



REGIONAL PLAN ASSOCIATION, INC.

... a research and planning agency supported by voluntary membership to promote the coordinated development of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut Metropolitan Region.

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TRANSPORTATION, PARKS, RENEWAL, DEVELOPMENT PATTERN LAG BEHIND
NORTHERN NEW JERSEY NEEDS, REGIONAL PLAN GROUP SURVEY SAYS

Reapportionment of the Legislature and the State's broad-based tax "point to New Jersey's determination to equip itself with the tools" needed to meet urban problems, but there is "a large backlog of unfilled needs," according to a survey by Regional Plan Association, released today.

The report reviewed the five years' work of the New Jersey Committee of the Association, which covers the nine Northeastern New Jersey counties. The Committee has successfully supported the Green Acres bond issue, designation of Great Piece Meadows for State park purchase, commuter rail modernization plans, organization of the State Department of Transportation, improved coordination of land-use and highway plans, steps toward the unified development of the Hackensack Meadows, the decision to put the new campus of the State Medical School in Newark, and creation of the Musto Commission on distribution of state and local government powers.

Currently, the Committee is working for better water management, a \$490 million bond issue for highways and rail modernization, middle-income housing in the older cities, elimination of obstacles to faster

acquisition of parkland, a plan for the Hudson shore which would provide for a great deal of housing and residential services without losing the beauty of the Palisades, location of rapidly increasing office jobs along with major health services, major retailing, higher education and cultural facilities in new and renewed downtowns, including Newark, New Brunswick and other locations to be identified later, and formation of a special State Commission to define New Jersey's backlog of capital needs and recommend priorities.

The Committee is headed by Albert W. Merck, an investment executive, Ernest Erber and William G. Andersen, Jr., the Committee staff, wrote the report. Regional Plan Association is a 38-year-old civic organization working for the efficient, attractive and varied development of the New York Metropolitan Region, a 7,000-square-mile area surrounding the Port of New York in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut.

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The report is enclosed. All photographs and maps are available; to obtain them, please call Mrs. Caroline Jewett, 212 - Longacre 5-1714.