



November 4, 2009

Governor-elect Chris Christie
Christie for Governor Headquarters
1719 Route 10 East, Suite 126
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Dear Governor-elect Christie:

[PlanSmart NJ](#), the state's oldest and largest land use research and advocacy organization, adds our congratulations on your election victory to the many others you are receiving today. I am writing on behalf of PlanSmart NJ's Board, Members, and Staff to offer our experience and innovations to help you meet your new Administration's goals "to get New Jersey back on track."

As President of PlanSmart NJ, it is my pleasure to share my thoughts on your incoming administration here: <http://plansmartnj.blogspot.com/>

Over the last few years, PlanSmart NJ has spearheaded our "Smart Growth Economy Project," uncovering the many serious structural problems with our economy that New Jersey faces.

Jobs, housing, transportation, water, energy, critical habitats, and patterns of racial and economic segregation – they are all related. Each has problems that are tying the State to failed policies and undermining the considerable assets of our region. In significant ways, these problems are all connected to the failure of our state's land-use decision-making system – its fragmentation and lack of strategic direction.

Fortunately, this is a system that your Administration can change. The land use system is comprised of the plans, regulations, and investment decisions that your Administration will control. Instead of the fragmented approach taken by previous Administrations, the Christie Administration can develop a strategic framework within which all New Jersey agencies will take a unified role in realizing a shared vision of the future.

And [PlanSmart NJ](#) can help. We are prepared to meet with you, members of your staff or your transition team as you prepare to govern New Jersey. And we send you our very best wishes for your future success.

Yours sincerely,

Dianne R. Brake, President