

RESOLUTION ENDORSING HOUSING ELEMENT & FAIR SHARE PLAN

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2024, Governor Murphy signed into law an Amendment to the Fair Housing Act (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq.) ("Amended FHA"); and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA required the Department of Community Affairs ("DCA") to produce non-binding estimates of fair share obligations on or before October 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the DCA issued a report on October 18, 2024 ("DCA Report") wherein it reported its estimate of the obligation for all municipalities based upon its interpretation of the standards in the Amended FHA; and

WHEREAS, the DCA Report calculated the Township's Fourth Round (2025-2035) obligations as follows: a Present Need Obligation of 130 units and a Prospective Need Obligation of 474 units; and

WHEREAS, the Amended FHA provides that the DCA Report is non-binding and the ultimate responsibility rests with each municipality to calculate its affordable housing obligation in accordance with the Amended FHA with consideration of the calculations contained in the DCA report; and

WHEREAS, the Township Affordable Housing Planner reviewed the DCA Report and adjusted the Township's land capacity factor as calculated by the DCA based on the DCA's inclusion of non-developable land within the Township and arrived at a Fourth Round Affordable Housing Present Need Obligation of 130 units and Prospective Need Obligation of 474 units; and

WHEREAS, based on the Township Affordable Housing Planner's calculations, on January 30, 2025, the Township Council adopted Resolution 25-01-30-068 establishing the Township's Fourth Round Affordable Housing Present Need Obligation of 130 units and Prospective Need Obligation of 417 units and authorized the filing of a Declaratory Judgment Complaint together with the adopted Resolution and Township Affordable Housing Planner's memo; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Amended FHA and AOC Directive #14-24, the Township filed a Declaratory Judgment Complaint together with Resolution 25-01-30-068 and the Township Affordable Housing Planner's memo; and

WHEREAS, on April 15, 2025, the Honorable Thomas Miller submitted a Recommendation on behalf of the Program to the Honorable William Mennen recommending the establishment of the Township's Fourth Round Affordable Housing Obligation at 130 Present Need units and 421 Prospective Need units; and

WHEREAS, on April 23, 2025, the Honorable William Mennen entered an Order and Decision establishing the Township's Fourth Round Affordable Housing Obligation at 130 Present Need units and 421 Prospective Need units; and

WHEREAS, the Township Affordable Housing Planner prepared a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan to address and satisfy the Township's Fourth Round Affordable Housing Obligation; and

WHEREAS, notice of a public hearing before the Township of Bridgewater Planning Board pertaining to the Township's Housing Element and Fair Share Plan was provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40:55D-13; and

WHEREAS, on June 25, 2025, the Township of Bridgewater Planning Board held a public hearing on the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and adopted a Resolution approving the Plan; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2025, the Township filed the Housing Element & Fair Share Plan in the underlying declaratory judgment action; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater has reviewed the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and wishes to endorse the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Bridgewater, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that it hereby endorses the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan as adopted by the Township of Bridgewater Planning Board.

Introduced	Seconded	Council	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
✓		Kirsh	✓			
	✓	Kurdyla	✓			
		Pedroso		✓		
		Ring	✓			
		Norgalis	✓			

Adopted: July 10, 2025

I hereby certify this is a true and exact copy of a resolution adopted by the Bridgewater Township Council on July 10, 2025

Grace W. Njuguna

Grace Njuguna, RMC, Township Clerk