BOUROUGH OF WILDWOOD CREST PLANNING BOARD RESOLUTION NO. PB-25-10 ADOPTING A FOURTH ROUND HOUSING ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN

- WHEREAS, the Borough of Wildwood Crest (hereinafter the "Borough" or "Wildwood Crest") has a demonstrated history of voluntary compliance as evidenced by its Third Round record; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to In re N.J.A.C. 5:96 and 5:97, 221 N.J. 1 (2015) (Mount Laurel IV), on July 8, 2015, the Borough of Wildwood Crest filed a Declaratory Judgment Complaint in Superior Court, Law Division seeking, among other things, a judicial declaration that its Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, to be amended as necessary, satisfied its "fair share" of the regional need for low and moderate income housing pursuant to the "Mount Laurel doctrine;" and
- **WHEREAS**, that culminated in a Court-approved Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and a Final Judgment of Compliance and Repose, which precludes all <u>Mount Laurel</u> lawsuits, including builder's remedy lawsuits, until July 1, 2025; and
- WHEREAS, the Borough continues to actively implement its Court-approved Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan; and
- 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 Borough adopted a "binding resolution" accepting the DCA-calculated Present Need and Prospective Need, as required by the Amended FHA, on January 22, 2025, establishing its Fourth Round Present Need of 10 and Prospective Need of 25; and
- WHEREAS, in accordance with the Amended FHA and the Administrative Office of the Court's Directive No. 14-24, the Borough 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 24, 2025; and
- WHEREAS, the filing of the DJ Complaint gave the Borough automatic, continued immunity from all exclusionary zoning lawsuits, including builder's remedy lawsuits, which is still in full force and effect; and
- WHEREAS, the Borough did not receive any objections to its Present and Prospective Need numbers by February 28, 2025, resulting in the statutory automatic acceptance of the Borough's Fourth Round obligations on March 1, 2025; and
- **WHEREAS**, on March 27, 2025, the Court entered an order establishing the Borough's Fourth Round Present Need of 10 and Prospective Need of 25; and

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

WHEREAS, upon notice duly provided pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 40:55D-13, the Planning Board held a public hearing on the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan on June 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board determined that the attached Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan is consistent with the goals and objectives of the Borough's current Master Plan, and that adoption and implementation of the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan is in the public interest and protects public health and safety and promotes the general welfare.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Planning Board of the Borough of Wildwood Crest, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, that the Planning Board hereby adopts the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan attacked hereto as Exhibit A.

Chairman of the Planning Board

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the Planning Board of the Borough of Wildwood Crest at a regular meeting held on the 4th day of June 2025.

Planning Board Secretary