERVE, ENHANCE AND 18 RESTORE THE STATE'S NATURAL AND HISTORIC RESOURCES, INCLUDING AGRICUL-TURAL LAND, FORESTS, SURFACE WATER AND GROUNDWATER, RECREATION AND OPEN 19 SPACE, SCENIC AREAS, SIGNIFICANT HABITATS, AND SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC AND 20 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES; 21
- 22 PARTNERSHIPS: TO ESTABLISH INTERMUNICIPAL AND OTHER INTERGOVERN-23 MENTAL PARTNERSHIPS TO ADDRESS DEVELOPMENT ISSUES WHICH TRANSCEND MUNIC-IPAL BOUNDARIES, AND WHICH ARE BEST ADDRESSED BY EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS 24

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [] is old law to be omitted.

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AMONG LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT, IN ORDER TO INCREASE EFFICIENT, PLANNED, AND COST-EFFECTIVE DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES BY, AMONG OTHER MEANS, FACILITATING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AMONG ADJACENT COMMUNITIES AND TO ENSURE WITHIN A REGIONAL CONTEXT, THE APPROPRIATE BALANCE BETWEEN DEVELOPMENT AND OPEN SPACE PROTECTION;

- E. COMMUNITY LIVABILITY: TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES' SENSE OF PLACE BY ENCOURAGING COMMUNITIES TO ADOPT DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES WHICH BUILD ON EACH COMMUNITY'S VISION FOR ITS FUTURE, INCLUDING INTEGRATION OF ALL INCOME AND AGE GROUPS, MIXED LAND USES AND COMPACT DEVELOPMENT, DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION, OPEN SPACE PROTECTION, BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT, ENHANCED BEAUTY IN PUBLIC SPACES, AND DIVERSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN PROXIMITY TO PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT, RECREATION AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT;
- 14 F. TRANSPORTATION: TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION CHOICES, INCLUDING 15 INCREASING PUBLIC TRANSIT, PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE AND OTHER CHOICES, IN 16 ORDER TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND QUALITY OF LIFE, REDUCE AUTOMOBILE DEPENDEN-17 CY, TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND AUTOMOBILE POLLUTION;
- 18 G. CONSISTENCY: TO ENSURE PREDICTABILITY IN BUILDING AND LAND USE 19 CODES; AND
 - H. SUSTAINABILITY: TO STRENGTHEN EXISTING AND CREATE NEW COMMUNITIES WHICH DO NOT COMPROMISE THE NEEDS OF FUTURE GENERATIONS, BY AMONG OTHER MEANS ENCOURAGING BROAD BASED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN DEVELOPING AND IMPLEMENTING A COMMUNITY PLAN AND ENSURING THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE IS ADEQUATE TO SUSTAIN ITS IMPLEMENTATION.
 - 2. "TASK FORCE" MEANS THE NEW YORK STATE SMART GROWTH INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE CREATED BY SECTION NINE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE-A OF THIS ARTICLE.
 - 3. "SMART GROWTH PLANNING GRANT" SHALL MEAN THE "COMMUNITY VISION PLANNING GRANT," THE "AGRICULTURE RETENTION AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLANNING GRANT," AND THE "TRANSIT ORIENTED DESIGN PLANNING GRANT."
 - 4. "MUNICIPALITY" SHALL MEAN A TOWN, CITY, COUNTY, VILLAGE OR A DESIGNATED PUBLIC AGENCY THEREOF, OR A PUBLIC AUTHORITY.
 - S 925-A. NEW YORK STATE SMART GROWTH INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE. 1. THERE IS HEREBY CREATED THE NEW YORK STATE SMART GROWTH INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE. THE TASK FORCE SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS: THE COMMISSIONER OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS, THE COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION, THE CHAIR OF THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, THE COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL, THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, THE CHAIR OF THE NEW YORK STATE HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY, THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, AND THE TEMPORARY PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.
 - 2. THE SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE CHAIR OF THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION SHALL SERVE AS CO-CHAIRS OF THE NEW YORK STATE SMART GROWTH INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.
 - 3. A MEMBER MAY APPOINT A DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE, WHO SHALL SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE APPOINTING MEMBER, TO EXERCISE HIS OR HER POWERS AND PERFORM HIS OR HER DUTIES.
- 4. MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE SHALL RECEIVE NO COMPENSATION BUT SHALL BE ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR ANY NECESSARY EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES.
- 54 S 925-B. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TASK FORCE. 1. THE NEW YORK STATE 55 SMART GROWTH INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE SHALL PROVIDE FOR MUNICIPALITIES, ON 56 A COMPETITIVE BASIS, WITHIN AMOUNTS APPROPRIATED, SMART GROWTH PLANNING

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GRANTS AS ENUMERATED IN SUBDIVISION TWO OF THIS SECTION AND APPROVED BY THE TASK FORCE PURSUANT TO SUBDIVISION THREE OF THIS SECTION TO NEW YORK STATE MUNICIPALITIES.

- 2. THE TASK FORCE SHALL ISSUE THE FOLLOWING GRANTS:
- A. COMMUNITY VISION PLANNING GRANT. THE TASK FORCE SHALL AWARD SUCH GRANT TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF A MUNICIPAL PLAN DESIGNED TO ENGAGE LOCAL RESIDENTS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS TO DEVELOP A COMMUNITY CONSENSUS ON WHAT THE RESIDENTS WANT THE COMMUNITY TO BE, THE DIRECTION OF THE COMMUNITY, AND WHAT MUST BE DONE TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED COMMON VISION. THE GRANT MAY BE USED TO FUND ACTIVITIES RELATED TO COMPLETION OF THE COMMUNITY VISION PROCESS AND PLAN PREPARATION, EXCEPT FOR FUNDS USED FOR TRAVEL, FOOD, FACILITY RENTAL OR OTHER CAPITAL EXPENSES.
- B. AGRICULTURE RETENTION AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION PLANNING GRANT. SUCH GRANT SHALL BE AWARDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A MUNICIPAL PLAN THAT INCLUDES MEASURES TO ENSURE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC VITALITY OF AGRICULTURE IN NEW YORK, IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES THAT STRENGTHEN AND PROMOTE THE USE OF EXISTING ALTERNATIVE PLANNING TOOLS AND CREATE NEW TOOLS THAT FACILITATE THE ACCOMMODATION OF GROWTH IN WAYS THAT CONSUME LESS LAND AND ALLOW FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE MOST PRODUCTIVE SOILS. SUCH PLAN SHALL ALSO INCLUDE AN INVENTORY OF FARM PROPERTIES AND A MAP ILLUSTRATING SIGNIFICANT AREAS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND.
- C. TRANSIT ORIENTED DESIGN PLANNING GRANT. SUCH GRANT SHALL BE AWARDED TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF A PLAN DESIGNED AROUND A MUNICIPALITY'S TRANSIT FACILITY TO ENCOURAGE TRANSIT-FRIENDLY LAND USE AROUND SUCH FACILITIES. SUCH PLAN SHALL ENCOURAGE SUFFICIENT RESIDENTIAL DENSITY IN A MIXED-USE CONFIGURATION FOR TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT THAT INCORPORATES CONNECTIVITY, PEDESTRIAN SAFETY, STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENT, AND PARKING.
- 3. THE TASK FORCE SHALL APPLY THE FOLLOWING APPROVAL CRITERIA WHEN EVALUATING APPLICATIONS FOR A SMART GROWTH PLANNING GRANT, THE:
- A. DEGREE TO WHICH THE APPLICANT HAS EFFECTIVELY PARTNERED WITH RELE-VANT, DIVERSE ORGANIZATIONS IN ORDER TO SECURE ENDORSEMENT FOR RECOM-MENDED TECHNIQUES AND PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TECHNICAL EXPERTISE;
- B. DEGREE TO WHICH THE APPLICANT'S SMART GROWTH PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION PROPOSES TO EFFECTIVELY USE GRANT FUNDS; THE TASK FORCE SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT HOW MUCH OF THE GRANT WILL BE USED FOR ACTIVITIES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE PROJECT AS OPPOSED TO INDIRECT EXPENDITURES;
- C. DEGREE TO WHICH THE APPLICANT'S SMART GROWTH PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION PROPOSES TO EFFECTIVELY LEVERAGE AND USE MATCHING FUNDS, INCLUDING FUNDS PROVIDED THROUGH OTHER STATE GRANT PROGRAMS; THE APPLICANT SHALL DEMONSTRATE HOW IT SHALL COORDINATE THE SMART GROWTH PLANNING GRANT WITH OTHER FUNDS TO LEVERAGE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO CARRY OUT SUCH PLAN OR THAT SMART GROWTH PLANNING GRANT FUNDS SHALL COMPLEMENT ACTIVITIES RELEVANT TO THE SMART GROWTH PLAN;
- D. DEGREE TO WHICH THE APPLICANT IS COMMITTED TO SMART GROWTH PRINCIPLES;
- E. DEGREE TO WHICH APPLICANT'S SMART GROWTH PLANNING GRANT APPLICATION DEMONSTRATES THE ABILITY TO CARRY OUT THE PROPOSED PLAN.
- 49 4. THE TASK FORCE SHALL ISSUE REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS NO LATER THAN THE 50 FIRST OF JUNE SUCCEEDING THE DATE ON WHICH THIS ARTICLE SHALL HAVE 51 BECOME LAW AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER.
- 52 5. THE TASK FORCE SHALL FACILITATE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION WITH 53 OTHER STATE GRANT PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE A CENTRALIZED INFORMATION REPOSI-54 TORY ON GRANT OPPORTUNITIES.

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 S 2. Paragraph (d) of subdivision 6 of section 92-s of the state finance law, as amended by section 13 of part E of chapter 61 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

(d) Moneys from the open space account shall be available, pursuant to appropriation[,]: (I) for any open space land conservation project[,]; (II) FOR bio-diversity stewardship and research pursuant to chapter five hundred fifty-four of the laws of nineteen hundred ninety-three[,]; (III) for the purposes of agricultural and farmland protection activities as authorized by article twenty-five-AAA of the agriculture and markets law[,]; (IV) FOR non-point source abatement and control projects pursuant to section 17-1409 of the environmental conservation law and section eleven-b of the soil and water conservation districts law[,]; (V) for Long Island Central Pine Barrens area planning or Long Island south shore estuary reserve planning pursuant to title thirteen of article fifty-four of the environmental conservation law[, and]; (VI) for operation and management of the Albany Pine Bush preserve commission pursuant to subdivision two of section 54-0303 of the environmental conservation law; AND (VII) FOR SMART GROWTH PROJECTS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE FORTY-THREE OF THE EXECUTIVE LAW.

S 3. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be deemed to have been in full force and effect on and after April 1, 2016.