



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
STATE PLANNING COMMISSION
PO BOX 204
TRENTON NJ 08625-0204

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

JOSEPH V. DORIA, JR.
Commissioner

JAMES SOUDER
Interim Executive Director

June 11, 2009

The Honorable Robert Holtaway
Mayor, Bedminster Township
Municipal Building, One Miller Lane
Bedminster, NJ 07921

**RE: Bedminster Township – Designating Interim Centers for Bedminster and Pluckemin
Centers in Plan Endorsement**

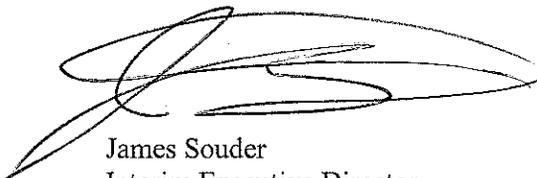
Dear Mayor Holtaway:

The Office of Smart Growth (OSG) is encouraged that you are nearing the conclusion of your municipal visioning. The Plan Endorsement rules that have been proposed by the State Planning Commission (Commission) and published in the New Jersey Register, allow designation of interim centers as an action plan item. After a municipality completes the submission requirements for review, including a vision statement, relevant State agencies and OSG perform a consistency review. Specifically, our State agency partners submit their comments to OSG within 45 days and we make a consistency determination based on those comments within 90 days. We then prepare a recommendation report within 60 days of the consistency determination. If there are outstanding items that need to be addressed in order to be found consistent with the State Plan, or if the municipality is requesting the Commission designate an interim center, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and attached Action Plan are considered by the Commission.

Typically, the municipality and OSG first make a presentation to the Commission's Plan Implementation Committee (PIC). Barry Ableman, principle planner, will present the Action Plan and MOU at the PIC meeting, which will have discussed with Bedminster in advance. At the following Commission meeting, a resolution will be considered by the SPC to enter into the MOU and attached Action Plan (including the interim center). The petitioner must hold a public hearing to consider and decide to enter into the MOU and Action Plan. The interim center designations become effective upon the MOU being signed by the petitioner. The designation lasts for two years provided you continue making progress on the Action Plan.

The Office of Smart Growth and relevant State agencies remain committed to working with the Township of Bedminster. We are confident that you are moving appropriately toward Plan Endorsement. Should you have any additional questions regarding the Plan Endorsement process, please feel free to contact Barry Ableman, OSG Principal Planner for Bedminster Township at (609) 292-3228 or via e-mail at: bableman@dca.state.nj.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Souder', written over a horizontal line.

James Souder
Interim Executive Director

JS:ba

Enclosure

cc:

State Agency Partners

Bob Bzik, Somerset County Planning Board

Joy Farber, Esq, Chief Counsel and Policy Director, OSG

Karl Hartkopf, PP/ AICP, Planning Director, OSG

Barry Ableman, Principal Planner, OSG

Charles Newcomb, Banisch Associates

Bedminster Township Plan Endorsement File