RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE SMART GROWTH
LAND-USE POLICIES FOR THE CITY OF CAMDEN

WHEREAS, the City of Camden seeks to become a more sustainable city, thereby improving the quality of life of its residents; and

WHEREAS, land use is an essential component of overall sustainability for a municipality; and

WHEREAS, poor land-use decisions can lead to and increase societal ills such as decreased mobility, high housing costs, increased greenhouse gas emissions, loss of open space and the degradation of natural resources; and

WHEREAS, well planned land use can create transportation choices, provide for a range of housing options, create walkable communities, preserve open space, provide for adequate recreation, and allow for the continued protection and use of vital natural resources; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we the City of Camden intend to take the following steps with regard to our municipal land-use decisions with the intent of making the City of Camden a truly sustainable community. It is our intent to include these principles in the next master plan revision and reexamination report and to update our land-use zoning, natural resource protection, and other ordinances accordingly. Regional Cooperation - We pledge to reach out to administrations of our neighboring municipalities concerning land-use decisions, and to take into consideration regional impacts when making land-use decisions. Transportation Choices - We pledge to consider transportation choices with a Complete Streets approach by exploring all modes of transportation, including walking, biking, transit and automobiles through, when planning transportation projects and reviewing development applications. We will promote shared parking and other innovative parking alternatives, and encourage structured parking alternatives where appropriate. Natural Resource Protection - We pledge to take action to protect the natural resources of the State for environmental, recreational and agricultural value, avoiding or mitigating negative impacts to these resources. Further, we will strive to complete a Natural Resources Inventory when feasible to identify and assess the extent of our natural resources and to link natural resource management and protection to carrying capacity analysis, land-use and open space planning. Mix of Land Uses - We pledge to use our zoning power to allow for a mix of residential, retail, commercial, recreational and other land use types in areas that make the most sense for our municipality and the region, particularly in downtown and town center areas. Housing Options - We pledge, through the use of our zoning powers, to foster a diverse mix of housing types and locations, including single- and multi-family, for-sale and rental options, to meet the needs of all people at a range of income levels.

Green Design - We pledge to promote the principles of green design and renewable energy generation into municipal buildings to the extent feasible and when updating our site plan and subdivision requirements for residential and commercial buildings.

Stormwater Management - We pledge to promote the development of green infrastructure programs and projects to address the storm water management issues faced by the City of Camden.

Municipal Facilities Sitting - We pledge, to the extent feasible, to take into consideration factors such as walkability, bikability, greater access to public transit, proximity to other land-use types, and open space when locating new or relocated municipal facilities.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27B8-23, a true copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the State Commissioner of Community Affairs, who shall have ten (10) days from the receipt thereof to veto this Resolution. All notices of veto shall be filed in the Office of the Municipal Clerk.

Date of Introduction: April 10, 2012

The above has been reviewed and approved as to form.

MARC A. RIONDINO  
City Attorney

FRANCISCO MORAN  
President, City Council

ATTEST:  
LUIS PASTORIZA  
Municipal Clerk