

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-58

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FROM FLORENCE TOWNSHIP AUTHORIZING THE SUSTAINABLE JERSEY GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to optimize quality of life for its residents by ensuring that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, Florence Township strives to save tax dollars, assure clean land, air and water, improve working and living environments, and

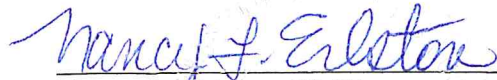
WHEREAS, Florence Township is participating in the Sustainable Jersey Program; and

WHEREAS, one of the purposes of the Sustainable Jersey Program is to provide resources to municipalities to make progress on sustainability issues, and they have created a grant program called the Sustainable Jersey Small Grants Program.

THEREFORE, The Council of the Township of Florence has determined that Florence Township should apply for the aforementioned Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey hereby authorizes the submission of the aforementioned Sustainable Jersey Grant.

I, **NANCY L. ERLSTON**, Clerk of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Governing Body of the Township of Florence at a meeting held on the 7th day of February, 2024. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunder set my hand and official seal of the municipality this 7th day of February 2024.


Nancy L. Erlston, RMC
Township Clerk

Note: This authorizes the application of a Sustainable Jersey Grant



TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE

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MEMORANDUM: February 6, 2024

TO: Mayor Kristan Marter & Members of Florence Township Council

FROM: Martin Eckert, Jr

SUBJECT: Sustainable New Jersey Grants Program

Mayor Marter & Members of Florence Township Council

The 2024 Sustainable New Jersey Grant Package provides local municipalities the opportunity to submit a proposal for consideration where a localized program may be aided by one of the tiered grant amounts available. Grant amounts are determined based on the scope of work associated with a project or program and submittals are reviewed and categorized based on a points system. If selected, grant amounts are awarded as \$2,000.00/\$10,000.00 or \$20,000.00.

In support of a vision to enhance both sustainability and community outreach, myself and members of the Florence Township Environmental Commission are developing a grant proposal which will further develop our existing community gardens as well as establish pollinator gardens and fruit bearing tree rows for the benefit of our community. Additionally, as we understand that our community garden space is limited, we will utilize grant funds to provide planting buckets, soil and seedlings comprised of both vegetables and flowers for interested youth and families in our community. Our vision is to host multiple events in neighborhoods throughout Florence Township where our community may gather to learn about planting and will be provided items to take home to grow in their yards, gardens, flower beds and porches.

This initiative is the beginning of encouraging our local families to take part in not only community beautification but to also learn about sustainable practices at home. These are opportunities to bring residents together to enjoy a sense of community and participation is not determined by any factors. All are welcome and encouraged to join in our outreach efforts. Promotional materials will be distributed through the schools and periodic gardening tips will be placed on our township website. We have interacted with a representative from the Rutgers Master Gardener Program and they and others are interested in participating to support the success of the proposed program.

Attached, please find a Resolution which must accompany our final submittal for your review. Should there be further questions, either myself or members of the Environmental Commission will provide further updates and information. We believe this program and grant will serve our community well in many ways.

Respectfully Submitted,

Martin Eckert Jr., Recycling & Clean Communities Coordinator