

LOWER TOWNSHIP
RURAL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN – Community Visioning

Dear Township Residents and Members of the Public:

The Township of Lower (the "Township") and Remington, Vernick & Walberg Engineers (RVWE) are preparing and conducting a Community Vision event as part of preparing a plan under a grant from the New Jersey Office of Smart Growth (NJOSG).

The Rural Sustainability Plan (Plan) will identify the most critical concerns within the Township related to: *Natural Areas, Historic, Cultural, Agriculture, Transportation, Sewer & Water, Economy, Community Services & Facilities, Housing and Intermunicipal Cooperation*. These items, which can be used in the furthestmost of the Township's Plan Endorsement petition, will be used in the formation and finalization of the Plan. These items may also be used as part of the negotiation of a Planning & Implementation Agreement (PIA) that the Township can discuss in the future with the NJOSG.

The Township and RVWE wish to invite all members of the governing bodies, landuse/planning boards, County Planning representatives and members of the involved community to provide comments and issues of concern as part of the preparation of the Plan. The general public will be solicited in the near future for their ideas, either by a combination of advertisements in area newspapers, Township newsletter, direct mailings, radio station public service announcements and posters in area public buildings.

This is a participatory event that wishes to engage residents in developing a consensus – in the form of a vision statement – on what they want their community to be planned for in 20 years. – in a sense, a Township vision for the community that will represent "a shared sense of a desired future." Future workshops will be scheduled that will focus on the vision elements as noted above while developing a planned for sustainable growth, recognizing fiscal restraints, housing needs and protection of natural, historic and agricultural resources.

The Township has requested that we seek your input on this matter. Please help us identify the important needs of the Township and its people. Please send your written comments and suggestions to:

William Galestok, Planning Director
Township of Lower
2600 Bayshore Road
Villas, NJ 08251

J. Eric Gundrum, Senior Planner
Remington, Vernick & Walberg
4907 New Jersey Avenue
Wildwood, NJ 08260

Should there be any questions or additional information is needed, please contact Mr. Gundrum at 609-522-5150, ext. 26 or at email at egundrum@rve.com.

Thank you for your consideration in this planning process.