2013 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN NORTH JERSEY SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES CONSORTIUM - TOGETHER NORTH JERSEY

WHEREAS, in June 2009, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) joined with the U.S. Department of Transportation, and the Environmental Protection Agency to create an Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities. In the context of the federal partnership, HUD created the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program in an effort to support metropolitan and multijurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, infrastructure plans and to empower jurisdictions to consider the interdependent challenges of economic growth and revitalization, access to opportunity, public health, and environmental impact simultaneously; and

WHEREAS, in November 2011, a group consisting of Rutgers University, the North Jersey Transportation Authority (NJTPA), NJ TRANSIT, the Office for Planning Advocacy and others received a $5 million grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development to create TOGETHER North Jersey which will guide the development of a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development ("RPSD") for the 13-county NJTPA region; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this planning effort is to enhance, coordinate, and expand existing planning work being conducted at the local, county, regional, and state level to address economic growth, development, transportation, access to jobs and housing, and other interrelated factors; and

WHEREAS, the grant requires that TOGETHER North Jersey participants sign a Memorandum of Understanding that explains the benefits and responsibilities of membership and identifies the processes and procedures that will govern the business of the Consortium; and

WHEREAS, membership in the TOGETHER North Jersey is voluntary and open to any public jurisdiction, agency or authority; non-governmental organization; neighborhood association; community and faith-based organization; private corporation or company; or educational institution located in or serving Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren Counties; and

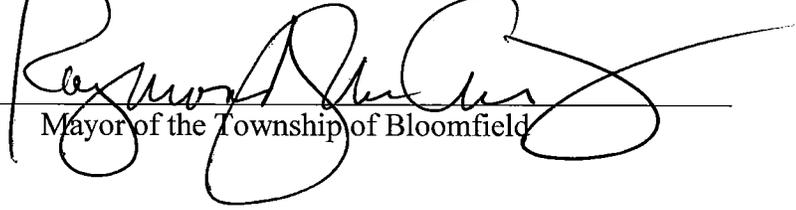**WHEREAS,** local government participation in this effort is critical for its success;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield agree to:

1. Join TOGETHER North Jersey
2. Authorize signature of the TOGETHER North Jersey Memorandum of Understanding; and
3. Work collaboratively with the other members of TOGETHER North Jersey and the public to: a) create a comprehensive and balanced vision for the region's future in which the economy, housing market, transportation and infrastructure systems advance and sustain a high quality of life for all the region's residents and ensure the competitiveness of our businesses and industries without endangering natural resources; and b) develop a plan that makes the region attractive to both public and private-sector investment that encourages residential and business growth in areas that can support growth and choose to do so.

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I hereby certify that the above resolution was duly adopted by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Bloomfield at a meeting of said Township Council held on March 27, 2013.

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Municipal Clerk of the Township of Bloomfield

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Mayor of the Township of Bloomfield

✓ Vote Record - Resolution 2628			Yes/Aye	No/Nay	Abstain	Absent
☑ Adopted						
☐ Adopted as Amended	Elias Chalet		☑	☐	☐	☐
☐ Defeated						
☐ Withdrawn	Nicholas Joanow		☑	☐	☐	☐
☐ Tabled	Carlos Bernard		☑	☐	☐	☐
☐ Approved						
☐ Approved by Consensus	Michael Venezia		☑	☐	☐	☐
☐ Not Discussed	Peggy O'Boyle Dunigan		☑	☐	☐	☐
☐ Tabled with No Vote						
☐ Discussed	Bernard Hamilton		☑	☐	☐	☐
☐ Veto by Mayor	Raymond McCarthy		☑	☐	☐	☐