

RESOLUTION 2021-170
RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE, COUNTY OF BURLINGTON,
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, STATEMENT OF INTENT TO PURSUE PLAN
ENDORSEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE MUNICIPAL SELF-
ASSESSMENT REPORT TO THE NEW JERSEY STATE OFFICE OF PLANNING
ADVOCACY

WHEREAS, the State Planning Act recognizes that New Jersey requires sound and integrated land use planning and coordination of planning at all levels of government in order to conserve the state's natural resources, revitalize the urban centers, protect the quality of the environment, and provide needed housing and adequate public services at a reasonable cost while promoting economic growth, development, and renewal; and

WHEREAS, Plan Endorsement is a voluntary review process developed by the State Planning Commission to provide the technical assistance and coordination of the State for municipalities, counties, and regional agencies to meet the goals of the State Planning Act and the State Development and Redevelopment Plan ("State Plan"); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Plan Endorsement process is to increase the degree of consistency among municipal, regional, and state agency plans with each other and with the State Plan, and to facilitate the implementation of these plans and guide where and how development and redevelopment can be accommodated in accordance with the State Plan; and

WHEREAS, Florence Township participated in the Plan Endorsement process for the regional Route 130/Delaware River Corridor Strategic Plan, which was initiated by Burlington County, was endorsed by the State Planning Commission on April 28, 1999, and received a ten-year Plan Endorsement extension and additional extensions; and

WHEREAS, the current State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines incorporate, and expand upon the principles of the Municipal Land Use Law in order to help municipalities plan for a sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, the current State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines require the preparation and submission of a Municipal Self-Assessment Report as the means by which a municipality assess the consistency of its existing community vision and planning documents with the State Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Florence desire to obtain new Plan Endorsement for itself and the twelve-municipal region that comprises the original Route 130/Delaware River Corridor and is now known as the River Route from the State Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Florence Township has participated in the Municipal Self-Assessment Report process undertaken with the assistance of the Burlington County Bridge

Commission Department of Economic Development and Regional Planning on behalf of Burlington County pursuant to the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Florence Township Plan Endorsement Advisory Committee has reviewed the Municipal Self-Assessment Report and recommends that the Mayor and Council approve it, with the addition of language that addresses equity issues regarding increased truck traffic negatively affecting residents living along Front Street and Delaware Avenue and noise pollution generated by traffic traveling on the New Jersey Turnpike extension and negatively affecting nearby residential development, for submission to the State Planning Commission and the Office of Planning Advocacy toward the pursuit of Plan Endorsement by the Township of Florence and the other eleven municipalities that make up the River Route region; and

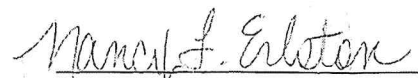
WHEREAS, Florence Township held a public meeting at which the Self-Assessment Report was reviewed and approved on August 4, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of Florence Township hereby expressly state the intention of Florence Township to pursue Plan Endorsement from the State Planning Commission; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of Florence Township approve the Municipal Self-Assessment Report, which includes the additional language regarding noise pollution from the New Jersey Turnpike extension that is contained in the Municipal Questionnaire revised on June 29, 2021, and authorizes the Municipal Self-Assessment Report to be submitted to the Office of Planning Advocacy for consideration; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of Florence Township shall transmit a certified copy of this Resolution, Proof of Public Notice for public meetings in the form of an affidavit of publication, and copies of meeting minutes of the public meeting at which the Self-Assessment Report was reviewed and adopted, as required by the State Planning Rules to the State Planning Commission and the Office of Planning Advocacy.

I, Nancy L. Erlston, Clerk of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true copy of the Resolution approved by Township Council at their August 11, 2021 meeting.


Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk