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**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF LOPATCONG  
TOWNSHIP, WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, ENDORSING  
THE 2025 HOUSING ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Lopatcong Planning Board (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") adopted a comprehensive Master Plan and conducted a Re-Examination of same and made certain amendments thereto; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Lopatcong has historically addressed affordable housing obligations as mandated through Southern Burlington County NAACP v. Township of Mount Laurel, 67 N.J. 151 (1975) and 92 N.J. 158 (1983)(hereinafter referred to as "Mount Laurel Doctrine") through participation with the Council on Affordable Housing (hereinafter referred to as "COAH") and for which the Board has adopted various amendments to the Township's Housing Element and Fair Share Plan of the Township's Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board previously amended the Master Plan's Housing Element and Fair Share Plan on August 22, 2018, pursuant to the Township of Lopatcong's settlement of its Declaratory Action for Fair Share Compliance approved by the New Jersey Superior Court on January 31, 2018, for which a Final Judgment of Compliance and Repose was entered by the Superior Court on January 10, 2019; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Fair Housing act (hereinafter referred to as "Act") was amended on March 20, 2024, by P.L. 2024, c. 2, which, inter alia, abolished COAH and established a new Mount Laurel Doctrine compliance process and mechanism for participating municipalities (hereinafter referred to as "Program"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Lopatcong filed a Complaint for Declaratory Compliance and, as a product of participation in the Program, established the Township's Fourth Round affordable housing obligations with a present need being zero (0) and prospective need of eighty-one (81) units for the year 2025 through 2035; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Lopatcong is located within the area regulated by the New Jersey Highlands Water Protection and Planning Act, which impacts development build-out in various ways; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fourth Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan prepared by Daniel

N. Block, P.P., A.I.C.P. of Colliers Engineering & Design dated May 16, 2025 (hereinafter referred to as "2025 HEFSP"), addresses the amendments necessary to the Master Plan to enable the implementation of the Township's Mount Laurel Doctrine affordable housing compliance plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Lopatcong Planning Board conducted a public hearing regarding the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan amendment to the Master Plan on May 28, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board found that the 2025 HEFSP is reasonable and appropriately addresses the required planning for the provision of affordable housing within the Township with due regard and consideration of environment and other factors impacting such development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Board of the Township of Lopatcong, County of Warren, State of New Jersey, adopted the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, on May 28, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, a true copy of the Resolution of the Planning Board adopting the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan is attached; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the governing body of Lopatcong Township, Warren County, State of New Jersey, hereby endorses the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, as adopted by the Lopatcong Township Planning Board.

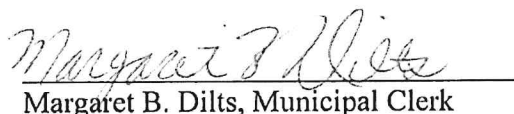


William D. Wright, Mayor

Dated: June 4, 2025

#### CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Resolution adopted by the Township Council of the Township of Lopatcong, at its regular meeting held on June 4, 2025.



Margaret B. Dilts, Municipal Clerk