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# MORRIS COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS

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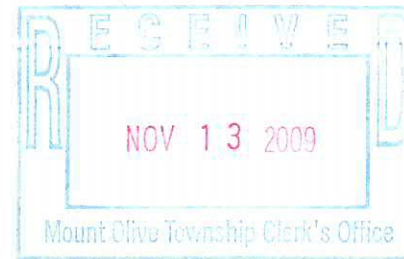
County Administrator  
John Bonanni

Clerk of the Board  
Diane M. Ketchum

November 10, 2009

Hon. David Scapicchio, Mayor  
Township of Mount Olive  
204 Flanders-Drakestown Road  
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

David Epstein, President  
The Land Conservancy of New Jersey  
19 Boonton Avenue  
Boonton, NJ 07005



Dear Mayor Scapicchio and Mr. Epstein:

On behalf of the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders, I am pleased to announce that the **South Branch Preserve** project is one of the 17 proposals selected to receive funding from the 2009 Open Space Trust Fund Program. Our decision was based upon a recommendation submitted by the Open Space Trust Fund Committee, a body formed by the Freeholders to evaluate applications submitted by municipalities and/or charitable conservancies. The amount of the grant to your municipality and organization for this project is **\$2,600,000**.

The Department of Planning & Development is now in the process of drafting a grant agreement through which the funds will be distributed to your municipality and organization. In accordance with P.L. 1997, Chapter 24, the grant agreement will require that all land shall be held in a "municipal open space trust" to be used exclusively for the purposes authorized by law. We anticipate executing the grant agreement early in 2010, although funds will not be distributed to Mount Olive Township and The Land Conservancy of New Jersey until such time as you are prepared to acquire title.

Once again, let me express my great enthusiasm for the prospect of the Open Space Trust Fund working with you to make the preservation of the **South Branch Preserve** project a reality.

Should you have any questions, contact Frank T. Pinto, Jr., Director of Planning & Development at (973) 829-8120.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Feyl".

Gene F. Feyl  
Freeholder Director

cc: Township of Mount Olive Council  
William Sohl, Mount Olive Administrator  
Kathy Murphy, Mount Olive Grants Coordinator  
Barbara Heskins-Davis, Vice-President Programs, The Land Conservancy of NJ