

Christie's growth plan: Most either love it or hate it

FLORENCE — It seems stakeholders either love or hate Gov. Chris Christie administration's new plan for statewide economic and building growth.

But Carleton Montgomery, executive director of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance, is in the middle, saying there are good parts in the State Strategic Job Growth Plan and some not-so-good parts.

"My initial reaction is mixed," Montgomery said in an interview Friday, two days after the Christie document was rolled out. "There's a lot of good aspirational language in it talking about concentrating development, building sustainable communities, and protecting the Pinelands and Highlands and other environmentally sensitive areas. At the same time the governor doesn't impose any requirements on municipalities on how they zone and encourage or discourage development, and that will make it hard to protect natural resources."

Montgomery said the document creates incentives for builders to do business in targeted areas but doesn't include red lights to keep bulldozers from going where they haven't gone before.

"The lesson of land-use planning is, if you

can't say no as well as say yes, it won't work," Montgomery said. "I'm not sure this will say no to development in the wrong places."

Christie claims his administration's plan is unlike the previous tries at mapping where new building should take place and how state agencies should guide the process, calling past attempts "haphazard and unrealistic."

The plan is not in its final version. The State Planning Commission will be following the steps required by the State Planning Act to adopt the Christie proposal as the official State Plan. The process include public hearings and other opportunities for public comment in the coming months.

The head of the New Jersey Utilities Association, Karen D. Alexander, said Christie has hit a home run with the "development of a draft state plan that identifies targeted and comprehensive planning around employment centers and infrastructure investment as key elements

Advertisement



**Protect Your Home
with ADT!**

ADT AUTHORIZED DEALER

**Click Here
to Learn More!**

Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

to New Jersey's future.”

Plan Smart NJ, a research and planning group, also gave thumbs up because the plan incorporates “principles of targeted geographic industry growth clusters and alignment of state agency regulations and resources to foster targeted smart growth areas,” said Lucy Vandenberg, executive director.

AdChoices


Ads by Pulse 360

OBJE - Stock Jump!

Money in Social Media, View Ticker and Invest Today
www.ObsceneInteractive.com

Best Wrinkle Creams of 2011 Exposed

Only one skin cream dominates the others. Click here to find out which wrinkle cream won every time
www.popular-lifestyle-journal.com/

Excellence in Alternate Spine Procedures

Herniated Discs, Stenosis, Pinched Nerves, Degenerative Discs and More-Get Your Life

Advertisement



**Protect Your Home
with ADT!**

**Click Here
to Learn More!**

 **AUTHORIZED
DEALER**

Print Powered By  **FormatDynamics™**