

FILED

April 24, 2025

Hon. Robert G. Malestein, P.J.Ch.

The Hon. ROBERT G. MALESTEIN, P.J.Ch.

Superior Court of New Jersey
Law Division – Civil Part
GLOUCESTER COUNTY
Gloucester County Courthouse
1 N. Broad Street
Woodbury, New Jersey 08096

PREPARED BY THE COURT:

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
DECLARATORY JUDGMENT
ACTION OF THE TOWNSHIP
OF HARRISON, GLOUCESTER
COUNTY PURSUANT TO P.L.
2024, CHAPTER 2**

Petitioner.

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
LAW DIVISION – CIVIL PART
GLOUCESTER COUNTY
DOCKET NO. GLO-L-93-25

Civil Action

Mt. Laurel Program

**ORDER FIXING MUNICIPAL
OBLIGATIONS FOR “PRESENT NEED”
AND “PROSPECTIVE NEED” FOR THE
FOURTH ROUND HOUSING CYCLE**

THIS MATTER, having come before the Court on its own motion, *sua sponte*, on the Complaint for Declaratory Judgment filed on January 22, 2025 (“DJ Complaint”) by the Petitioner, TOWNSHIP of HARRISON (“Petitioner” or “Municipality”), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-304.2, -304.3, and -304.1(f)(1)(c) of the New Jersey Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301, et seq. (collectively, the “FHA”), and in accordance with Section II.A of Administrative Directive #14-24 (“Directive #14-24”) of the Affordable Housing Dispute Resolution Program (the “Program”), seeking a certification of compliance with the FHA;

AND IT APPEARING, that on October 18, 2024, pursuant to the FHA (as amended), the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (“DCA”) issued its report entitled “*Affordable Housing Obligations for 2025-2035 (Fourth Round)*”,¹ therein setting forth the “present need” and prospective need” obligations of all New Jersey municipalities for the Fourth Round housing cycle (the “DCA’s Fourth Round Report”);

AND IT APPEARING that, pursuant to the DCA’s Fourth Round Report, the “**present need**” obligation of the Petitioner has been calculated and reported as 40 affordable units, and its “**prospective need**” obligation of the Petitioner has been calculated and reported as 306 affordable units, and which calculations have been deemed “presumptively valid” for purposes of the FHA;

AND THE COURT, having determined that no “interested party” has filed a “challenge” to the Petitioner’s DJ Complaint by way of an Answer thereto as provided for and in accordance with Section II.B of Directive #14-24 of the Program;

AND THE COURT, having found and determined, therefore, that the “present need” and “prospective need” affordable housing obligations of the Petitioner for the Fourth Round housing cycle as calculated and reported in the DCA’s Fourth Round Report have been committed to by the Petitioner and are uncontested, and for good cause having otherwise been shown:

IT IS, THEREFORE, on this 24th day of **APRIL 2025 ORDERED AND ADJUDGED** as follows:

1. That the “present need” obligation of the Municipality, be, and hereby is fixed as 40 affordable units for the Fourth Round housing cycle.

¹ See https://nj.gov/dca/dlps/pdf/FourthRoundCalculation_Methodology.pdf

2. That the “prospective need” obligation of the Municipality, be, and hereby is fixed as 306 affordable units for the Fourth Round Housing cycle; and

3. That the Petitioner is hereby authorized to proceed with preparation and adoption of its proposed Housing Element and Fair Share Plan for the Fourth Round, incorporating therein the “present need” and “prospective need” allocations aforesaid (and which plan shall include the elements set forth in the “Addendum” attached to Directive #14-24), by or before June 30, 2025, as provided for and in accordance with Section III.A of Directive #14-24, and without further delay..

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that any and all “challenges” to the Petitioner’s housing element and fair share plan as adopted pursuant to Paragraph 3 above must be filed by August 31, 2025, by way of Answer/Objection filed in the eCourts case jacket for this Docket No. # -^{GLO-L-93-25}~~1-25~~, and as provided for and in accordance with Section III.B of Directive #14-24; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that a copy of this Order shall be deemed served on the Petitioner, Petitioner’s counsel and the Program Chair upon its posting by the Court to the eCourts case jacket for this matter pursuant to R. 1:5-1(a) and R. 1:32-2A.

SO ORDERED:

Robert G. Malestein, P.J.Ch.

HON. ROBERT G. MALESTEIN, P.J.Ch.
Designated Mt. Laurel Judge – Vicinage 15

(X) Uncontested.