

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON  
MUNICIPAL OFFICES**

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**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

December 7 2009

Ms. Eileen Swan, Executive Director  
Highlands Water Protection and Planning Council  
100 North Road (Route 513)  
Chester, NJ 07930

Re: Basic Plan Conformance – Califon Borough, NJ

Dear Ms. Swan,

On behalf of Califon Borough, I am pleased to submit to you our Petition for Plan Conformance. The Petition for Plan Conformance is applicable to the entire Borough, as we are located exclusively within the Highlands Preservation Area.

Califon has addressed all requirements of Plan Conformance to the best of its ability. This is reflected in the following enclosures:

- Submittal Checklist
- Preservation Area Resolution
- Record of Public Involvement
- Modules 3 through 6 Required Draft Documents
- List of Current Municipal Planning and Regulatory Documents
- Municipal Self-Assessment Report
- Municipal Checklist and MSA Status
- Highlands Implementation Plan and Schedule

All aforesaid documents are provided both in hard copy and in electronic format in the manner requested by the Highlands Council.

Please note that Module 5, Highlands Master Plan Element, was returned to the Borough with comments from Highlands Council staff the week of November 23<sup>rd</sup>. This did not give us sufficient time to respond. Additionally, we have found some corrections and updates we wish to make to this document over and above edits flagged by Highlands Council staff. We fully expect the opportunity to do so during the early part of next year and would appreciate confirmation of this from you. Likewise, we expect that opportunities to update other Modules will continue to be available to us as well prior to

formal Plan Conformance. An example of this is updating maps that are corrected through the RMP Update process.

The draft program of activities we have developed in order to obtain Full Plan Conformance is a heavy lift, demanding a great deal of work on our end. We greatly appreciate the financial and technical support provided to us by the Highlands Council during the Basic Plan Conformance process. This allowed us to fulfill all requirements on schedule. Similarly, we look forward to continued assistance in 2010 and beyond, enabling us to achieve Full Plan Conformance. Likewise, we look forward to discussing with you our proposed schedule and refining it as needed, to ensure that we are able to address all items in a timely but realistic manner.

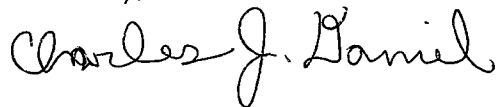
You will note that our Implementation Schedule includes a requested meeting with Highlands Council staff to discuss the need for a balanced tax base vis-a-vis limited ratable opportunities for our community. As you are well aware, Califon Borough is a small town, and almost exclusively residential. Furthermore, it is one of only five municipalities in the Highlands region that falls entirely within the Highlands Preservation Area. In order to maintain a stable tax base, we believe it is imperative that even limited opportunities for ratables be made available to us in the future. How that is achieved is something we would very much like to discuss with you next year, as we work with you on finessing our submissions to satisfy Basic Plan Conformance.

Thank you very much. We look forward to hearing back from you in the New Year.

Please note that the Borough's municipal point of contact during the Plan Conformance process is Laura G. Eidsvaag, RMC, Municipal Clerk. She can be reached at the following address, phone number, fax number, and email address:

Borough of Califon Municipal Building  
PO Box 368  
39 Academy Street  
Califon, NJ 07830  
P. 908.832.7850  
F. 908.832.6085  
Email: [clerk@califonborough-nj.org](mailto:clerk@califonborough-nj.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles J. Daniel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "C".

Charles Daniel, Mayor

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