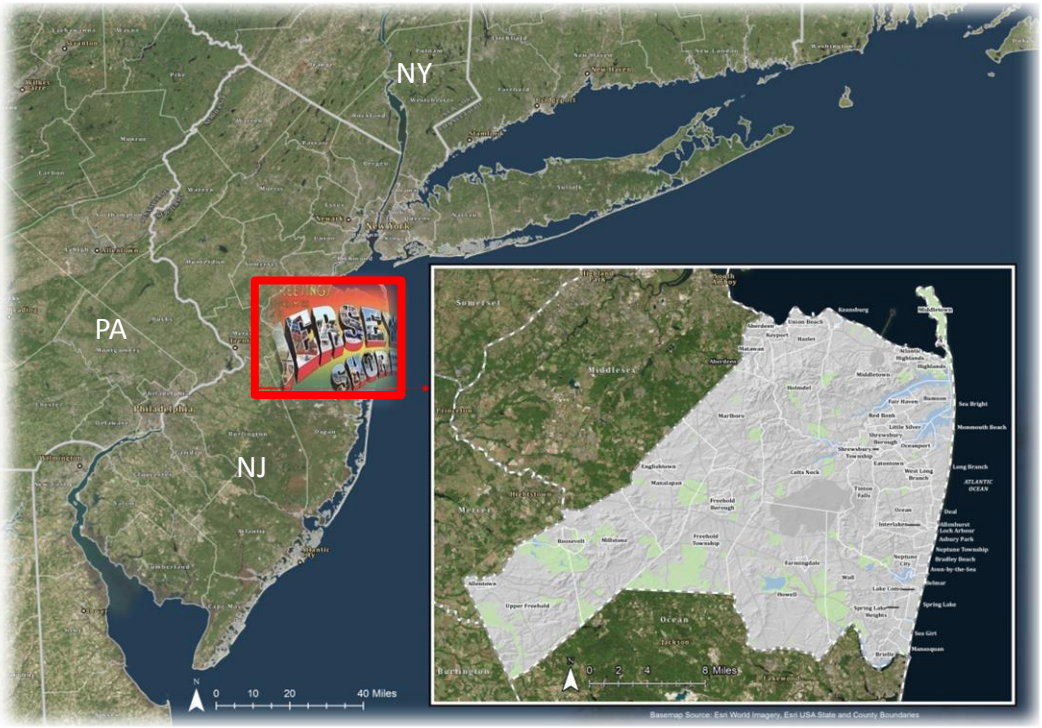
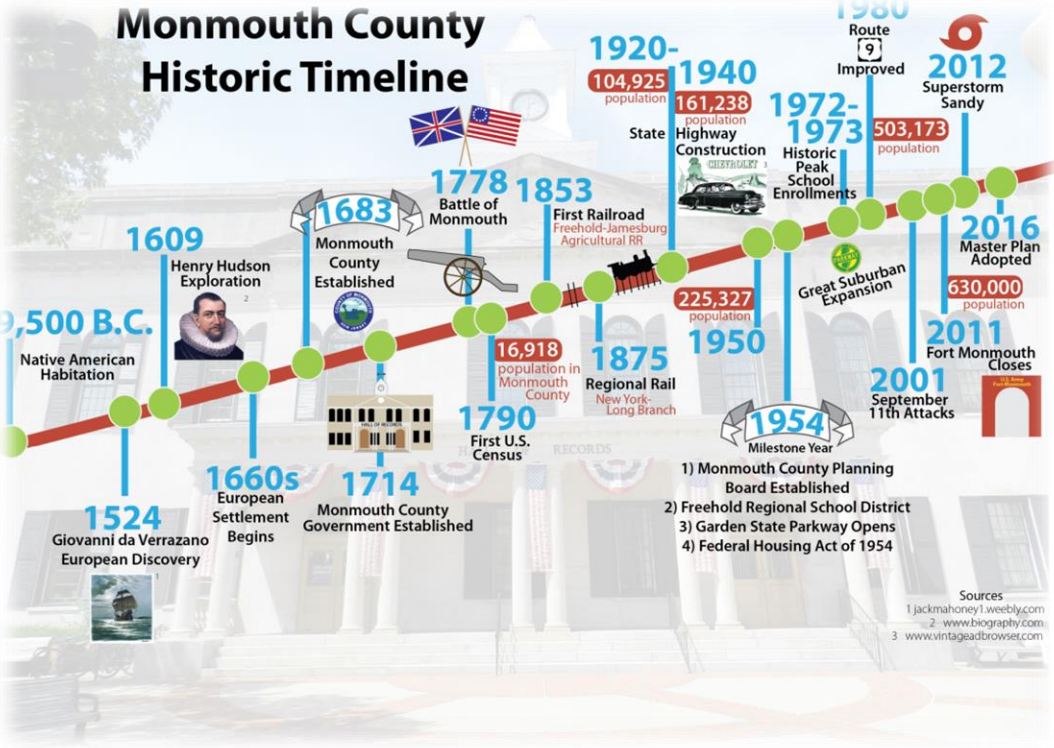
MONMOUTH COUNTY

2018 MASTER PLAN REEXAMINATION





MONMOUTH COUNTY

2018 MASTER PLAN REEXAMINATION

OCTOBER 15, 2018

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MASTER PLAN REXAMINATION

The 2016 *Monmouth County Master Plan* (*Master Plan* or *Plan*) was written within the context of a 10-year planning horizon and is limited in scope to planning issues that are meaningful to those that live, work, play, and stay in Monmouth County. The *Plan* was intentionally designed to be presented, over time, in several distinct forms.

The first and official version of the *Master Plan* was adopted by the Monmouth County Planning Board (MCPB) on October 17, 2016. This text-based version of the *Plan* is viewed as the foundation for further enhancements upon which a visually and graphically enriched interpretation of the *Plan* may be developed for interactive, online viewing and engagement. Eventually, the *Master Plan* will be transitioned to an online platform that allows users access to open source data through a GIS geohub. This dashboard approach will be used in conjunction with the official text version as adopted by the MCPB.

Another version of the *Master Plan*, which this *2018 Monmouth County Master Plan Reexamination* (*Reexamination*) represents, is a periodic supplemental report that allows the 2016 *Master Plan* to be maintained online as a living document. The 2016 *Master Plan* calls for this approach to provide the public with current data and information relevant to the *Master Plan's* topical areas of interest. Much like a municipal master plan reexamination report, this *Reexamination* is not considered an amendment to the current *Master Plan*. It is to be viewed as a consultative and supportive document that contains current data, emerging issues, new discussions, and recommended changes that may eventually be considered by the MCPB for official incorporation into the next countywide comprehensive master plan. The *Reexamination* does not alter nor change the goals, principles, and objectives (GPOs) or policy recommendations of the 2016 *Master Plan*.

The next *Master Plan Reexamination* can be expected sometime after data becomes available from the 2020 decennial census.

1.0 Introduction & Purpose

Demographic Update

- **Population** | At the time of *Master Plan* adoption in 2016, Monmouth County had an estimated population of 628,715 people (U.S. Census Bureau, 2015). The latest *American Community Survey* data from 2017 shows the current population at 626,782, a decline of 1,933 people. The population is anticipated to begin to grow again near the end of the decade as residents displaced by Superstorm Sandy (Sandy) return home and those displaced following Sandy are no longer represented in the Census Bureaus' *American Community Survey's 5-year Count*. Other factors that may contribute to county growth recovery include the completion of numerous higher density residential projects in redevelopment areas that are attracting more year-round residents and the return of millennials to the suburbs as they begin to establish families. This in turn should also increase public school enrollment shortly after 2020. Monmouth remains the fifth most populous county in the State of New Jersey behind Bergen, Middlesex, Essex, and Hudson Counties.
- **Income Ranking** | Based on median household income data, Monmouth County is ranked 47th out of 3,242 counties and county equivalents in the United States.

Insight Reports | Additions to Table 1.4 (2016 Master Plan)

- The *2018 Monmouth County Profile* and the *2018 Monmouth County At-a-Glance* reports can be accessed through the Monmouth County Planning Board webpage. Both reports are identified in the *Monmouth County Master Plan* as consultative and support

documents that should be used alongside the *Master Plan* during policy formation and program development.

The *2018 Monmouth County Profile Report* recently received an Honors Achievement in Planning Award by the New Jersey Planning Officials (NJPO).

- *Measuring Monmouth County's Creative Economy* (2015) was a study undertaken by the Division of Planning to determine the economic impact creative and culturally based businesses have on the County's overall economy. The document can be accessed through the Strategic/Long Range Planning Section on the Monmouth County Division of Planning webpage.
- The *Monmouth County Aging Population Study* (2017) is intended to assist decision makers understand ongoing demographic changes and help frame the issues that arise due to an increasing aging population. The study contains two focus areas of housing and transportation. It also identifies opportunities to improve livability for those seeking to age in place and provides insight into where senior populations are most likely to be isolated due to limits with transportation and transit options. The study can be accessed through the Monmouth County Division of Planning's webpage.