

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE
DOCKET NO. MER-L-1538-15 (MOUNT LAUREL)**

**NOTICE OF COMPLIANCE HEARING ON HOUSING
ELEMENT AND FAIR SHARE PLAN AND ASSOCIATED
ORDINANCES INVOLVING THE TOWNSHIP OF
LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF MERCER**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September 5, 2018 beginning at 10 a.m., a Final Compliance Hearing (the “Hearing”) will be conducted before Honorable Mary C. Jacobson, A.J.S.C. in the Fourth Floor Court Room in the Mercer County Criminal Courthouse, 400 South Warren Street, Trenton, New Jersey 08640. Upon conclusion of the Hearing, the Court will determine whether the terms of the Township’s proposed Final Housing Element and Fair Share Plan (hereinafter the “Affordable Housing Plan”), and implementing Ordinances satisfy the Township’s obligation to provide a realistic opportunity for the creation of affordable housing pursuant to its constitutional responsibilities under the Mount Laurel Doctrine. The Court will also consider the Township’s satisfaction of the terms and conditions of the Court’s Order of Fairness and Preliminary Compliance.

The Affordable Housing Plan addresses the Township’s Present Need Obligation (or rehabilitation obligation) of seventy-three (73) housing units, a prior round obligation pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:93 of 891 units, and a 26-year third round prospective need and expanded present need obligation of 1,110 units, all as determined pursuant to the Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301, et seq., the applicable regulations of the New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing (“COAH”), the New Jersey Supreme Court’s March 10, 2015 decision in the matter of In re N.J.A.C. 5:96 & N.J.A.C. 5:97, 221 N.J. 1 (2015), and other applicable laws.

The Township has entered into a Settlement Agreement with Fair Share Housing Center, Inc., which has already been approved by the Court. The Township has also entered into an Agreement with Interested Party, Brandywine Operating Partnership, which owns a 35.22± acre portion of Block 5101, Block 18, to facilitate the production of affordable housing in the third round, which spans for a period of 26 years from 1999 to 2025.

The Township seeks a Final Judgment of Compliance and Repose, which will afford the Township, among other things, a period of protection from any builder’s remedy or constitutional compliance lawsuits brought pursuant to the Mount Laurel Doctrine through July 1, 2025.

The Township’s Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, which will soon be adopted and/or endorsed by the Lawrence Township Planning Board and Lawrence Township Council, is on file and available for public inspection and photocopying (at requestor’s expense) during normal business hours (M-F 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) at the Township Clerk’s Office located at 2207 Lawrence Rd, Lawrence, NJ, and is posted on the Township’s website at www.lawrencetwp.com.

Any interested person may seek to appear and be heard at the Hearing to address the Township’s Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and offer any comments or objections,

provided any such person first files with the Court at the above address, his/her comments or objections, in writing, no later than August 22, 2018 and serves and emails such objections or comments upon the following:

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Lawrence, NJ 08648
clerk@lawrencetwp.com

This Notice is provided pursuant to directive of the Court and is intended to inform interested parties of the Township's Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan and inform such parties that they are able to comment on these documents before the Court reviews and evaluates whether to approve them. This Notice does not indicate any view by the Court as to the adequacy of the Township's Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan.