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January 16, 2018

John P. Belardo, Esq.
McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP.
1300 Mount Kemble Avenue
P.O. Box 2075
Morristown, New Jersey 07962-2075

**Re: In the Matter of the Application of the Township of Bedminster,
County of Somerset, Docket No. SOM-L-914-15**

Dear Mr. Belardo:

This letter memorializes the terms of an agreement reached between the Township of Bedminster (the Township or "Bedminster"), the declaratory judgment plaintiff, and Fair Share Housing Center (FSHC), a Supreme Court-designated interested party in this matter in accordance with In re N.J.A.C. 5:96 and 5:97, 221 N.J. 1, 30 (2015)(Mount Laurel IV) and, through this settlement, a defendant in this proceeding.

Background

Bedminster filed the above-captioned matter on July 7, 2015 seeking a declaration of its compliance with the Mount Laurel doctrine and Fair Housing Act of 1985, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq. in accordance with In re N.J.A.C. 5:96 and 5:97, supra. Through the declaratory judgment process, the Township and FSHC agreed to settle the litigation and to present that settlement to the trial court with jurisdiction over this matter to review, recognizing that the settlement of Mount Laurel litigation is favored because it avoids delays and the expense of trial and results more quickly in the construction of homes for lower-income households.

Settlement terms

The Township and FSHC hereby agree to the following terms:

1. FSHC agrees that the Township, through the adoption of a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan conforming with the terms of this Agreement (hereafter "the Plan") and through the implementation of the Plan and this Agreement, satisfies its obligations under the Mount Laurel doctrine and Fair Housing Act of 1985, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq., for the Prior Round (1987-1999) and Third Round (1999-2025).
2. At this time and at this particular point in the process resulting from the Supreme Court's Mount Laurel IV decision, when Third Round fair share obligations have yet to be definitively determined, it is appropriate for the parties to arrive at a settlement regarding a municipality's Third Round present and prospective need instead of doing so through plenary adjudication of the present and prospective need.
3. FSHC and Bedminster hereby agree that Bedminster's affordable housing obligations are as follows:

510 Park Blvd. • Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002 • 856-665-5444 • fax: 856-663-8182 • www.fairsharehousing.org

Rehabilitation Share (per Kinsey Report ¹)	2
Prior Round Obligation (pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:93)	154
Third Round (1999-2025) Prospective Need (per Kinsey Report, as adjusted through this Agreement)	225

4. For purposes of this Agreement, the Third Round Prospective Need shall be deemed to include the Gap Period Present Need, which is a measure of households formed from 1999-2015 that need affordable housing, that was recognized by the Supreme Court in In re Declaratory Judgment Actions Filed By Various Municipalities, 227 N.J. 508 (2017). FSHC and the Township agree that while the Township does not accept the basis of the methodology or calculations proffered by FSHC's consultant, David H. Kinsey, Ph.D., P.P., F.A.I.C.P., the Parties agree to the terms in this agreement for the purposes of settlement of this action.
5. The Township's efforts to meet its present need include the following: the Township has surplus new construction credits, as described in paragraph 6, which suffice to satisfy the Township's present need obligation of 2 units.
6. The Township has a Prior Round prospective need of 154 units and a Third Round Prospective Need of 225 units, for a total 1999-2025 fair share obligation of 379 units, which is met and exceeded through the following compliance mechanisms of existing built units:

Prior Round and Third Round	Units	Rental	Sales
The Hills – Parkside - Family	216	54	162
The Hills- Village Green - Family	260		260
The Hills – Cortland - Family	144	48	96
Timberbrooke - Family	24		24
Pluckemin Park - Senior	50	50	
Total	694	152	542
7. Bedminster reserves the right to seek credit pursuant to then-applicable law for the following units, credits and reductions, which are in excess of those needed for the prior rounds and third round, to any fourth round new construction or rehabilitation obligation Bedminster may incur.

¹ David N. Kinsey, PhD, PP, FAICP, NEW JERSEY LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING OBLIGATIONS FOR 1999-2025 CALCULATED USING THE NJ COAH PRIOR ROUND (1987-1999) METHODOLOGY, July 2016 and April 2017.

Fourth Round	Units
Excess from prior rounds	315
Substantial Compliance Reduction	46
Extended Affordability Controls	300*
Rental Bonuses @ 25% of 370 (154+216)	92
TOTAL	753

*Approximate number completed at the time of settlement

8. All existing family rental units in the Township have affordability controls that will expire in 2020 or before. The family rental requirement as referenced in paragraph 9 below requires a minimum of 28 family rental units to meet the Third Round obligation, which under COAH practice would have been required to have affordability controls through 2025. As such, the parties agree that the Township will as part of the midpoint realistic opportunity review referenced in paragraph 17 below, demonstrate how it will provide a realistic opportunity for a minimum of 28 family rental units otherwise compliant with this Agreement. If that realistic opportunity is to be provided through zoning, such zoning shall be adopted no later than July 1, 2021. If that realistic opportunity is to be provided otherwise, such as through a municipally sponsored site, the timing of such implementation shall be consistent with N.J.A.C. 5:93-5.5.
9. The Township agrees to require 13% of all units referenced in this Agreement, excepting those units that were constructed or granted preliminary or final site plan approval prior to July 1, 2008, to be very low income units, with half of the very low income units being available to families. The municipality will comply with those requirements by providing a minimum of 4 very low income units as part of the mechanism referenced in paragraph 7, as all other units in this Agreement were built prior to 2008.
10. The Township shall meet its Third Round Prospective Need in accordance with the following standards as agreed to by the Parties and reflected in the table in paragraph 6 above:
- a. Third Round bonuses will be applied in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:93-5.15(d).
 - b. At least 50 percent of the units addressing the Third Round Prospective Need shall be affordable to very-low-income and low-income households with the remainder affordable to moderate-income households.
 - c. At least twenty-five percent of the Third Round Prospective Need shall be met through rental units, including at least half in rental units available to families.

- d. At least half of the units addressing the Third Round Prospective Need in total must be available to families.
- e. The Township agrees to comply with an age-restricted cap of 25% and to not request a waiver of that requirement. This shall be understood to mean that in no circumstance may the municipality claim credit toward its fair share obligation for age-restricted units that exceed 25% of all units developed or planned to meet its cumulative prior round and third round fair share obligation.

11. The Township shall add to the list of community and regional organizations in its affirmative marketing plan, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.15(f)(5), Fair Share Housing Center, the New Jersey State Conference of the NAACP, the Latino Action Network, and the New Brunswick, Plainfield Area, Perth Amboy, and Metuchen/Edison branches of the NAACP, and shall, as part of its regional affirmative marketing strategies during its implementation of the affirmative marketing plan, provide notice to those organizations of all available affordable housing units. The Township also agrees to require any other entities, including developers or persons or companies retained to do affirmative marketing, to comply with this paragraph.

12. All units shall include the required bedroom distribution, be governed by controls on affordability and affirmatively marketed in conformance with the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls, N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 et. seq. or any successor regulation, with the exception that in lieu of 10 percent of affordable units in rental projects being required to be at 35 percent of median income, 13 percent of affordable units in such projects shall be required to be at 30 percent of median income, and all other applicable law. The Township as part of its HEFSP shall adopt and/or update appropriate implementing ordinances in conformance with standard ordinances and guidelines developed by COAH to ensure that this provision is satisfied. Income limits for all units that are part of the Plan required by this Agreement and for which income limits are not already established through a federal program exempted from the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 shall be updated by the Township annually within 30 days of the publication of determinations of median income by HUD as follows:

- a. Regional income limits shall be established for the region that the Township is located within (i.e. Region 3) based on the median income by household size, which shall be established by a regional weighted average of the uncapped Section 8 income limits published by HUD. To compute this regional income limit, the HUD determination of median county income for a family of four is multiplied by the estimated households within the county according to the most recent decennial Census. The resulting product for each county within the housing region is summed. The sum is divided by the estimated total households from the most recent decennial Census in the Township's housing region. This quotient represents the regional weighted average of median income for a household of four. The income limit for a moderate-income unit for a household of four shall be 80 percent of the regional weighted average median income for a family of four. The income limit for a low-income unit for a household of four shall be 50 percent of the HUD determination of the regional weighted average median income for a family of four. The income limit for a very low income unit for a household of four shall be 30 percent of the regional weighted average median income for a family of four. These income limits shall be adjusted by household size based on multipliers used by HUD to adjust median income by household size. In no event shall the income limits be less than those for the previous year.

- b. The income limits attached hereto as Exhibit A are the result of applying the percentages set forth in paragraph (a) above to HUD's determination of median income for FY 2017, and shall be utilized until the Township updates the income limits after HUD has published revised determinations of median income for the next fiscal year.
 - c. The Regional Asset Limit used in determining an applicant's eligibility for affordable housing pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.16(b)3 shall be calculated by the Township annually by taking the percentage increase of the income limits calculated pursuant to paragraph (a) above over the previous year's income limits, and applying the same percentage increase to the Regional Asset Limit from the prior year. In no event shall the Regional Asset Limit be less than that for the previous year.
 - d. The parties agree to request the Court prior to or at the fairness hearing in this matter to enter an order implementing this paragraph of this Agreement.
13. All new construction units shall be adaptable in conformance with P.L.2005, c.350/N.J.S.A. 52:27D-311a and -311b and all other applicable law.
14. As an essential term of this Agreement, if required upon the review and recommendation of the Special Master, within one hundred and twenty (120) days of Court's approval of this Agreement, the Township shall introduce and adopt an ordinance or ordinances providing for the amendment of the Township's Affordable Housing Ordinance and Zoning Ordinance to implement the terms of this Agreement and adopt a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and Spending Plan in conformance with the terms of this Agreement.
15. The parties agree that if a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction in Somerset County, or a determination by an administrative agency responsible for implementing the Fair Housing Act, or an action by the New Jersey Legislature, would result in a calculation of an obligation for the Township for the period 1999-2025 that would be lower by more than twenty (20%) percent than the total prospective Third Round need obligation established in this Agreement, and if that calculation is memorialized in an unappealable final judgment, the Township may seek to amend the judgment in this matter to reduce its fair share obligation accordingly. Notwithstanding any such reduction, the Township shall be obligated to adopt a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan that conforms to the terms of this Agreement and to implement all compliance mechanisms included in this Agreement, including by adopting or leaving in place any site specific zoning adopted or relied upon in connection with the Plan adopted pursuant to this Agreement; taking all steps necessary to support the development of any 100% affordable developments referenced herein; and otherwise fulfilling fully the fair share obligations as established herein. The reduction of the Township's obligation below that established in this Agreement does not provide a basis for seeking leave to amend this Agreement or seeking leave to amend an order or judgment pursuant to R. 4:50-1. If the Township prevails in reducing its prospective need for the Third Round, the Township may carry over any resulting extra credits to future rounds in conformance with the then-applicable law.
16. The Township shall prepare a Spending Plan within the 120-day period referenced above, subject to the review of FSHC and approval of the Court, and reserves the right to seek approval from the Court that the expenditures of funds contemplated under the Spending Plan constitute "commitment" for expenditure pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-

329.2 and -329.3, with the four-year time period for expenditure designated pursuant to those provisions beginning to run with the entry of a final judgment approving this settlement in accordance with the provisions of In re Tp. Of Monroeg, 442 N.J. Super. 565 (Law Div. 2015) (aff'd 442 N.J. Super. 563). On the first anniversary of the execution of this Agreement, which shall be established by the date on which it is executed by a representative of the Township, and on every anniversary of that date thereafter through the end of the period of protection from litigation referenced in this Agreement, the Township agrees to provide annual reporting of trust fund activity to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Council on Affordable Housing, or Local Government Services, or other entity designated by the State of New Jersey, with a copy provided to Fair Share Housing Center and posted on the municipal website, using forms developed for this purpose by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, Council on Affordable Housing, or Local Government Services. The reporting shall include an accounting of all housing trust fund activity, including the source and amount of funds collected and the amount and purpose for which any funds have been expended.

17. On the first anniversary of the execution of this Agreement, and every anniversary thereafter through the end of this Agreement, the Township agrees to provide annual reporting of the status of all affordable housing activity within the municipality through posting on the municipal website with a copy of such posting provided to Fair Share Housing Center, using forms previously developed for this purpose by the Council on Affordable Housing or any other forms endorsed by the Special Master and FSHC.

18. The Fair Housing Act includes two provisions regarding action to be taken by the Township during the ten-year period of protection provided in this Agreement. The Township agrees to comply with those provisions as follows:

- a. For the midpoint realistic opportunity review due on July 1, 2020, as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-313, the Township will post on its municipal website, with a copy provided to Fair Share Housing Center and the Special Master, the plan required by paragraph 7 of this Agreement. If FSHC contends that that plan does not meet the requirements of paragraph 7, it may by motion request a hearing before the Court regarding those issues.
- b. For the review of very low income housing requirements required by N.J.S.A. 52:27D-329.1, within 30 days of the third anniversary of the July 1, 2020 midpoint review, the Township will post on its municipal website, with a copy provided to Fair Share Housing Center, a status report as to its satisfaction of its very low income requirements, including the family very low income requirements referenced herein. Such posting shall invite any interested party to submit comments to the municipality and Fair Share Housing Center on the issue of whether the municipality has complied with its very low income housing obligation under the terms of this settlement.

19. FSHC is hereby deemed to have party status in this matter and to have intervened in this matter as a defendant without the need to file a motion to intervene or an answer or other pleading. The parties to this Agreement agree to request the Court to enter an order declaring FSHC is an intervenor, but the absence of such an order shall not impact FSHC's rights.

20. This Agreement must be approved by the Court following a fairness hearing as required by Morris Cty. Fair Hous. Council v. Boonton Twp., 197 N.J. Super. 359, 367-69 (Law Div. 1984), aff'd o.b., 209 N.J. Super. 108 (App. Div. 1986); East/West Venture v.

Borough of Fort Lee, 286 N.J. Super. 311, 328-29 (App. Div. 1996). The Township shall present its planner as a witness at this hearing. FSHC agrees to support this Agreement at the fairness hearing. In the event the Court approves this proposed settlement, the parties contemplate the municipality will receive "the judicial equivalent of substantive certification and accompanying protection as provided under the FHA," as addressed in the Supreme Court's decision in In re N.J.A.C. 5:96 & 5:97, 221 N.J. 1, 36 (2015). The "accompanying protection" shall remain in effect through July 1, 2025. If this Agreement is rejected by the Court at a fairness hearing it shall be null and void.

21. The Township agrees to pay FSHC's attorneys fees and costs in the amount of \$3,000 within ten (10) days of the Court's approval of this Agreement pursuant to a duly-noticed fairness hearing.

22. If an appeal is filed of the Court's approval or rejection of this Agreement, the Parties agree to defend the Agreement on appeal, including in proceedings before the Superior Court, Appellate Division and New Jersey Supreme Court, and to continue to implement the terms of this Agreement if the Agreement is approved before the trial court unless and until an appeal of the trial court's approval is successful, at which point the Parties reserve their right to rescind any action taken in anticipation of the trial court's approval. All Parties shall have an obligation to fulfill the intent and purpose of this Agreement.

23. This Agreement may be enforced through a motion to enforce litigant's rights or a separate action filed in Superior Court, Somerset County. A prevailing movant or plaintiff in such a motion or separate action shall be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees.

24. Unless otherwise specified, it is intended that the provisions of this Agreement are to be severable. The validity of any article, section, clause or provision of this Agreement shall not affect the validity of the remaining articles, sections, clauses or provisions hereof. If any section of this Agreement shall be adjudged by a court to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, such determination shall not affect the remaining sections.

25. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed by the laws of the State of New Jersey.

26. This Agreement may not be modified, amended or altered in any way except by a writing signed by each of the Parties.

27. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original and all of which together shall constitute but one and the same Agreement.

28. The Parties acknowledge that each has entered into this Agreement on its own volition without coercion or duress after consulting with its counsel, that each party is the proper person and possess the authority to sign the Agreement, that this Agreement contains the entire understanding of the Parties and that there are no representations, warranties, covenants or undertakings other than those expressly set forth herein.

29. Each of the Parties hereto acknowledges that this Agreement was not drafted by any one of the Parties, but was drafted, negotiated and reviewed by all Parties and, therefore, the presumption of resolving ambiguities against the drafter shall not apply. Each of the Parties expressly represents to the other Parties that: (i) it has been represented by

counsel in connection with negotiating the terms of this Agreement; and (ii) it has conferred due authority for execution of this Agreement upon the persons executing it.

30. Any and all Exhibits and Schedules annexed to this Agreement are hereby made a part of this Agreement by this reference thereto. Any and all Exhibits and Schedules now and/or in the future are hereby made or will be made a part of this Agreement with prior written approval of both Parties.

31. This Agreement constitutes the entire Agreement between the Parties hereto and supersedes all prior oral and written agreements between the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof except as otherwise provided herein.

32. No member, official or employee of the Township shall have any direct or indirect interest in this Agreement, nor participate in any decision relating to the Agreement which is prohibited by law, absent the need to invoke the rule of necessity.

33. Anything herein contained to the contrary notwithstanding, the effective date of this Agreement shall be the date upon which all of the Parties hereto have executed and delivered this Agreement.

34. All notices required under this Agreement ("Notice[s]") shall be written and shall be served upon the respective Parties by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by a recognized overnight or by a personal carrier. In addition, where feasible (for example, transmittals of less than fifty pages) shall be served by facsimile or e-mail. All Notices shall be deemed received upon the date of delivery. Delivery shall be affected as follows, subject to change as to the person(s) to be notified and/or their respective addresses upon ten (10) days notice as provided herein:

TO FSHC:

Adam M. Gordon, Esq.
Fair Share Housing Center
510 Park Boulevard
Cherry Hill, NJ 08002
Phone: (856) 665-5444
Telecopier: (856) 663-8182
E-mail: adamgordon@fairsharehousing.org

TO THE TOWNSHIP:

John P. Belardo, Esq.
McElroy Deutsch Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP
1300 Mount Kemble Avenue
P.O. Box 2075
Morristown, New Jersey 07962-2075
Telephone: 973-425-8755
Telecopier: (973) 993-8100
Email: jbelardo@mdmc-law.com

**WITH A COPY TO THE
MUNICIPAL CLERK:**

Judith A. Sullivan, RMC
45 Miller Lane
Bedminster, NJ 07921
Telecopier: (908) 212-7001
Email: jsullivan@bedminster.us

WITH A COPY TO BHHC :

Edwin W. Schmierer, Esq.
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Princeton, NJ 08540
Telecopier: (609) 683-7978 (fax)
email: e.schmierer@mgplaw.com

**WITH A COPY TO THE
PLANNING BOARD:**


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Email: TCollins@vccslaw.com

Please sign below if these terms are acceptable.

Sincerely,

Adam M. Gordon, Esq.
Counsel for Intervenor/Interested Party
Fair Share Housing Center

On behalf of the Township of Bedminster, with the authorization
of the governing body:



Steven E. Parker, Mayor
Dated: January 16, 2018

Prepared by Affordable Housing Professionals of New Jersey (AHPNJ) - August 2017

2017 AFFORDABLE HOUSING REGIONAL INCOME LIMITS BY HOUSEHOLD SIZE

Income limits not officially adopted by the State of New Jersey. Contact your municipality to see if applicable in your jurisdiction. Additional information about AHPNJ income limits is posted on AHPNJ.org

		1 Person	*1.5 Person	2 Person	*3 Person	4 Person	*4.5 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8+ Person	Max Increase		Regional Asset Limit****
													Rents**	
Region 1 Bergen, Hudson, Passaic and Sussex	Median	\$60,271	\$64,576	\$68,882	\$77,492	\$86,102	\$89,546	\$92,990	\$99,878	\$106,766	\$113,655			
	Moderate	\$48,217	\$51,661	\$55,105	\$61,993	\$68,882	\$71,637	\$74,392	\$79,903	\$85,413	\$90,924	1.7%	1.99%	\$165,493
	Low	\$30,136	\$32,288	\$34,441	\$38,746	\$43,051	\$44,773	\$46,495	\$49,939	\$53,383	\$56,827			
	Very Low	\$18,081	\$19,373	\$20,664	\$23,248	\$25,831	\$26,864	\$27,897	\$29,963	\$32,030	\$34,096			
Region 2 Essex, Morris, Union and Warren	Median	\$65,953	\$70,663	\$75,374	\$84,796	\$94,218	\$97,987	\$101,755	\$109,293	\$116,830	\$124,368			
	Moderate	\$52,762	\$56,531	\$60,299	\$67,837	\$75,374	\$78,389	\$81,404	\$87,434	\$93,464	\$99,494	1.7%	3.25%	\$180,756
	Low	\$32,976	\$35,332	\$37,687	\$42,398	\$47,109	\$48,993	\$50,878	\$54,646	\$58,415	\$62,184			
	Very Low	\$19,786	\$21,199	\$22,612	\$25,439	\$28,265	\$29,396	\$30,527	\$32,788	\$35,049	\$37,310			
Region 3 Hunterdon, Middlesex and Somerset	Median	\$73,780	\$79,050	\$84,320	\$94,860	\$105,400	\$109,616	\$113,832	\$122,264	\$130,696	\$139,128			
	Moderate	\$59,024	\$63,240	\$67,456	\$75,888	\$84,320	\$87,693	\$91,066	\$97,811	\$104,557	\$111,302	1.7%	0.38%	\$200,698
	Low	\$36,890	\$39,525	\$42,160	\$47,430	\$52,700	\$54,808	\$56,916	\$61,132	\$65,348	\$69,564			
	Very Low	\$22,134	\$23,715	\$25,296	\$28,458	\$31,620	\$32,885	\$34,150	\$36,679	\$39,209	\$41,738			
Region 4 Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean	Median	\$66,022	\$70,738	\$75,454	\$84,885	\$94,317	\$98,090	\$101,862	\$109,408	\$116,953	\$124,498			
	Moderate	\$52,817	\$56,590	\$60,363	\$67,908	\$75,454	\$78,472	\$81,490	\$87,526	\$93,562	\$99,599	1.7%	1.53%	\$177,413
	Low	\$33,011	\$35,369	\$37,727	\$42,443	\$47,158	\$49,045	\$50,931	\$54,704	\$58,476	\$62,249			
	Very Low	\$19,807	\$21,221	\$22,636	\$25,466	\$28,295	\$29,427	\$30,559	\$32,822	\$35,086	\$37,349			
Region 5 Burlington, Camden and Gloucester	Median	\$58,240	\$62,400	\$66,560	\$74,880	\$83,200	\$86,528	\$89,856	\$96,512	\$103,168	\$109,824			
	Moderate	\$46,592	\$49,920	\$53,248	\$59,904	\$66,560	\$69,222	\$71,885	\$77,210	\$82,534	\$87,859	1.7%	2.09%	\$154,194
	Low	\$29,120	\$31,200	\$33,280	\$37,440	\$41,600	\$43,254	\$44,928	\$48,256	\$51,584	\$54,912			
	Very Low	\$17,472	\$18,720	\$19,968	\$22,464	\$24,960	\$25,958	\$26,957	\$28,954	\$30,950	\$32,947			
Region 6 Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, and Salem	Median	\$51,085	\$54,734	\$58,383	\$65,681	\$72,979	\$75,898	\$78,817	\$84,655	\$90,494	\$96,332			
	Moderate	\$40,868	\$43,787	\$46,706	\$52,545	\$58,383	\$60,718	\$63,054	\$67,724	\$72,395	\$77,066	1.7%	0.00%	\$136,680
	Low	\$25,543	\$27,367	\$29,192	\$32,840	\$36,489	\$37,949	\$39,409	\$42,328	\$45,247	\$48,166			
	Very Low	\$15,326	\$16,420	\$17,515	\$19,704	\$21,894	\$22,769	\$23,645	\$25,397	\$27,148	\$28,900			

Moderate income is between 80 and 50 percent of the median income. Low income is 50 percent or less of median income. Very low income is 30 percent or less of median income.

* These columns are for calculating the pricing for one, two and three bedroom sale and rental units as per N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.4(a).

**This column is used for calculating the pricing for rent increases for units as per N.J.A.C. 5:97-9.3. The increase for 2015 was 2.3%, the increase for 2016 was 1.1% and the increase for 2017 is 1.7% (Consumer price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Regions by expenditure category and commodity and service group). Landlords who did not increase rents in 2015 or 2016 may increase rent by up to the applicable combined percentage from their last rental increase for that unit. In no case can rent for any particular apartment be increased more than one time per year.

*** This column is used for calculating the pricing for resale increases for units as per N.J.A.C. 5:97-9.3. As per 5:97-9.3.(b), The price of owner-occupied low and moderate income units may increase annually based on the percentage increase in the regional median income limit for each housing region. In no event shall the maximum resale price established by the administrative agent be lower than the last recorded purchase price.

Low income tax credit developments may increase based on the low income tax credit regulations.

**** The Regional Asset Limit is used in determining an applicant's eligibility for affordable housing pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.16(b)3.

Note: Since the Regional Income Limits for Region 6 in 2016 were higher than the 2017 calculations, the 2016 income limits will remain in force for 2017. See N.J.A.C. 5:97-9.2(c).

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TOWNSHIP OF BEDMINSTER

RESOLUTION #2018-022

APPROVING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF BEDMINSTER AND FAIR SHARE HOUSING CENTER, REGARDING THE MATTER ENTITLED IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BEDMINSTER [DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH AFFORDABLE HOUSING OBLIGATIONS], DOCKET NO. SOM-L-914-15

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2015, the New Jersey Supreme Court issued its decision in In the Matter of the Adoption of N.J.A.C. 5:96 and 5:97 by the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing, 221 N.J. 1 (2015) ("Mount Laurel IV"). In that decision, the New Jersey Supreme Court transferred primary jurisdiction over affordable housing matters from the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing ("COAH") to the New Jersey Superior Court and established a transitional process for municipalities like the Township of Bedminster to file declaratory judgment actions seeking to declare their Housing Element and Fair Share Plans to be constitutionally compliant and seeking similar protections to what they would have received if they had continued to proceed before COAH; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-313 and Mount Laurel IV, the New Jersey Superior Court has the authority to enter an Order granting protection and repose against exclusionary zoning litigation to a municipality that is in compliance with its affordable housing obligations under the Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, in July 2015, in accordance with Mount Laurel IV, the Township filed a declaratory judgment action captioned In the Matter of the Application of the Township of Bedminster, Docket Number SOM-L-914-15, in which it seeks a determination from the court that its proposed fair share plan complies with its Mt. Laurel obligation and a judgment of compliance and repose on the basis thereof; and

WHEREAS, Fair Share Housing Center ("FSHC") has been deemed an intervener for purposes of the settlement agreement in the Township's declaratory judgment action as an interested party; and

WHEREAS, the settlement of Mount Laurel litigation is favored because it avoids delays and the expense of trial and results more quickly in the construction of homes for lower-income households; and

WHEREAS, the Township and FSHC have agreed to settle this litigation by entering into the attached Settlement Agreement (the "Agreement") and requesting that the Superior Court, Somerset County, find that this Agreement, and the approach to meeting the Township's Prior Round (1987-1999) and Third Round (1999-2025) Mount Laurel obligations, as detailed therein, are fair to the interests of lower-income New Jerseyans and entitle the Township to protection from Mount Laurel litigation until July 1, 2025, from the Order entered by the court approving this Settlement Agreement; and

WHEREAS, all parties recognize that this Agreement must be reviewed by the court in accordance with the requirements of Morris County Fair Housing Council v. Boonton Township, 197 N.J. Super. 369, 364 (Law Div. 1984), aff'd o.b., 209 N.J. Super. 108 (App. Div. 1986) and East/West Venture v. Borough of Fort Lee, 286 N.J. Super. 311, 328 (App. Div. 1996), and that, in order to approve the settlement, the court must find that it adequately protects the interests of lower-income persons for whom the affordable units proposed by the settlement are to be built; and

WHEREAS, the Township has, or will, identify specific sites and mechanisms that present a realistic opportunity for the development of housing affordable to lower-income households, including families, people with special needs and very-low-income households including very-low-income families; and

WHEREAS, at this time and at this particular point in the process resulting from the Supreme Court's Mount Laurel IV decision, when fair share obligations have yet to be


definitively determined it is appropriate for the parties to arrive at a settlement of those obligations using a mutually agreed upon process for determining those obligations in the context of a settlement rather than litigating a full resolution of those obligations.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of Bedminster, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, that

1. The Township hereby approves the Settlement Agreement between the Township of Bedminster and Fair Share Housing Center in the form attached hereto; and
2. That the Mayor and the Township Clerk are authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of the Township of Bedminster.
3. The Township Attorney is authorized to present the Agreement for review and approval by the Superior Court of New Jersey, upon notice to all interested parties.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ATTEST:


BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

By: 
 Judith A. Sullivan, RMC
 Township Clerk

By: 
 Steven E. Parker, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I, Judith A. Sullivan, Township Clerk of the Township of Bedminster, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and exact copy of a Resolution adopted by the Township Committee at a Regular Meeting held on January 16, 2018.


 Judith A. Sullivan, RMC
 Township Clerk

Introduced	Seconded	Township Committee	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
		Steven E. Parker, Mayor	✓			
	✓	Lawrence F. Jacobs	✓			
		Staci Santucci	✓			
✓		Douglas A. Stevinson	✓			
		R. Colin Hickey	✓			