

COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF RAMSEY

RESOLUTION NO. 124-2010 Resolution by: B. VOZEH

Seconded by: A. SIEMSEN

WHEREAS, land-use is an essential component of overall sustainability for a municipality; and

WHEREAS, poor land use decisions can lead to an increase of societal ills such as decreased mobility, high housing costs, increased greenhouse gas emissions, loss of open space and the degradation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, well planned land-use can create transportation choices, provide for a range of housing options, create walkable communities, preserve open space and allow for continued use of vital resources; and

WHEREAS, given New Jersey's strong tradition of home rule and local authority over planning and zoning, achieving a statewide sustainable land-use pattern will require municipalities to take the lead.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we the Borough of Ramsey, resolve to take the following steps with regard to our municipal land-use decisions with the intent of making the Borough of Ramsey a truly sustainable community.

1. **Facilities Siting**- We pledge, to the extent feasible, to take into consideration factors such as walkability, bikability, access to transit and proximity to other uses when siting a new, or relocating municipal facilities. The action of the municipality when locating their own facilities can set a positive precedent and encourage other public and private sector entities to take sustainable land-use considerations into account, when locating their own facilities.

2. **Housing Variety**: We pledge, through the use of our zoning powers, to maintain the goals and objectives of the Borough Master Plan to provide a diverse mix of housing types to meet the needs of people from all ages and walks of life and to allow residents to live and work in the municipality through various stages of their lives.

3. **Natural Resource Preservation** - We pledge to preserve open space and create recreational opportunities within our municipality. As the most densely populated state in the nation, open space in New Jersey is at a premium. Preserving what is left of our open space, for its ecological and recreational value, is critical for a sustainable future. FURTHER, if feasible, we pledge to update our Natural Resources Inventory to identify and assess the extent of our natural resources and to link natural resource management and protection to our land use, planning and zoning decisions.

4. **Transportation Choices:** We pledge to create transportation choices within our municipality by considering all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit and automobiles, when planning transportation projects. Given that emissions from transportation, mainly passenger cars, make up the largest share of the state's carbon footprint, creating transportation alternatives at the local level is critical to reducing the state's overall carbon footprint.

5. **Mix of Uses:** We pledge through the objectives set forth in our Master Plan to continue to use our planning and zoning power to allow for a mix of uses in areas that make the most sense for our municipality and the region. Although Ramsey is a fully developed community with little opportunity for new development, any new developments should be considered with the goals for sustainability and the goals set forth in the Ramsey Master Plan.

6. **Green Design** – We pledge to incorporate the principles of green design and renewable energy generation where feasible, when updating our site plan and subdivision requirements. Green design strategies, not only improve the environmental performance of buildings but lesson the impact of those buildings on the surrounding environment. Such strategies include energy efficiency, water conservation, indoor environmental quality, use of recycled renewable materials, construction waste reduction, reduced auto use, tree preservation, native planting, and avoidance of environmentally sensitive features.

7. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to take precedent over the Borough's Master Plan and zoning standards. In the event of a discrepancy between the provisions of this resolution and either the Master Plan or zoning standards, the Master Plan and zoning standards shall control. Further, any ambiguities shall be resolved in favor of the Master Plan or zoning standards.

cc: **Environmental Commission
Planning Board**

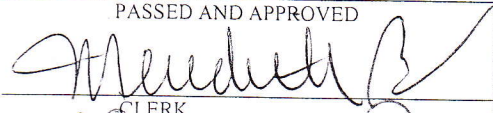
	YES	NO	A B S T A I N	A B S E N T
BOTTA, C. MAYOR				
DILLON, D.	X			
JACHZEL, V.	X			
JONES, W.	X			
NALBANDIAN, A.	X			
SIEMSEN, A	X			
VOZEH, B.	X			

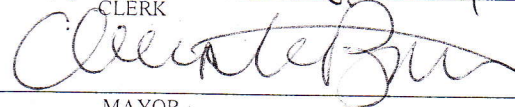
I CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE COPY OF A RESOLUTION
PASSED AND APPROVED AT THE REGULAR COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL HELD ON _____


MEREDITH BENDIAN, MUNICIPAL CLERK

JUNE 23, 2010

PASSED AND APPROVED


CLERK


MAYOR