

Exhibit A

**BOROUGH OF CALIFON
COUNTY OF HUNTERDON
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION R-33-25

**ADOPTING THE BOROUGH'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRESENT
AND PROSPECTIVE NEED OBLIGATION FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY
1, 2025 THRU JULY 1, 2035 IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 2024 C.2, AND
RESERVING ALL RIGHTS.**

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2024, Governor Murphy signed into law, P.L. 2024, c.2, which among other things, amended various provisions of the New Jersey Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq. ("FHA"), abolished the Council on Affordable Housing ("COAH") and established the Affordable Housing Dispute Resolution Program ("Program"); and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2024, c.2, sets forth that Fourth Round period of affordable housing obligations shall run from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2035 ("Fourth Round"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.L. 2024, c.2, the Borough is located in Region 3, which is comprised of Hunterdon, Middlesex and Somerset counties; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the FHA require the Department of Community Affairs ("DCA") to prepare and publish a report on the calculations of the regional need and each municipality's non-binding present and prospective need affordable housing obligations for the Fourth Round within seven months of March 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2024 the DCA published its report that includes its estimate of the obligations for all municipalities based on the calculations with respect to Statewide regional need and municipal present and prospective need affordable housing obligations for the Fourth Round (the "DCA Report"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to P.L. 2024, c.2, the DCA has calculated the total statewide prospective need obligation to be 84,698 units, which equates to a statewide new construction obligation of over 8,400 affordable units per year; and

WHEREAS, the DCA Report calculates the Borough's non-binding Fourth Round obligations as follows: 1) a Present Need or Rehabilitation obligation of 0; and 2) a Prospective Need or New Construction Obligation of 23; and

WHEREAS, the calculations in the DCA Report are not binding on municipalities, thereby inviting municipalities to demonstrate that the Amended FHA would support lower calculations of the Fourth Round affordable housing obligations; and

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WHEREAS, rather, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1 of the FHA, each municipality is required to determine its respective Fourth Round present and prospective need fair share obligations, and adopt a binding resolution describing the basis for the municipality's determination on or before January 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, P.L. 2024, c.2, each municipality shall determine its Fourth Round present and prospective need fair share obligations, with consideration of the calculations in the DCA Report, and in accordance with the formulas established in N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2 and -304.3 of the FHA using "necessary datasets that are updated to the greatest extent practicable"; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and its professionals have reviewed the DCA Report along with the underlying data and data sets relied upon by the DCA in reaching its non-binding calculations for the Borough against the most up-to-date land use approvals, site specific information, construction permits, and MOD-IV data maintained and on file with the Borough with regard to the land capacity and equalized non-residential valuation factor; and

WHEREAS, the Borough accepts the estimate set forth in the DCA Report with respect to Present Need of 0; and

WHEREAS, the Borough accepts the estimate set forth in the DCA Report with respect to the Prospective Need of 23 as being calculated by and provided for in P.L. 2024, c.2; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1f(1)(b) provides that: "the municipality's determination of its fair share obligation shall have a presumption of validity, if established in accordance with sections 6 and 7" of P.L. 2024, c.2 ... [;]" and

WHEREAS, the Borough's acceptance of its Present Need and Prospective Need obligations are entitled to a "presumption of validity" because they comply with Sections 6 and 7 of P.L. 2024, c.2; and

WHEREAS, the Borough, however, specifically reserves the right to adjust its prospective need obligation, including for either or both of: 1) a Vacant Land Adjustment predicated upon a lack of vacant, developable and suitable land; 2) a Durational Adjustment (whether predicated upon lack of sewer or lack of water); and

WHEREAS, in addition to the foregoing, the Borough specifically reserves all rights to revoke this resolution and commitment in the event of: 1) a successful challenge to P.L. 2024, c.2 as a result of the pending litigation entitled: Borough of Montvale et al, v. State of New Jersey, et al., Docket No.: MER-L-1778-24; (2) any other such action challenging P.L. 2024, c.2; or (3) any subsequent legislative or regulatory enactment which alters or changes the deadlines, calculations, methodology and/or requirements of P.L. 2024, c.2; and

WHEREAS, the Borough further specifically reserves the right to take a position that its Fourth Round Prospective Need Obligation is lower than described herein if a third party challenges the calculations provided for in this Resolution (a reservation of all litigation rights and positions, without prejudice); and

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WHEREAS, in addition to the foregoing, nothing in P.L. 2024, c. 2 requires or can require an increase in the Borough's Fourth Round Present or Prospective Need Obligations based on a successful downward challenge of any other municipality in the region since the plain language and clear intent of P.L. 2024, c.2, is to establish, for example, unchallenged numbers by default as of March 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, in light of the above, the Borough Council of the Borough of Califon finds that it is in the best interest of the Borough to declare its obligations in accordance P.L. 2024, c.2 in accordance with this resolution.

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

1. All of the Recitals set forth above are hereby incorporated by reference.
2. The Borough Council hereby commits to a Fourth Round Present Need Obligation of 0 and the Fourth Round Prospective Need Obligation of 23, as described in this resolution subject to all reservations of rights, which specifically include:
 - a) The right to adjust the prospective need obligation based on lack of available vacant and developable land, sewer, and/or water, or any combination thereof;
 - b) All rights to revoke this resolution in the event of a successful legal challenge, or legislative or regulatory change to P.L. 2024, c. 2;
 - c) All rights to take a position that Borough's Fourth Round Prospective Need Obligations are lower than described herein if a third party challenges the calculations provided for in this Resolution; and
 - d) All rights to take a position that the Borough's Fourth Round Prospective Need Obligations are lower than described herein if a third-party claims the Borough's Fourth Round Prospective Need Obligations require an increase based on a reallocation or modification of the Regional Present or Prospective Need Obligations allegedly due from successful reduction of the allocated present and prospective need obligations assigned to another municipality in the Region.
3. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1, the Borough Council hereby directs the Borough Attorney to file an action with the Affordable Housing Dispute Resolution Program along with this resolution and take all necessary and proper steps to address any challenges to same by any interested parties.
4. The Borough's calculation of Present and Prospective Need Obligations are entitled to a "presumption of validity" because they comply with Sections 6 and 7 of P.L. 2024, c.2.

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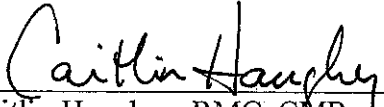
5. The Borough further commits to adopt its housing element and fair share plan pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.1f(2) based on this determination on or before June 30, 2025, and hereby further directs the Borough Attorney, Borough Affordable Housing Planner and Borough Engineer to begin taking steps to prepare the same.

7. A copy of this resolution, along with the filing date of the Borough's action with the Program, shall be posted to the Borough website.

8. A copy of the resolution shall remain on file in the Borough Clerk's office and available for public inspection.

9. This resolution shall take effect immediately, according to law.

Adopted: January 16, 2025

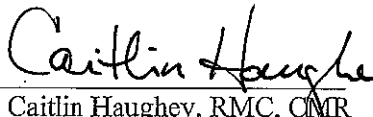

Caitlin Haughey, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk/Administrator


Charles Daniel, Mayor

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a Resolution adopted by the Borough of Califon Council at the annual reorganization meeting held on January 16, 2025.

(SEAL)


Caitlin Haughey, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk/Administrator