

**Joint Resolution No. \_\_\_\_ of 2021**  
**"Natural Resources Inventory Adoption"**

At a meeting of the Town Board of the Town of New Paltz, Ulster County, New York, held via videoconference in said Town on the 3rd day of June, 2021, at 7 o'clock P.M., prevailing time.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bettez, and upon roll being called, the following roll was taken:

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Supervisor Neil Bettez	_____	_____
Council Member Daniel Torres	_____	_____
Council Member Alex Baer	_____	_____
Council Member David Brownstein	_____	_____
Council Member Julie Seyfert-Lillis	_____	_____
Mayor Tim Rogers	_____	_____
Council Member Alex Wojcik	_____	_____
Council Member William Murray	_____	_____
Council Member Stana Weisburd	_____	_____
Council Member Michelle Zipp	_____	_____

The following resolution was offered by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_ who moved its adoption, seconded by Council Member \_\_\_\_\_, to wit:

**WHEREAS**, a Natural Resources Inventory is an inventory of specific natural resources which are characterized by natural scenic beauty or, whose existing openness, natural condition or present state of use, if preserved, would enhance the present or potential value of abutting or surrounding development or would establish a desirable pattern of development or would offer substantial conformance with the planning objectives of the Town and Village of New Paltz or would maintain or enhance the conservation of natural or scenic resources, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town and Village Boards have reviewed the Natural Resources Inventory prepared by Upstate GIS and

**WHEREAS**, the Town and Village Boards desire to protect natural resources in the Town and Village of New Paltz by adopting a Natural Resources Inventory and requiring consideration of future development's impact upon these natural resources, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town and Village of New Paltz's protection and sustainable use of its natural resources will protect the rights of residents, both present and future, to clean air, pure water, and the natural, scenic, and aesthetic values of the environment, as set forth in Article XIV, Section 4 of the New York State Constitution, and

**WHEREAS**, the Town and Village of New Paltz's quality of life will be enhanced by the sustainable management of its natural resources, including diverse habitats, natural systems and cultural resources, and

**WHEREAS**, the incorporation of natural and cultural resource information into the decision-making processes identified herein will enable the Town and Village of New Paltz to protect the integrity and value of the Town and Village of New Paltz's natural resources, including the Town and Village of New Paltz's soils, water resources, habitats and wildlife, and other significant environmental resources,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT** the Town and Village Boards of the Town of New Paltz adopt this document containing specific natural and cultural resources known as the NRI, which document should be incorporated into the Planning Board's review process. NRI resources are to include, but are not limited to:

- Water resources including aquifers; streams and waterbodies with their State water quality classification; floodplains; wetlands and vernal pools, whether or not they are protected by local, state or federal regulations.
- Vegetation including community types; forested areas; grasslands, meadows, and shrublands; significant trees defined as all trees over 8 inches in diameter at breast height, trees at the limit of their range, and trees over 100 years old; New York State listed endangered, threatened, rare, and exploitably vulnerable plants or the New York State rare plant status lists; locally significant vegetation; rare or high quality examples of natural ecological communities; stream and riparian habitats; tidal wetlands and shoreline habitats; unfragmented habitat blocks and significant biodiversity areas; and vegetation resources on parcel that connect to such resources on adjoining or nearby public lands/protected areas.
- Wildlife "Species of Greatest Conservation Need," as defined by the State of New York, including but not limited to breeding birds, reptiles, amphibians and mammals.
- Geology and soils with particular attention to hydric, prime farmland, and soils of statewide significance.
- Elevation, aspect and slope including rock outcrops, steep slopes of 10% to 15% and 15% or greater, ridgelines, stone walls, and unique geologic features.
- Cultural resources including locally significant as well as State and National historic sites, buildings, and districts; scenic resources; recreation resources; agricultural districts; active farmland; and lands conserved through public ownership or private conservation restrictions, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT** in all land use decisions, the NRI should be considered by the planning board to ensure proposed land uses are compatible with existing natural resources by minimizing impacts and providing acceptable mitigation measures when certain impacts cannot be avoided. Proposed lot layouts and development should be designed and arranged to avoid impacts to features identified in the NRI, and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT** for all subdivision, special permit uses, uses requiring site plan approval, or other Town and Village of New Paltz development reviews that are subject to SEQRA the applicant should provide an analysis of and disclose any potential impacts on any natural resource identified in the NRI. Each application should contain a Conservation Analysis, consisting of inventory maps, description of the land, and an analysis of any potential impacts to various site features identified in the NRI. The Conservation Analysis should be on a form provided by the Town and Village of New Paltz, consisting of at a minimum, a copy of the Natural Resource Inventory maps, description of the land, and any potential impacts to site features identified in the Natural Resource Inventory. No application should be acted upon without a fully completed conservation analysis.

<u>VOTE</u>	<u>AYE</u>	<u>NAY</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
Supervisor Neil Bettez	_____	_____	_____
Council Member Daniel Torres	_____	_____	_____
Council Member Alex Baer	_____	_____	_____
Council Member David Brownstein	_____	_____	_____
Council Member Julie Seyfert-Lillis	_____	_____	_____
Mayor Tim Rogers	_____	_____	_____
Council Member Alex Wojcik	_____	_____	_____
Council Member William Murray	_____	_____	_____
Council Member Stana Weisburd	_____	_____	_____
Council Member Michelle Zipp	_____	_____	_____

The resolution was thereupon duly adopted.