Implementing Act 250 Program Updates and Housing Initiatives

July 1, 2024: Legislation enacted creating Act 250 framework and authorizes the professional NRB board to create and implement the specifics of the framework.

Act 250 framework legislation:

- Creates professional board
 - Tasks board with in-depth review of roles/duties and fees and make recommendations for future operations.
- Requires that the NRB implement framework implementation plan to create a tiered jurisdiction approach using designation/FLU mapping studies.

July 1, 2024: Concurrent/complementary housing legislation (S.311) enacted creating "onboard ramp" for longer-term Act 250-tiered jurisdiction. This legislation would sunset when the new tiered framework is implemented.

Implementation:

July-Dec. 2024: NRB, in collaboration with designation/FLU teams and other working group

stakeholders, creates proposed framework implementation plan.

Jan. 6, 2025: New professional board appointed. Board reviews and approves framework

implementation plan, rulemaking, guidance and goal setting for location-based jurisdiction implementation, as well as oversight and operations.

Determination of standards to describe tiered areas for mapping based on stakeholder input and public outreach in accordance with environmental

justice principles.

2024-2026: Mapping and designation commences.

2027-2028: Public input process, rulemaking, training meetings, guidance documents for

public (municipalities, applicants, staff)

7/1/28: Mapping and designation completed and implemented.

Board finalizes and implements tiered framework.

2024-2028: 2024 Housing legislation in effect with Act 250 exemptions sunsetting when

tiered jurisdiction begins (remaining incentives and housing policies would

remain in effect, i.e. tax credits, etc.)

7/1/29: One-year review of new tiered framework and outcomes; continue guidance

and/or make changes as needed. Report to Legislature on

success/challenges.

2029: Professional board undertakes in-depth review of Act 250 updates, duties,

responsibilities of staff (and board) and adjusts as needed, including whether

to hear appeals.

1/1/30: Decision if professionalized board to hear/not hear appeals. If yes, transition

is slated for 7/1/30.