



TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM

58 Meversville Road
Chatham, NJ 07928
(973) 635-4600
Fax (973) 635-2644
www.chathamtownship-nj.gov

Robert S. Hoffmann
Township Administrator
rhoffmann@chathamtownship.org
rhoffmann@chathamtownship-nj.gov

April 5, 2020

To The Residents of the Township of Chatham:

The Planning Board meeting scheduled for Monday, April 6, 2020 has been postponed. All matters scheduled for the April 6th meeting are carried and will be placed on the agenda for the April 20th Planning Board meeting.

Several of the items on the Planning Board meeting agenda relate to the implementation of the Township's Affordable Housing agreement with the Fair Share Housing Center (FSHC). The Township will submit a letter to the Superior Court requesting permission to carry those Affordable Housing matters.

On Saturday afternoon April 4th, Governor Murphy briefed the residents of the State of New Jersey on actions that have been taken, as well as the stronger actions that must soon be taken to fight the surge in COVID-19 illnesses in the coming weeks. The Governor stated that we are at war and to win we must concentrate on the battle to defeat the enemy which is COVID-19. The Township will ask for a temporary postponement of the deadline to implement its Affordable Housing obligations in order to fight the battle against this pandemic which is having a serious impact on the lives of our residents in the Township, as well as our family and friends across New Jersey, our country and the world. COVID-19 has impacted the Township's ability to deliver vital municipal services. Over the next several weeks it is anticipated that our resources will become even more challenged.

The Township recognizes the Affordable Housing commitment contained in the agreement reached with FSHC in December of 2018. The agreement was reached after four (4) years of negotiations involving four (4) Township Committees, three (3) Mayors and two (2) Administrators.

In the past two (2) weeks the Township has implemented IT improvements that provide the ability to hold electronic or virtual meetings in formats that have been approved as Open Public Meetings by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs. The Township has tested and will conduct additional tests of these electronic improvements with the intention of holding the April 20, 2020 Planning Board meeting as an electronic or virtual meeting. The ZOOM platform will be used.

Please continue to take precautions and practice social distancing so that you and all who are dear to you remain safe during this unprecedented time in our lives.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Hoffmann
Township Administrator