

KNOWLTON TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY

RESOLUTION 2025-71

RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE HOUSING ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN ADOPTED BY THE PLANNING BOARD

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2024, Governor Murphy signed P.L.2024, c.2. into law, establishing a new framework for determining and enforcing municipalities' affordable housing obligations under the New Jersey Supreme Court's Mount Laurel doctrine and the New Jersey Fair Housing Act (the "FHA") (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et al.); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1(f)(1)(b), each municipality must adopt a binding resolution no later than January 31, 2025 determining its present and prospective fair share obligation for the Fourth Round; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Administrative Directive #14-24 issued by the Administrative Office of the Courts on December 13, 2024, "[a] municipality seeking a certification of compliance with the [Fair Housing Act] shall file an action in the form of a declaratory judgment complaint and Civil Case Information Statement (Civil CIS) in the county in which the municipality is located" within 48 hours of adopting the municipal resolution of fair share obligations; and

WHEREAS, the Knowlton Township Committee (the "Committee") adopted Resolution No. 2025-22 on January 27, 2025 identifying its present and prospective fair share obligation for the Fourth Round: as follows:

Present Need: 4

Prospective Need: 32; and

WHEREAS, Knowlton Township (the "Township") filed a Complaint for Declaratory Judgement, captioned IMO Knowlton Township, Docket No. WRN-L-52-25 on January 28, 2025 identifying its present and prospective fair share obligation for the Fourth Round as set forth above and committing to adopting and submitting a fourth round housing element and fair share plan as required by the FHA; and

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2025, the Hon. William G. Mennen, J.S.C. issued an order confirming the Township's identified affordable housing obligations and authorizing the Township to proceed with preparation and adoption of a fourth round housing plan by June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the FHA now requires, among other actions, that municipalities submit an adopted housing element in fair share plan on or before June 30, 2025; and

WHEREAS, upon notice duly provided pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:44D-13, the Knowlton Township Land Use Board (the "Board") held a public hearing on the Fourth Round Housing

Element and Fair Share Plan (the "HEFSP") on June 24, 2025 and adopted the HEFSP on the same day; and

WHEREAS, a true copy of the HEFSP and the resolution of the Board adopting the HEFSP is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Committee wishes to endorse the HEFSP and seeks approval of the HEFSP from the Court.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Committee of Knowlton Township, Warren County, New Jersey, as follows:

1. That it hereby endorses the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, as adopted by the Knowlton Township Land Use Board on June 24, 2025 via the resolution, attached hereto as part of Exhibit A.
2. That it authorizes and directs its professionals to file with the Court (i) the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, (ii) the resolutions of the Board adopting and the Committee endorsing the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, and (iii) any additional documents the professionals deem necessary or desirable.
3. That it reserves the right to amend the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, should that be necessary.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

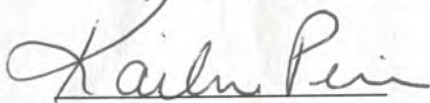
Date: June 30, 2025

Motion: Van Horn

Second: Shipps

AIF: Baley-yes, Bates-yes, Mazza-yes, Shipps-yes, Van Horn-yes

CERTIFICATION: I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Knowlton, Warren County, State of New Jersey at a meeting held on June 30, 2025.



Kailene Pierson, Acting Municipal Clerk