Public Notice of Fairness and Compliance Hearing to Approve Settlement of Mt. Laurel Litigation

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Fairness and Compliance Hearing (the "Hearing") will be held on May 15, 2024 at 9:00 AM, before the Honorable Kevin M. Shanahan, A.J.S.C., via ZOOM to consider the Amended Settlement Agreement ("Amended Settlement") dated January 25, 2024, between the Township of Bridgewater (the "Township") and Fair Share Housing Center ("FSHC") in the Mt. Laurel action entitled "In the Matter of In the Matter of the Township of Bridgewater, a municipal corporation of the State of New Jersey, and its Third Round Affordable Housing Element and Fair Share Plan", Docket No. SOM-L-934-15. The Zoom instructions are as follows:

https://njcourts.zoomgov.com/j/1616824989?pwd=M0ZZM0U3WVBVOFRHa25YM3FSeVluUT09

Meeting ID: 161 682 4989

Password: 284653

Dial by your location

+1 646 964 1167 US (US Spanish Line)

+1 646 828 7666 US (New York)

+1 551 285 1373 US (New Jersey)

Meeting ID: 161 682 4989

Password: 284653

Find your local number: https://njcourts.zoomgov.com/u/acK3xfyMAk

Join by SIP

1616824989@sip.zoomgov.com

Join by H.323

161.199.138.10 (US West)

161.199.136.10 (US East)

Meeting ID: 161 682 4989

Password: 284653

Through this judicial proceeding, the Court will evaluate whether the proposed Amended Settlement is fair and reasonable to the region's low- and moderate-income households according to the principles set forth in Morris County Fair Housing Council v. Boonton Twp., 197 N.J. Super. 359 (Law Div. 1984), aff'd o.b. 209 N.J. Super. 108 (App. Div. 1986) and East/West Venture v. Borough of Fort Lee, 286 N.J. Super. 311 (App. Div. 1996), and also whether the Township should receive an amended Judgment of Compliance and Repose and whether the Township's amended Affordable Housing Trust Fund Spending Plan should be approved.

The Township received a declaratory Judgment of Compliance and Repose on December 18, 2017, pursuant to a February 10, 2017 settlement agreement ("Original Settlement") with FSHC. The Original Settlement entailed, among other mechanisms, the creation of 40 affordable units as part of an inclusionary development on Block 483, Lots 17-19 (the "Original Site"). The developer of the Original Site chose to pursue a non-residential use. To replace these units, the Township entered into an agreement with NGGRP I, LLC to convert an existing extended stay hotel located at Block 400, Lot 7 (the "Hotel Site") into an inclusionary development with 40 affordable units. The units on the Hotel Site have been converted to residential use, and the affordable units are occupied by qualified low- and moderate-income renters. The Township and FSHC submit that the Settlement Agreement is in a form which is substantially consistent with and fair to the interests of lower-income New-Jerseyans.

The Settlement Agreement sets forth those compliance mechanisms the Township will employ to address its affordable housing obligation. The full text of the Settlement Agreement, the proposed Spending Plan, proposed Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and all supporting documents/information for said items are available for public inspection, photocopying, or digital copying (at requestor's expense) during normal business hours at the Township Clerk's office located at the Bridgewater Township Municipal Building, 100 Commons Way, Bridgewater, New Jersey.

Any interested party may seek to appear and be heard at the ZOOM hearing to address the Settlement Agreement and proposed Spending Plan, and offer any comments or objections, provided any such person first files with the Court at the above address, its comments or objections, in writing, no later than ten (10) days prior to the hearing and serves a paper copy and e-mails such objections or comments upon the following:

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This Notice is provided pursuant to the directive of the Court and is intended to inform interested parties of the Settlement Agreement and inform such parties that they are able to comment on said Settlement Agreement before the Court reviews an evaluates whether to approve the Settlement Agreement. This Notice does not indicate any view by the Court as to the fairness or the adequacy of the Settlement Agreement.

Region 3 – Service List

II 1 'con Control M' 1 11 con Control	N. J. C. C.
Habitat for Humanity Middlesex County	New Jersey Citizen Action
51 Trinity Lane	118 W. State Street
Woodbridge, NJ 07095	Trenton, NJ 08608
Latino Action Network	Middlesex County NAACP
PO Box 943	New Brunswick Area Branch
Freehold, NJ 07728	PO Box 235
	New Brunswick, NJ 08901-0235
Coming Home of Middlesex County	Habitat for Humanity of Greater Plainfield
75 Bayard Street	2 Randolph Road
New Brunswick, NJ 08901	Plainfield, NJ 07060
Supportive Housing Association of New Jersey	Council on Affordable Housing
	101 South Broad Street
15 Alden St # 14	PO Box 813
Cranford, NJ 07016	Trenton, NJ 08625
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NJ State Conference of the NAACP	Dan McGuire
4326 Harbor Beach Blvd. #775	Homeless Solutions
Brigantine, NJ 08203	540 West Hanover Avenue
21.8	Ste 100
	Morristown, NJ 07960
Central Jersey Housing Resource Center	Susan McDonough, Ex. Dir.
600 First Avenue, Ste 3	Friends of the Carpenter
Raritan, NJ 08869	c/o Watchung Ave. Presbyterian Church
	170 Watchung Ave.
	North Plainfield, NJ 07060
Jacqui Adam, Housing Coordinator	Robin Bynoe
Allies, Inc.	Enable, Inc.
1262 White Horse-Hamilton Square Road	13 Roszel Rd., Ste B110
Bldg. A Suite 101	Princeton, NJ 08540
Hamilton, NJ 08625	
Mary Mae Henley	Raritan Valley Habitat for Humanity, Inc.
Cooperative Housing Corp.	100 West Main Street
Somerville, NJ 08876	Somerville, NJ 08876
NJ Statewide Independent Living Council	Faith Fellowship CDC
390 George St, 2 nd Floor	2707 Main Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901	Sayreville, NJ 07062
Jewish Renaissance Community Foundation	Making it Possible to End Homelessness
149 Kearny Avenue	60 Clif Prescod Lane
Perth Amboy, NJ 08861	Edison, NJ 08817
The Intersect Fund	
109 Church Street	
New Brunswick, NJ 08901	
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$\underline{\textbf{Township of Bridgewater} - \textbf{Service List}}$