

BOROUGH OF MANVILLE

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January 15, 2009

Mr. Ben Spinelli, Executive Director
Office of Smart Growth
New Jersey Department of Community Affairs
101 South Broad Street, P.O. Box 204
Trenton, NJ 08625-0204

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OFFICE OF SMART GROWTH
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

**RE: Manville Borough Plan Endorsement
Waiver Request from N.J.A.C. 5:85-7.11(a)1**

Dear Mr. Spinelli:

Manville Borough has been engaged in the Plan Endorsement process since June 2007. Up to this time, the Borough has submitted its planning documents, attended a Pre-Petition Meeting, created a Plan Endorsement Advisory Committee (PEAC), and submitted a Municipal Self Assessment Report (MSA) to the Office of Smart Growth. Subsequently, the State issued an Opportunities and Constraints Assessment report for Manville. The Borough is fully committed to complete the Plan Endorsement Petition submission.

In accordance with the State Planning Rules, the Borough must now perform a community visioning process.

In 2007, the Borough received a grant from the Somerset County Municipal Planning Partnership Program to pursue Plan Endorsement, including the creation of a PEAC, preparation of the MSA, and community visioning. The grant funding included a specific scope of services that was based on the latest Plan Endorsement rules which at that time included two (2) visioning workshops, and as such, the grant's scope includes two (2) visioning workshops.

In November 2008, more than a year after the Borough received the grant funding, the State Planning Commission adopted new Plan Endorsement rules which now require three (3) visioning workshops. At this time, the Borough respectfully requests a waiver from the Community Visioning requirement pursuant to Section 5:85-7.11(a)1, specifically to perform only two (2) visioning workshops rather than the required three (3) workshops. In addition, the Borough has had a number of public hearings on the following initiatives that will enhance the community visioning workshops:

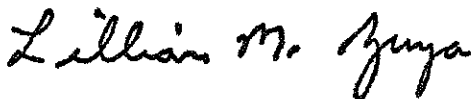
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- 2006 Manville Reexamination Report
- 2004 Housing Element and Fair Share Plan
- 2005 Rustic Mall redevelopment Plan
- 2003 Revitalization Implementation Plan, and
- 2003 Business Improvement District Strategic Plan.

As stated above, the Borough respectfully requests a waiver from N.J.A.C. 5:85-7.11(a)1 to perform two (2) workshops rather than three, largely based on previously approved scope of services and grant.

If you require additional information, please contact our consulting planner, Jamie Sunyak, P.P., A.I.C.P., at (732) 577-9000.

Very truly yours,



Lillian M. Zuza
Mayor

LMZ:nk

cc: Barry Ableman, OSG-DCA
Jamie Sunyak, Consulting Planner, CMX