



RESOLUTION #2024-80

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO PURSUE REGIONAL SOLUTIONS TO FLOODING WITHIN THE MILLSTONE RIVER BASIN

WHEREAS, storm severity in the region has increased, beginning with Tropical Storm Irene in 2011 followed by Hurricane Sandy in 2012, and more recently with Tropical Storm Isaias in 2020 and Tropical Storm Ida in 2021, with additional increases expected due to climate change factors for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, stronger storms and the resulting flooding have produced economic damage and devastating hardship for those directly impacted and severely disrupted schools, businesses and transportation throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, flooding within the Borough of Manville impacts the lives, livelihoods, and social support networks of those who live, work, visit or travel through our community and those surrounding us; and

WHEREAS, the resulting flooding also creates public health and safety issues that severely stretch our First Responders and have resulted in injury and death in the region, far outweighing the direct economic impacts; and

WHEREAS, flooding in the Millstone River Basin have greatly, directly and repeatedly devastated portions of Manville Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Millstone River Basin comprises 238 square miles within the counties of Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Hunterdon, and Somerset, necessitating a regional, multi-county solution to issues of stormwater management and flooding; and

WHEREAS, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (MRCS) in 2004 and the Army Corps of Engineers in 2016 each studied limited areas within the Millstone River Basin and identified major infrastructure projects that could reduce flood damage and loss to the populations of the studied areas, including floodwalls, channel modifications, raising of roads and bridge decks, and other methods requiring significant capital outlay, environmental permitting and a coordinated regional effort; and

WHEREAS, the Federal government has current and potential programs to provide grant funding for infrastructure projects that could help undertake one or more regional solutions to this flooding problem; and

WHEREAS, the Governor, per Executive Order No. 89, acknowledges: the importance of communities and government entities integrating climate change considerations into planning and decision making, and becoming more resilient to the effects of climate change; and that each dollar spent on mitigation of hazards results in a six-fold decrease in spending on post- disaster recovery; and that it is the policy of the State that Executive Branch departments and agencies to take proactive and coordinated efforts, where appropriate, to protect public health and safety and to



promote and protect the physical, economic, and social vitality and resilience of New Jersey's communities from the current and anticipated impacts of climate change.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Manville do hereby request the State of New Jersey to undertake one or more regional projects to address and mitigate the current negative effects of flooding in the Millstone River Basin within the Borough of Manville and the other affected municipalities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk is directed that copies of this Resolution be sent to: The Governor of New Jersey, Assembly Speaker, Senate President, State legislators in the affected districts, and the County Executives and County Commissioners in the affected counties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Clerk is directed that copies of this Resolution be sent to the Governing bodies of the following municipalities within the Millstone River Basin with an accompanying letter asking them to take similar actions encouraging involvement and funding at the State and Federal level: Cranbury Township, East Windsor Township, Franklin Township, Hightstown Borough, Millstone Boro, Montgomery Township, Plainsboro Township, Princeton, Rocky Hill Borough, South Brunswick Township and West Windsor Township.

ATTEST:

William Bray, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk

Richard M. Onderko

Richard M. Onderko
Mayor

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Manville, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey at a Regular Meeting held at 325 N. Main St., Manville, NJ 08835 on April 22, 2024.

Introduced	Seconded	Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
	X	Councilman Agans	X			
		Councilwoman Camacho	X			
X		Councilman DeVito	X			
		Councilwoman Madak				X
		Councilwoman Puia	X			
		Councilman Skirkanish	X			
		Mayor Onderko				

ATTEST:

William Bray, RMC, CMR
Borough Clerk