

**RESOLUTION 2021-105
RESOLUTION TO CREATE
THE PLAN ENDORSEMENT CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of Florence Township desire to obtain Plan Endorsement from the State Planning Commission; 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 State Development and Redevelopment Plan; and

WHEREAS, the State Planning Act recognizes that coordination of State action is necessary to help municipalities develop New Jersey's economy while protecting the natural, historic and recreational resources, providing adequate and diverse housing, and redeveloping our cities and older suburban areas; and

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

WHEREAS, the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines establish a comprehensive and coordinated planning process in order for a municipality to consider, and update as necessary, master plans, functional plans, development regulations and capital plans to be consistent with the State Plan and achieve plan endorsement; and

WHEREAS, through plan endorsement, master plans, functional plans, development regulations and capital plans should be coordinated and supportive of each other; and

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-27, the Mayor may appoint one or more persons as a citizens' advisory committee to assist or collaborate with the planning board in its duties, including adoption of, and amendment to, the master plan to guide the use of lands within the municipality in a manner which protects the public health and safety and promotes the general welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Endorsement Guidelines and State Planning Rules require the appointment of a Plan Endorsement Advisory Committee to guide the municipality through the Plan Endorsement process; and

WHEREAS, the Plan Endorsement Advisory Committee shall consist of between 5 and 10 members, including one representative of the governing body, a Class IV member of the planning board; one representative of a local board, commission or committee who is not a member of the planning board; and two representatives of the public that do not hold a position, employment or office with the municipality.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor of **Florence Township** hereby approves and adopts the following:

Florence Township establishes a Plan Endorsement Citizens' Advisory Committee consisting of between 5 and 10 members as follows:

1. **Paul Ostrander**, Member of the Governing Body
2. **Newell Kehr**, Class IV Member of the Planning Board
3. **Melanie Mieczkowski**, Environmental Commission
4. **Rose Sullivan**, Member of the Public
5. **Kate Wittcamp**, Member of the Public
6. **Deepa Patel**, Member of the Public
7. **Joe Bongiorno**, Member of the Public
8. **Paul Ordog**, Environmental Commission
9. **David Mudge**, Environmental Commission
10. **William Federico**, Environmental Commission

The members of the Citizens' Advisory Committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Mayor; and

The Citizens' Advisory Committee shall report findings and conclusions of its actions performed pursuant to the State Planning Rules and Plan Endorsement Guidelines, and make recommendations to the Planning Board on next steps, but shall have no power to vote or take other action required of the Planning Board; and

The Citizens' Advisory Committee shall also report to the Governing Body at least Yearly on the status of plan endorsement; and

The Citizen Advisory Committee shall be entitled to call to its assistance any personnel of any municipal department or consultant thereto as it may require in order to perform its duties; and

The Citizens' Advisory Committee is established for the purpose of:

Guiding the plan endorsement process for the municipality;

Increasing public awareness of, and participation in, the plan endorsement process for the community;

Serving as the liaison with the state, county, regional agencies and local officials throughout the plan endorsement process;

Assisting the municipality in meeting the deadlines of plan endorsement;

Take the lead on completing the municipal self-assessment and submitting the required planning documents to the Office of Smart Growth;

Helping to facilitate community visioning as described in the Plan Endorsement Guidelines and community visioning standards;

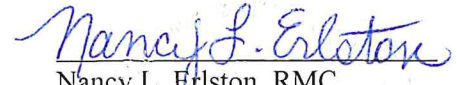
Reporting the findings and conclusions of the self-assessment and community visioning to the local planning board for its review; and

Negotiating a draft Action Plan with the Office of Smart Growth, in collaboration with the planning board and governing body, to consist of actions that should be taken to adopt and/or update plans, ordinances and regulations in order to meet the plan endorsement requirements;

Facilitating completion of the Action Plan items in order to achieve endorsement by the State Planning Commission and enjoy the benefits available to the municipality as a result of the endorsed plan.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of **Florence Township** shall transmit a copy of this resolution and the notice as required in the State Planning Rules to the State Planning Commission.

I, NANCY L. ERLSTON, Clerk of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Township of Florence at a meeting held on the 19th day of May, 2021.


Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk