RESOLUTION NO. 84 - 19

Offered By Councilor MANS

Seconded By Councilor

WHEREAS, the population of mammals, birds, invertebrates, fish, reptiles and amphibians that live in, and migrate through New Jersey find themselves clinging to smaller and smaller pieces of wild clean lands and aquatic habitats, and

WHEREAS, it is more cost effective to prevent species from becoming imperiled than it is to recover them once their populations have declined, and

WHEREAS, a naturally functioning and healthy ecosystem represents a healthy environment for NJ wildlife and our citizens, and

WHEREAS, the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, other state and federal agencies, and many partners on conservation have worked together to develop a state Wildlife Action Plan for the benefit of biologists, wildlife experts, municipal leaders, and land stewards, non-profit organizations, educators, planners, researchers, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, land owners and all the people who know the wild places of New Jersey State,

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan is a comprehensive action agenda for the conservation of native wildlife, the restoration of important lands and water, and public education targeting the needs of rare wildlife in New Jersey.

WHEREAS, the residents of, and visitors to New Jersey also enjoy and benefit from New Jersey's wildlife and wild species.

NOW THEREFORE, we the Borough of Glen Ridge, resolve to take the following steps with regard to our municipal land-use decisions with the intent of making Glen Ridge an ecologically sustainable community. It is our intent to include these principles in our public lands management, our environmental resources inventory and to inform the next master plan revision and update our zoning accordingly.

1. We will identify imperiled species, critical habitat and unique ecosystems in our Environmental Resources Inventory.

2. Acknowledge that it is more cost effective to protect species then recover species, we will protect populations of rare and imperiled species that live and breed in, and migrate through, the municipality and the habitats the depend upon.

3. Because habitat integrity is critical to healthy biodiversity we will manage publicly owned lands in accordance with wildlife management actions laid out in the New Jersey Wildlife Action Plan and will promote the management of all protected lands to encourage biodiversity.
4. We will protect wildlife habitats and maintain connectivity of habitat when formulating an open space acquisition strategy, open space stewardship plans and through the municipal master plan including planning and zoning ordinances.

5. We will seek to minimize disturbances of critical wildlife populations and their habitats from human activities, subsidized predators and invasive species.

6. When possible and appropriate, we will work with neighboring municipalities to implement and aforementioned principles across municipal boundaries.

7. When possible an appropriate, we will strive to monitor and implement appropriate management of municipal easements to ensure native vegetation and wildlife takes precedence over invasive and/or exotic species.

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 Tuesday, May 28, 2019.

Witness my hand and seal of The Borough of Glen Ridge on this 28th day of May 2019.

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Michael J. Rohal , Borough Administrator/Municipal Clerk