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THE CITY OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY



ROBERT L. BOWSER
MAYOR

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DEPT OF
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF SMART GROWTH

April 1, 2009

Benjamin L. Spinelli, Esq., Executive Director
Department of Community Affairs
Office of Smart Growth
101 S. Broad Street
P.O. Box 204
Trenton, NJ 08625-0204

Dear Mr. Spinelli:

It is with sincere regret that I have to resign from the New Jersey State Planning Commission effective when I am confirmed as a member of the newly formed State Housing Council created by Legislative Bill A-500.

I have enjoyed my time on the Planning Commission being exposed and involved in the various municipality plans for future development. I hope to use this experience to help make some reasonable decisions to put the future of housing development back on track. There is a need for clarification of the intent of the Mount Laurel Decision, the Fair Housing Act, and COHA and maybe, just maybe, this new Council will produce workable solutions to the State's housing needs.

Please offer my thanks to your staff, the entire Office of Smart Growth for their dedicated and professional approach to each application while keeping the larger picture of New Jersey's growth in mind.

I especially want to thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Bowser
MAYOR

CC: Chairman Edward McKenna, Jr.
Commissioner Joseph V. Doria
Governor Jon S. Corzine