

TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN

RESOLUTION NO. 116-2013

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MOORESTOWN
ADOPTING A SUSTAINABLE LAND USE PLEDGE**

WHEREAS, land use is an essential component of overall sustainability for a municipality; and

WHEREAS, land-use decisions can have a substantial impact on the quality of life within a municipality and, if not carefully considered, can lead to or support adverse impacts on the community such as high housing costs, increased greenhouse gas emissions, loss of open space and the degradation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, land use decisions can also have the positive effect of providing for a range of housing options, creating walkable communities, preserving open space, providing for adequate recreation, and allowing for the continued protection and use of vital natural resources; and

WHEREAS, given New Jersey's strong tradition of home rule and local authority over planning and zoning, local municipalities have an important role to play in achieving a statewide sustainable land use pattern;

WHEREAS, the Township of Moorestown has been recognized as a municipality where the positive effects of land use decisions are evident and have been an important part of managing the growth of our community; and

NOW THEREFORE, we the Township Council of the Township of Moorestown re-affirm our commitment to continuing to make land use decisions which foster the positive goals described hereinabove and which will assist in keeping the Township of Moorestown a sustainable community and pledge the following specific steps to continue and advance the goals of sustainability:

1. incorporate the principles of good land use planning in any master plan re-evaluation or revision;
2. consider sustainability elements when updating our land-use zoning, natural resource protection, and other ordinances;
3. communicate, when appropriate, with administrations of our neighboring municipalities concerning land-use decisions, and consider regional impacts when making land-use decisions;

4. continue to create transportation choices by considering all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit and automobiles, and thoughtfully address parking options and alternatives, when planning transportation projects and reviewing development applications;

5. continue ongoing efforts to protect the natural resources of the State for environmental, recreational and agricultural value, avoiding or mitigating negative impacts to these resources, as evidenced by our recent revision of a Natural Resources Inventory and the incorporation of that NRI into our Master Plan;

6. allow for a mix of residential, retail, commercial, recreational and other land use types in areas that make the most sense for our municipality and the region, particularly in downtown and town center areas;

7. foster a diverse mix of housing types and locations, including single- and multi-family, for-sale and rental options, to meet the needs of all people at a range of income levels;

8. incorporate the principles of green design and renewable energy generation into municipal buildings to the extent feasible and practicable and when updating our site plan and subdivision requirements for residential and commercial buildings in a cost-effective and rational manner;

9. consider factors, such as, walkability, bikability, greater access to public transit, proximity to other land-use types, and open space when locating new or relocated municipal facilities, as evidenced by the location of the Town Hall currently under construction.

VOTE:

JORDAN
CHIACCHIO
GARWOOD
NEWCOMER
NAPOLITANO

Certified to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Council at its meeting on June 10, 2013.

Patricia L. Hunt, Township Clerk