



THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
of the  
BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE  
County of Essex  
State of New Jersey

Monday, April 9, 2018

RESOLUTION NO. **69-18**

Offered by Councilor **MURPHY**  
Seconded by Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO WORK COOPERATIVELY FOR THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF A SHARED-USE PATH WITHIN THE MONTCLAIR TOWNSHIP, BELLEVILLE TOWNSHIP, BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP, CITY OF NEWARK, AND GLEN RIDGE BOROUGH

**WHEREAS**, Montclair, Belleville, Bloomfield, Newark, and Glen Ridge are among the most densely-populated municipal jurisdiction within the most densely-populated state in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, and on behalf of their residents, Montclair, Belleville, Bloomfield, Newark, and Glen Ridge have been engaged in the planning and evaluation of non-motorized inter-urban transportation alternatives and trail opportunities for community development, public health, and public recreational access; and

**WHEREAS**, Montclair, Belleville, Bloomfield, Newark, and Glen Ridge are home to a 100 foot-wide, 4.5 mile continuous, contiguous and underutilized segment of the former Erie Railroad, New York & Greenwood Lake Railway; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002 New Jersey Transit Corporation terminated commuter passenger service, operational and maintenance responsibilities along said corridor; and

**WHEREAS**, freight rail service provided by Norfolk Southern Corporation has been fully discontinued along portions of the corridor as evidenced by removal of track, tie, signal, and at grade crossing equipment, the loss of shippers, and an increase of neglect and blight; and

**WHEREAS**, the corridor forms a superior connection between and among communities to this Agreement, and enhances the linkage of residential communities, commercial and business sites, and civic, institutional and recreational lands and water; and

**WHEREAS**, the September 11<sup>th</sup> National Memorial Trail Alliance is interested in having the "911NM Trail" co-align with this shared-use path; now therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge hereby declare that it is their intention to work with Montclair, Belleville, Bloomfield, and Newark to pursue reuse of the corridor as a "rail-with-trail" facility to jointly accommodate freight shippers and non-motorized public access and recreational trail use, or as single-purpose "rail-trail" recreational facility; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council intend to work with Bloomfield, Belleville, Montclair, and Newark in the planning, design, grant-writing, and activities necessary to advance corridor reuse; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council recognize the amount of work and planning such an undertaking involves and as such hereby agree to the formation of an Interlocal Rail-Trail Planning

Committee ("Committee"), whose official membership shall consist of one mayoral appointee from Belleville, Bloomfield, Newark, Glen Ridge, and Montclair. The Committee shall meet regularly, keep records, develop a project workplan, host meetings and public events, work with stakeholders, and serve as a forum for coordinating municipal, county, state, federal, and regional agency activities. The Committee shall not be authorized to enter into contracts, expend money, maintain a budget, approve expenditures, or incur any liability on behalf of the Borough. The committee will be an advisory Committee to plan and coordinate the undertaking with the Borough Council maintaining responsibility to take any necessary action, expend any money, enter into any contract or incur any liability.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** the Borough of Glen Ridge recognizes the participation of the municipalities of Montclair, Belleville, Bloomfield, Newark is essential to the success of the Committee, and the Borough encourages those municipalities to join in establishing the Committee.

I, Michael J. Rohal, Municipal Clerk of The Borough of Glen Ridge, in The County of Essex and in The State of New Jersey, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of a "RESOLUTION" adopted by The Mayor and The Borough Council on Monday, April 9, 2018.

Witness my hand and seal of the Borough of Glen Ridge on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April 2018.

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Michael J. Rohal  
Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk