



Township of Monroe

County of Middlesex

GERALD W. TAMBURRO
Mayor

Administrative Offices:
Municipal Complex
1 Municipal Plaza
Monroe Township, N.J. 08831
732-521-4400

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 12, 2017

Officials Approve Largest Open Space Acquisition in Monroe Township's History

MONROE – Monroe Council members approved the largest open space acquisition in the municipality's history at Wednesday's Township Council meeting.

With a unanimous vote, the Council secured 412 acres of environmentally sensitive land along Perrineville Road from the New Jersey Turnpike Authority.

The Authority will transfer the property, which runs adjacent to the Millstone River and includes 80 acres of manmade wetlands, six acres of vernal pool habitat and 186,000 new trees and shrubs, to Monroe as part of an agreement stemming from a recent Turnpike widening project.

"I was pleased to work with the Turnpike Authority to secure this very significant tract of land and to safeguard its many ecological treasures," said Monroe Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro.

"This brings our Township close to 8,000 acres of preserved property – a major milestone within our community. Our long-term preservation goals stand to benefit our current residents and the generations to come."

Township officials expect to take full ownership of the parcel by the year's end.

"We are making major gains toward our goal of preserving 50 percent of the Township," said Councilman Michael Leibowitz, who dually serves as a member of the Township's Open Space and Farmland Preservation Commission. "In the bigger picture, our efforts are centered around not only preserving land, but preserving the quality of life and the character of this town."

For further details, contact Monroe Township's Public Information Officer Maria Prato at 732-521-4400 or mprato@monroetwp.com.