

**RESOLUTION NO. 2024-143**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE EGG HARBOR, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUESTING REPRESENTATION BY OCEAN COUNTY ON THE NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey Transit Corporation is New Jersey's public transportation corporation and its mission is to move New Jersey and the region by providing safe, reliable and affordable public transportation connecting people to their everyday lives, one trip at a time; and

**WHEREAS**, thousands of Ocean County residents are daily commuters relying on the transportation services of New Jersey Transit Corporation to access employment opportunities, medical appointments and recreational activities in areas like New York and northern New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey Transit Corporation operates seven lines through Ocean County with stops in 20 of its 33 municipalities, with local transportation hubs in Lakewood, Toms River and Brick Townships; and

**WHEREAS**, Ocean County's year-round population continues to grow with more than 650,000 people living in Ocean County including over 200,000 senior citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, while growth is greatest in the northwestern area of the County, the population in the southern part of Ocean County also continues to increase with many residents from Lacey Township to Little Egg Harbor Township accessing New Jersey Transit Corporation to travel into New York, Philadelphia and Atlantic City; and

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**WHEREAS**, a study found that only 18 percent of residential properties in Ocean County were within a half-mile walking distance of a New Jersey Transit Corporation bus stop; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey Transit Corporation Access Link, a door-to-door service similar to the service provided by Ocean County's Ocean Ride, is available to about 37 percent of residential properties within the Access Link coverage area, resulting in a greater burden placed on the County's public transportation system to assist seniors and persons with disabilities in their efforts to safely and conveniently access doctors, food shopping and other activities; and

**WHEREAS**, Little Egg Harbor Township residents would benefit greatly from having more access to transportation options, and additional bus stops throughout the County which almost 640 square miles is making it one of the largest counties in the state of New Jersey.

**WHEREAS**, Little Egg Harbor Township residents using the limited access provided by New Jersey Transit Corporation are also paying the recently approved 15 percent increase in fares without having a voice on the New Jersey Transit Corporation Board of Directors; and

**WHEREAS**, without a voice on the New Jersey Transit Corporation Board, Ocean County and similar coastal communities, face an uphill battle in getting better ridership opportunities; and

**WHEREAS**, coastal communities like Little Egg Harbor Township have unique characteristics, such as its size and population shifts based on time of year, and economic and

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geographic characteristics that the current New Jersey Transit Corporation Board members are not familiar but a resident of Ocean County would be; and

**WHEREAS**, the current sitting members on the New Jersey Transit Corporation Board are from Morris, Union, Camden, Essex, and Middlesex counties leaving no representation from coastal counties including Ocean; and

**WHEREAS**, with two (2) current openings on the Board, there is an opportunity to finally give a large area of the state a voice on New Jersey Transit Corporation so the unique characteristics and challenges can be addressed directly.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Township Committee of the Township of Little Egg Harbor, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. That a qualified representative who is a resident of Ocean County be appointed to the NJ Transit Corporation Board of Directors, in order to assure representation of the interests of the residents and businesses of Ocean County and all shore communities, including Little Egg Harbor Township.
2. That certified copies of this Resolution shall be forwarded to Governor Phil Murphy, the New Jersey Transit Corporation Board of Directors, Ocean County Board of Commissioners and all Ocean County Mayors.

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**CERTIFICATION**

**I, KELLY LETTERA, CMC, RMC**, Municipal Clerk of the Township of Little Egg Harbor do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township of Little Egg Harbor Township Committee at a meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of **June, 2024**.



**KELLY LETTERA, CMC, RMC**  
Township Clerk  
Little Egg Harbor Township