

EXPLANATION: A Resolution of Support for the New Jersey Department of Transportation Interchange Improvement

**BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-058**

WHEREAS, Route 287/78 I-287/202/206 Interchange is a complex of four major highways in Bedminster Township providing major north-south and east-west transportation connections; and,

WHEREAS, the I-78 Eastbound to I-287 Northbound is a left side entry producing downstream weave conditions and vehicle conflicts and driver decisions on I-287 Northbound through the I-78 Interchange; and,

WHEREAS, the new flyover ramp from I-78 Eastbound will connect with a right side entry to I-287 Northbound by means of a new loop ramp with a larger radius than the old Ramp H (the existing presently closed loop ramp); and,

WHEREAS, this new ramp will eliminate the present Ramp H along with its left side entry to I 287 Northbound; and,

WHEREAS, the Project will require the acquisition of land from Block 71.01 Lot 1; and,

WHEREAS, the property in question is subject to a conservation easement granted by the land owner to Bedminster Township as a condition of prior commercial site development approvals under the Municipal Land Use Law; and,

WHEREAS, the Project will require approval of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection and the State House Commission pursuant to N.J.A.C. 7:36-26 for the removal of Green Acres restrictions on 2.2 acres of land owned by AT&T and on which Bedminster Township possess an interest in a Conservation Easement;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Township in the County of Somerset, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Bedminster Township endorses the filing of a pre-application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection Green Acres Program for the diversion of 2.2 acres; and,
2. Bedminster Township supports the New Jersey Department of Transportation's proposed Project to provide safety and operational improvements to better facilitate traffic flow at the interchange location in order to enhance safety and mobility for the travelling public; and,
3. Bedminster Township hereby finds that the New Jersey Department of Transportation has taken appropriate steps to minimize encroachment within the 14, 083 acres of land subject to the conservation easement; and,
4. Bedminster Township hereby finds that the remaining land subject to the conservation easement will not be impaired as a result of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Project; and,

5. Bedminster Township understands that the New Jersey Department of transportation will be required to provide replacement parkland to comply with the requirements of N.J.A.C 7:36-26.5; and,
6. Bedminster Township hereby finds that the primary **purpose** of the land subject to the conservation easement is not as a park, recreation area, wildlife and/or waterfowl refuge; and,
7. Bedminster Township hereby finds that the primary **function** of the land subject to the conservation easement is not as a park, recreation area, wildlife and/or waterfowl refuge; and,
8. Bedminster Township hereby finds that the land subject to the conservation easement is not intended to be managed as a park, recreation area, wildlife and/or waterfowl refuge; and,
9. Bedminster Township hereby finds that the remaining land subject to the conservation easement will not be intended to be managed as a park, recreation area, wildlife/and/or waterfowl refuge; and,
10. Bedminster Township hereby finds that the land subject to the conservation easement is not a significant public park, recreation area, wildlife and/or waterfowl refuge.

Attest:

TOWNSHIP OF BEDMINSTER

By: _____
Judith A. Sullivan, Clerk

By: _____
Steven E. Parker, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, Judith A. Sullivan, Township Clerk for the Township of Bedminster, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a regular meeting of said Committee held on May 2, 2016.

Judith A. Sullivan, Township Clerk

Introduced	Seconded	Township Committee	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
		Steven E. Parker, Mayor				
		Bernie Pane				
		Lawrence F. Jacobs				

		Staci Santucci				
		Kenneth Olsen				