NEW JERSEY SENATE



ROBERT W. SINGER
SENATOR, DISTRICT 30
DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER

SenSinger@njleg.org

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SENIOR REPUBLICAN MEMBER
HEALTH. HUMAN SERVICES
& SENIOR CITIZENS
MEMBER, TRANSPORTATION

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March 15, 2023

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

Patrick Donnelly, Municipal Manager Township of Lakewood Municipal Building 231 Third Street Lakewood, NJ 08701

RE: FY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending & Community Project Funding

Lakewood, NJ Carey Street Water, Sewer, and Road Improvements

Letter of Support

Township of Lakewood, Ocean County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Donnelly:

I am writing this letter in support of the Township of Lakewood's appropriation request for road and infrastructure improvements. The proposed project is located in Lakewood's college district and includes an area of currently undeveloped land that runs parallel to, and in-between, 9th Street and 14th Street extending from Forest Avenue to Cedarview Avenue in northern Lakewood. The property will be redeveloped into housing units. Construction of roadways, utility service and other related amenities will be necessary. The project includes construction of a road, sidewalks, a traffic signal, street lighting and associated improvements, sanitary sewer mains and infrastructure, drinking water mains and infrastructure, stormwater management and drainage infrastructure, and landscaping.

This project is part of a collaboration between the Township and its two institutions of Higher Education: Georgian Court University and Beth Medrash Govoha. The purpose

of the project is to ensure that infrastructure and roads are in place to allow for the construction of several hundred of rental housing for families of students. This will alleviate the severe housing shortage present in the Township rental market, ease traffic congestion by taking commuters off the most congested roads and open a new thoroughfare and exit roads from the College District. Lakewood Township is the fastest growing municipality in the state. As Lakewood has grown, it has also become an economic engine for Ocean County and the State of New Jersey.

I support the Township's efforts in pursuing funding and respectfully request your full consideration of the appropriation's request.

Sincerely

Robert W. Singer Senator, District 30

RWS/tab



MICHAEL J. FIURE County Administrator

OFFICE OF THE OCEAN COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Telephone (732) 929-2147

TRISTIN J. COLLINS
Assistant County Administrator

P.O. BOX 2191 * 101 HOOPER AVENUE * ADMINISTRATION BUILDING TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08754-2191

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Chris Smith Congressman, 4th District 33 Washington Street Toms River, NJ 08754

Re:

FY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending & Community Project Funding Lakewood, NJ, Carey Street Water, Sewer, and Road Improvements Township of Lakewood, Ocean County, New Jersey

Dear Congressman Smith:

I am writing this letter in support of the Township of Lakewood's appropriations request for road and infrastructure improvements. The proposed project is located in Lakewood's college district and includes an area of currently undeveloped land that runs parallel to, and in-between, 9th Street and 14th Street extending from Forest Avenue to Cedarview Avenue in northern Lakewood. The property will be redeveloped into housing units. Construction of roadways, utility services and other related amenities will be necessary. The project includes construction of a road, sidewalks, a traffic signal, street lighting and associated improvements, sanitary sewer mains and infrastructure, drinking water mains and infrastructure, stormwater management and drainage infrastructure, and landscaping.

As Administrator to the Board of Ocean County Commissioners, I would like to express support for the Township of Lakewood's request to obtain funding through the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations process.

Ocean County fully supports the project and the Township in its request, as the initiative will have many benefits for the Township and local residents.

This project is part of a collaboration between the Township and its two Institutions of Higher Education: Georgian Court University and Beth Medrash Govoha. The purpose of the project is to ensure that infrastructure and roads are in place to allow for the construction of several hundred units of rental housing for families of students. This will alleviate the severe housing shortage present in the Township rental market, ease traffic congestion by taking commuters off the most congested roads and open a new thoroughfare and exit roads from the College District. Lakewood Township is the fastest growing municipality in the state. Between the 2000 and 2010 Census, the





Congressman Chris Smith Page 2 March 23, 2023

population increased by 54%, and between the 2010 and 2020 Census, the population increased by a further 46%, to more than 130,000 residents. This makes Lakewood the fifth largest municipality in the State. As Lakewood has grown, it has also become an economic engine for Ocean County and the State of New Jersey – with some 15,000 new jobs created in hundreds of new businesses, the overwhelming majority of which were started by alumni of Beth Medrash Govoha. Lakewood is a college town - with some 10,000 students between the two institutions of higher education, of which some 7,000 of these students are Lakewood residents, many of which are head of household who live with their families in Lakewood. Along with the blessings of growth come needs to upgrade infrastructure and roads and increase housing stock to accommodate the burgeoning population. Currently, there is an acute need for additional housing stock in Lakewood. There are not enough rental units available to house the growing population. This in turn leads to increases in traffic congestion – as families move further and further from the center of town in search of housing and utilize Route 9 and other thoroughfares between home and north Lakewood for school, jobs, etc.

Therefore, on behalf of the Commissioners, Ocean County supports the Township's efforts in pursuing funding and respectfully requests strong consideration of the appropriations request.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Fiure

Administrator Ocean County



Township of Lakewood

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
231 THIRD STREET
LAKEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 08701
732-364-2500 • FAX: 732-994-4568



OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER Patrick Donnelly

March 16, 2023

Re:

FY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending & Community Project Funding

Lakewood, NJ Carey Street Water, Sewer, and Road Improvements

Letter of Support

Township of Lakewood, Ocean County, New Jersey

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Township of Lakewood to reiterate our support for the Township of Lakewood's appropriations request for road and infrastructure improvements. The proposed project is located in Lakewood's college district and includes an area of currently undeveloped land that runs parallel to, and in-between, 9th Street and 14th Street extending from Forest Avenue to Cedarview Avenue in northern Lakewood. The property will be redeveloped into housing units. Construction of roadways, utility service and other related amenities will be necessary. The project includes construction of a road, sidewalks, a traffic signal, street lighting and associated improvements, sanitary sewer mains and infrastructure, drinking water mains and infrastructure, stormwater management and drainage infrastructure, and landscaping.

As the Municipal Manager of the Township of Lakewood, I would like to express my support for the Township of Lakewood's request to obtain funding through the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations budget.

This project is part of a collaboration between the Township and its two Institutions of Higher Education: Georgian Court University and Beth Medrash Govoha. The purpose of the project to ensure that infrastructure and roads are in place to allow for the construction of several hundred units of rental housing for families of students. This will alleviate the severe housing shortage present in the Township rental market, ease traffic congestion by taking commuters off the most congested roads and open a new thoroughfare and exit roads from the College District.

Lakewood Township is the fastest growing municipality in the state. Between the 2000 and 2010 Census, the population increased by 54%, and between the 2010 and 2020 Census, the population increased by a further 46%, to more than 130,000 residents. This makes Lakewood



the fifth largest municipality in the State. As Lakewood has grown, it has also become an economic engine for Ocean County and the State of New Jersey — with some 15,000 new jobs created in hundreds of new businesses, the overwhelming majority of which were started by alumni of Beth Medrash Govoha. Lakewood is a college town - with some 10,000 students between the two institutions of higher education, of which some 7,000 of these students are Lakewood residents, many of which are the head of household who live with their families in Lakewood. Along with the blessings of growth come needs to upgrade infrastructure and roads and increase housing stock to accommodate the burgconing population. Currently, there is an acute need for additional housing stock in Lakewood. There are not enough rental units available to house the growing population. This in turn leads to increases in traffic congestion — as families move further and further from the center of town in search of housing and utilize Route 9 and other thoroughfares between home and North Lakewood for school, jobs, etc.)

We greatly appreciate the consideration that you, your staff, as well as those in the decision-making process will give to our request for funding for this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

Patrick Donnelly

Municipal Manager



March 16, 2023

Patrick Donnelly, Municipal Manager Township of Lakewood Municipal Building 231 Third St Lakewood, NJ 08701

Re:

FY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending & Community Project Funding

Lakewood, NJ Carey Street Water, Sewer, and Road Improvements

Letter of Support

Township of Lakewood, Ocean County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Donnelly:

I'm writing to you in my role as President of NJ Hand Inc (a non profit 501c corp), Lakewood's affordable housing developer.

I'm writing to you to support the Township of Lakewood's appropriations request for road and infrastructure improvements through the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations budget. I understand that the purpose of the project is to ensure that infrastructure and roads are in place to allow for the construction of several hundred units of rental housing for families of students. This will alleviate the severe housing shortage present in the Township rental market, ease traffic congestion by taking commuters off the most congested roads and open a new thoroughfare and exit roads from the College District.

NJ HAND Inc has developed over 350 affordable housing units in Lakewood, which consisted of six phases. Over 5,000 families applied for these units, but only 350 were available.

Obviously, there is a tremendous need for housing in Lakewood.

NJ Hand Inc., fully supports the project as the Township has many important and impactful projects that are in need of funding.

On behalf of NJ Hand Inc., we support the Township's efforts in pursuing funding and respectfully request strong consideration of the appropriations request.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Shmuel Lefkowitz

President



212 Second Street, Suite 204 Lakewood, NJ 08701 732.942.9292 Fax 732.523.0776 Irrcenter.org

March 17, 2023

Patrick Donnelly, Municipal Manager Township of Lakewood Municipal Building 231 Third St Lakewood, NJ 08701

Re: FY 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending & Community Project Funding Lakewood, NJ Carey Street Water, Sewer, and Road Improvements Letter of Support Township of Lakewood, Ocean County, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Donnelly:

As Director of Social Services for the Lakewood Resource and Referral Center (LRRC), I would like to express my support for the Township of Lakewood's request to obtain funding through the Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations process. The LRRC fully supports the project, as the initiative will have many benefits for the Township and local residents.

The LRRC's mission is to help the residents of Ocean County and beyond access government and private assistance that meets their basic life needs and helps families chart a course to financial stability and self-sufficiency. The LRRC Social Service division provides assistance with accessing a wide array of programs and services available to low and moderate-income families. We assist over 11,000 households each year. Our housing department helps families seeking affordable housing options, including application assistance for housing and housing assistance programs, financial counseling on planning to afford rental and mortgage commitments, homebuyer education, and more.

We assist families seeking help accessing housing and housing assistance daily, making us acutely aware of the current housing shortage, particularly rental housing that meets the needs of young families. We were delighted to learn that the Township is submitting this Community Project Funding request to install the

necessary public roads and infrastructure, enabling the construction of much-needed housing units for young families in the college area – thereby freeing up competition for housing units in other parts of town as well.

The proposed project is vitally important for low and moderate-income households in Lakewood, and we support and encourage it fully. On behalf of the LRRC, we respectfully request strong consideration of Lakewood Township's appropriations request.

Sincerely,

Sarah Sternbach, MPA

Director, Social Services Division, LRRC