



SINCE 1844

ROCKAWAY TOWNSHIP

65 MOUNT HOPE ROAD, ROCKAWAY, NEW JERSEY 07866

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Louis S. Sceusi, Mayor

VIA EMAIL AND REGULAR MAIL

January 19, 2010

Ms. Eileen Swan, Executive Director
New Jersey Highlands Council
100 North Road
Chester, NJ 07930

Re: Township of Rockaway
Module 7: Petition for Plan Conformance

Dear Ms. Swan:

As you may be aware the Township is currently defending litigation involving a builder's remedy for the construction of affordable housing. The matter is being heard by a court appointed special master, Judge Eugene Serpentelli, retired, to develop a revised Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, in an effort to settle this litigation.

The Township has also adopted resolutions "opting-in" the planning area lands within the Township, authorizing submission of a petition for plan conformance, and intending to revise the Township's master plan for plan conformance. In addition, the petition for plan conformance was filed by the Township with the Highlands Council on December 1, 2009. The impact of the Township's petition for plan conformance is of significant importance as the Township works towards revising its Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.

Therefore, I am respectfully requesting the Highlands Council expedite its review of the Township's petition for plan conformance. This review will have an effect on how the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan is developed and will ultimately impact on how plan conformance is accomplished. The importance of this review cannot be stressed enough.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Louis S. Sceusi
Mayor

LSS/amr

C: Edward Buzak, Municipal Attorney
Joseph Burgis, Municipal Planner
Gregory Poff, Business Administrator
James Lutz, Municipal Engineer
Phyllis Hantman, Land Use Technician