

RESOLUTION
MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
BOROUGH OF WESTWOOD

TITLE: Resolution Of The Mayor & Council Of The Borough Of Westwood Endorsing The Amended Report of the Housing Element And Fair Share Plan and Amended Spending Plan Adopted By The Westwood Planning Board

RESOLUTION #26- 95

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

WHEREAS, for ease in reference, this resolution shall refer to the Fair Housing Act as amended as “FHA II”; and

WHEREAS, FHA II established a procedure by which municipalities can secure approval of a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan (“HEFSP”) and secure immunity in the process; and

WHEREAS, that procedure contemplated that municipalities would adopt a resolution by January 31, 2025 committing to a fair share number and filing a declaratory relief action within 48 hours from adoption of the resolution and then filing a HEFSP by June 30, 2025 and filing that plan within 48 hours with the Affordable Housing Dispute Resolution Program (the “Program”); and

WHEREAS, by taking these actions, a municipality could secure and maintain immunity from all exclusionary zoning suits inclusive of builder’s remedy suits; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with this statutory procedure, the Borough adopted a binding resolution R25-44, adopted on January 27, 2025 and filed a declaratory relief action within 48 hours from adoption of the resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Borough’s affordable housing planning consultant, Edward Snieckus P.P., LLA of Burgis Associates, Inc has prepared a HEFSP to address the Borough’s affordable housing obligations under FHA II; and

WHEREAS, the Westwood Borough Planning Board adopted a HEFSP prepared by Burgis Associates, Inc. on June 12, 2025, which is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the procedure established by FHA II, the Borough’s affordable housing counsel filed the duly adopted HEFSP with the Program created by FHA II within 48 hours from adoption; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Mayor and Council endorsed the HEFSP on June 17, 2025 for review with the Program for review with the Program; and

WHEREAS, Fair Share Housing Center (“FSHC”) filed challenges to the Borough’s application for approval of its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan; and

WHEREAS, the dispute resolution program (“Program”) created by the Fair Housing Act having appointed Judge Toskos as the program judge and Sanyogita S. Chavan, AICP, PP as the adjudicator to help mediate the disputes; and

WHEREAS, while mediation did not result in a final agreement, the Borough is amending the Fourth Round HEFSP to include additional overlay zoning to further address unmet need; and

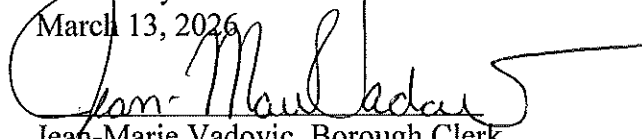
WHEREAS, the Borough is committed to fulfilling this additional effort and implementing amendments to its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and referral to the Mount Laurel judge pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1(f)(2)(b) and Administrative Directive #14-24, which if approved will result in a compliance certification for the Borough for the Fourth Round; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Mayor & Council now wishes to endorse the Amended Housing Element and Fair Share Plan including the Amended Spending Plan adopted by the Westwood Planning Board on February 26, 2026 and seek approval of the HEFSP by the Program and Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor & Council of the Borough of Westwood, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Borough Mayor & Council hereby endorses the Fourth Round HEFSP previously adopted by the Westwood Planning Board and attached hereto.
2. The Borough Mayor & Council hereby directs the Borough’s Affordable Housing Counsel to (a) file this resolution with the Program, along with any additional documents the professionals deem necessary or desirable; and (b) seek a Compliance Certification from the Program or Vicinage area judge as may be appropriate formally approving the Plan.
3. The Borough reserves the right to further amend the HEFSP attached hereto, should that be necessary.

Certified to be a true copy of a
 Resolution adopted at the meeting
 of the Mayor and Council on
 March 13, 2026


 Jean-Marie Vadovic, Borough Clerk

NAME	MOVED	SECOND	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Biocchi		✓	✓			
Collins			✓			
Dell	✓		✓			
Greco					✓	
Hodges					✓	
Letizia			✓			