## RESOLUTION NO. 26 – 2025

## RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE SETTING $4^{\mathrm{TH}}$ ROUND AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATIONS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2024, the New Jersey Legislature adopted legislation known as P.L.2024, c.2, which set forth a procedure for calculating the 4<sup>th</sup> Round affordable housing obligation for municipalities, and which required this calculation to be adopted by the governing body of a municipality by way of Resolution; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2(b)(1) provides that the Fourth Round municipal affordable housing obligations shall run from the period of July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2035, and Region 5 consists of Burlington County, Camden County and Gloucester County ("Region 5:); and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1(a) allows the municipality to take into consideration the calculations published by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs ("DCA") when determining the municipal Present Need and Prospective Need obligations and requires the basis for the municipality's determination to be set forth in a Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, in December 2024, DCA released its proposed calculations for municipal Present Need and municipal Prospective Need and determined that Harrison Township's Present Need is 40 units and its Prospective Need is 306 units; and

WHEREAS, the Harrison Township has determined that the DCA's proposed calculation of 40 units for municipal Present Need for Harrison Township is reasonable because:

- (a) N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2(a) and N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.3(a) & (b) requires that municipal Present Need "be determined by estimating the deficient housing units occupied by low- and moderate-income households in the region..." using a methodology similar to the methodology used to determine 3<sup>rd</sup> Round municipal Present Need, using the most recent dataset of the American Community Survey (ASC) and the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy (CHAS) dataset of the federal decennial census; and
- (b) As set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:94, present need was determined by considering the following characteristics: "(1) Persons per Room. 1.01 or more persons per room in housing units built 1939 or before. These are old units that are overcrowded. (2) Plumbing Facilities. Inadequate plumbing sufficient for rehabilitation is indicated by incomplete plumbing facilities, i.e., lack of hot and cold piped water, flush toilet or bathtub/shower. (3) Kitchen Facilities. Inadequate kitchen facilities signaling rehabilitation are indicated by the non-presence of kitchen facilities within the unit, or

- the nonpresence of one of three components: a sink with piped water, a stove, or a refrigerator[;]" and
- (c) N.J.A.C. 5:97 changed the overcrowding methodology to include any house that is over 50 years old, and since the 4<sup>th</sup> Round starts in 2025, the overcrowding methodology should include houses that were built in 1975 or older; and
- (d) The DCA's calculation of Harrison Township's Present Need of 40 units was calculated based on the data from the American Community Survey from 2017-2021 ("ACS") and the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategy from 2017-2021 ("CHAS"), which is the most current dataset available from the federal decennial census, and extrapolating data from the Public Use Microdata Areas ("PUMA") applicable to each municipality; and
- (e) The DCA's calculation of Harrison Township's Present Need of 40 units took into consideration overcrowded housing units built in 1980 and earlier, as well as all units lacking complete plumbing and kitchens; and
- (f) The DCA's Present Need calculation because it was calculated in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2(a) and N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.3(a) & (b); and

WHEREAS, Harrison Township has determined that the DCA's proposed calculation of 306 units for municipal Prospective Need for Harrison Township is reasonable because:

- (a) N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2(b)(2) requires calculating regional Prospective Need by determining the projected household change for the 4<sup>th</sup> Round period by calculating the household change between the most recent federal decennial census and the second-most recent federal decennial census, and dividing the result by 2.5; and
- (b) DCA has calculated the Region 5 Regional Need to be 9,134 housing units based on the 2010 and 2020 Census data, and the 2020 Census is the most recent federal decennial census and 2010 is the second-most recent federal decennial census; and
- (c) The DCA's Region 5 Regional Need calculation of 9,134 housing units is consistent with the methodology and data sources required in N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2(b)(2); and
- (d) N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.3(c) requires calculation of the municipal Perspective need by calculating: (1) the municipality's equalized nonresidential valuation factor; (2) the municipality's income capacity factor; and (3) the municipality's land capacity factor; and
- (e) A municipality's equalized nonresidential valuation factor is to be calculated pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.3(c)(2) by calculating the changes in the nonresidential

- property valuations within the municipality using data from the Division of Local Government Services, beginning in 1999 and dividing it by the region's change in equalized nonresidential valuation; and
- (f) DCA calculated the municipal equalized nonresidential valuation using data from the NJ Division of Local Government Services, 1999 and 2023 Property Value Classification Files, and determined that Harrison Township's nonresidential valuation factor was calculated as 7.6%; and
- (g) N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.3(c)(3) requires the municipal income capacity factor to be determine using data from the most recent American Community Survey; and
- (h) DCA calculated the income capacity factor utilizing Table S1903 of the Census Bureau's American Community Survey 2018-22 5-Year Estimates, which was the most recent data set available for all municipalities and determined that Harrison Township had an income capacity factor of 2.14%; and
- (i) N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.3(c)(4) requires the municipal land capacity factor to be determined using the "land use / land data cover data" most recently published by the Department of Environment Protection, American Community Survey and Comprehensive Affordability Strategy dataset; MOD-IV Property Tax List data from the Division of Taxation, and construction permit data from the DCA; and
- (j) DCA calculated the land capacity factor by utilizing the most recent land use / land cover (LULC) data from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the most recently available (released in 2024) MOD-IV Property Tax List data from the Division of Taxation in the Department of the Treasury, and the most recent available construction permit data from the Department of Community Affairs and determined that Harrison Township has a land capacity factor of 4.5%; and
- (k) Upon averaging Harrison Township's land capacity factor, nonresidential development factor and income capacity factor, Harrison Township's average allocation factor is 3.35%; and
- (l) Applying Harrison Township's average allocation factor of 3.35% to the Region 6 Regional Need of 9,134 results in a Prospective Need obligation for Harrison Township of 306 units; and
- (m) The DCA's Prospective Need calculation of 306 units for Harrison Township is consistent with the methodology and data sources required in N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2(c)(2), (3), (4) and (5); and

WHEREAS, Harrison Township's affordable housing professionals have reviewed the Present Need calculations and Prospective Need calculations published by the DCA and have recommended that Harrison Township adopt these calculations as Harrison Township's 4<sup>th</sup> Round affordable housing obligations; and

WHEREAS, the Harrison Township has determined that it is in the best interests of Harrison Township to accept the Present Need and Prospective Need obligations as calculated by the DCA for the 4<sup>th</sup> Round.

**NOW**, **THEREFORE**, **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Harrison, as follows:

- 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein by reference as if fully set forth at length.
- 2. The Mayor and Township Committee have determined that it is in the best interests of the Township to set is 4<sup>th</sup> Round municipal affordable housing obligations pursuant to the Fair Housing Act of 1985, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301, et seq. as follows:

Present Need = 40 units Prospective Need = 306 units

- 3. The Township's calculation of need is subject to a reservation of the following rights including, without limitation,
  - a) The right to adjust the Township's calculation of need based on a windshield survey, lack of land, sewer, water, regional planning inputs, or any combination thereof;
  - b) All rights to revoke or amend this Resolution in the event of a successful legal challenge, or legislative change, to the applicable provisions of the Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq.;
  - c) All rights to take any contrary position in the event of a third party challenge to the obligations;
  - d) The right to adjust the Township's calculation of need in the event that any future legislation adjusts the Township's 4<sup>th</sup> Round obligation, including any change to the methods of calculating the 4<sup>th</sup> Round obligation;
  - e) The right to adjust the Township's calculation of need in the event that any decisions of a court of competent jurisdiction from any pending or future litigation adjusts the Township's 4<sup>th</sup> Round obligation, including any change to the methods of calculating the 4<sup>th</sup> Round obligation;

- d) All rights to review and adjust unmet Prior Round Need and compliance mechanisms during the review and adoption of the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.
- 4. Maley Givens, P.C. is directed to file a Complaint for Declaratory Judgment and to file a copy of this Resolution with the Affordable Housing Alternative Dispute Resolution Program as required by the Amended FHA.
- 5. The Township Clerk is directed to publish a copy of this Resolution on the Township's website and to take any and all action necessary to proceed with the preparation and adoption of the Township's Housing Element and Fair Share Plan for filing by June 30, 2025, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 304.1(f)(1)(2) & (f)(2)(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Certified to be a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Committee of the Township of Harrison, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey on the 21st day of January, 2025.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF HARRISON

Julie Cundey, Municipal Clerk

J. Adam Wingate, Mayor

ROLL CALL VOTE				
COMMITTEE MEMBER	AYES	NAYS	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Wingate				,
Jacques				
French				
Coakley	1			
Moore	V			

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## **CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the above resolution is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Harrison, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, at a meeting held by the same on January 21, 2025 in the Harrison Township Municipal Building, 114 Bridgeton Pike, Mullica Hill, New Jersey 08062.

JULIE CUNDEY

ACTING MUNICIPAL CLERK