TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD COUNTY OF CAMDEN STATE OF NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION #2022-270

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WATERFORD OBJECTING TO THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION'S PROPOSED PLAN TO INTRODUCE A PERMIT SYSTEM FOR USE OF ROADS IN THE WHARTON STATE FOREST

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has presented a proposal to introduce a vehicle permit and roadway system of where permitted vehicles would be allowed to drive in the Wharton State Forest and to pay for a permit to utilize those roads; and

WHEREAS, the time period for anyone to respond to this proposal through an online survey indicates it will close on October 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, those roads have always been open for unfettered publicuse and accessto this area; and

WHEREAS, this is insufficient time for anyone to provide a response to the NJDEP with respect to this proposed plan, let alone have any serious participatory public comment on same.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Township Committee of the Township of Waterford, County of Camden, State of New Jersey, as follows:

- 1. The Township of Waterford opposes a plan by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection to require anyone using a road in the Wharton State Forest to obtain and pay for a permit to utilize those roads;
- Individuals should continue to have the right to utilize all of these roads as same were always open to the public and requiring a permit to use said roads is unconscionable, oppressive and costly;

- 3. Limiting access to this Forest Resource precludes individuals from enjoying the benefits of the Wharton State Forest;
- 4. The State has sufficient tax assets to maintain these roads the same as any other public road; and
- 5. By precluding a public forum for open participatory public comment to address such an important issue is a disservice to all residents from presenting their position with respect to such a regulatory and costly proposed plan.

This Resolution shall be circulated immediately to all State Senate and Assembly Officials, the Office of the Governor and all local County Officials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption.

Adopted: October 12, 2022

Dawn Liedtka, RMC / CMR Clerk

Andrew Wade, Mayor

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YES	9	0	Ø	×	6
ABSTAIN				C	
NO					
ABSENT					

CERTIFICATION

I, Dawn Liedtka, Clerk of the Township of Waterford, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted by the Mayor and Township Committee at its Meeting held on October 12, 2022, at the Waterford Township Municipal Building, 2131 Auburn Avenue, Atco, New Jersey.

Dawn Liedtka, Township Clerk