TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON

RESOLUTION #2025-0214

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF HAMILTON ENDORSING A FOURTH ROUND HOUSING ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2024, Governor Murphy signed into law P.L. 2024, c.2, which amended the 1985 New Jersey Fair Housing Act (hereinafter the "Amended FHA"); and

WHEREAS, the Township adopted a "binding resolution" on January 21, 2025, accepting its DCA calculated Fourth Round Present Need Obligation of 13 and Fourth Round Prospective Need Obligation of 65; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Amended FHA and the Administrative Office of the Court's Directive No. 14-24, the Township filed a timely Fourth Round Declaratory Judgment complaint ("DJ Complaint") with the Affordable Housing Dispute Resolution Program ("the Program"), along with its binding resolution, on January 23, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the filing of the DJ Complaint gave the Township automatic immunity from all exclusionary zoning lawsuits, including builder's remedy lawsuits, which is still in full force and effect; and

WHEREAS, the Township did not receive any objections to its Present and Prospective Need Obligations by February 28, 2025, resulting in the statutory automatic acceptance of the Township's Fourth Round obligations on March 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2025, the Court entered an order establishing the Township's Fourth Round Present Need Obligation of 13 and Fourth Round Prospective Need Obligation of 65; and

WHEREAS, now that the Township has its Fourth Round Obligations, the Amended FHA requires the municipality to adopt a Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan by June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Amended FHA, the Township's affordable housing planner drafted a Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board held a public hearing on the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan on June 5, 2025 and adopted the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan via a resolution on that same night; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wishes to endorse the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan that was adopted by the Planning Board.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee of the Township of Hamilton, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The Township Committee hereby endorses the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A, which was adopted by the Township's Planning Board on June 5, 2025.
- 2. The Township Committee hereby directs the Township's Affordable Housing Counsel to seek Program and Court approval of the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan via a

Compliance Certification, and to take whatever actions are necessary to maintain the Township's immunity from all <u>Mount Laurel</u> exclusionary zoning lawsuits.

3. The Township reserves the right to further amend the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, should that be necessary.

COMMITTEE MEMBER	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
CHEEK	2	Х			
NELSON		X			
PITALE		х			
WITHERSPOON	1	x			
MAYOR SCHENKER		x			

Certified to be a true copy of a resolution which was adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Hamilton, County of Atlantic on the 16th day of June, 2025.

Rita Martino, RMC, CMR

Township Clerk