



Cumberland Development Corporation

PO Box 1021, Bridgeton, New Jersey 08302

*Promoting Economic and Community Development
Through Intermunicipal and Public-Private Cooperation*

Phone:
856-451-4200

Fax:
856-453-9795

Email:
cdc@cdc.nj.com

Web Site:
www.cdc.nj.com

Executive Director:
Anthony Stanzone

Serving:
Commercial
Deerfield
Downe
Fairfield
Greenwich
Hopewell
Lawrence
Shiloh
Stow Creek
Upper Deerfield

Board of Directors *

Chairman:
Committeeman Elmer Bowman
Lawrence

Vice Chairman:
Mayor Carol Musso
Deerfield

Secretary:
Dep. Mayor Lisa Garrison
Downe

Treasurer:
Mayor Bruce Hankins
Hopewell

Other Board Members:

Mayor George Garrison
Commercial

Mayor Marion Kennedy
Fairfield

Mayor Theodore Kiefer
Greenwich

Mayor Howard Scull
Shiloh

Dep. Mayor
Randy Dickinson
Stow Creek

Mayor Ralph Cocove
Upper Deerfield

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CUMBERLAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION - #2008 - 05

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY OPPOSING FEES ON RURAL MUNICIPALITIES FOR STATE POLICE SERVICE AND ENDORSING PROPOSED BILLS S-1976/A-2982 THAT WOULD INCREASE MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS SURCHARGES TO RAISE FUNDS TO HELP PAY FOR LOCAL POLICE SERVICES

WHEREAS, Governor Corzine's Fiscal Year 2009 budget reduced State Police funding for municipalities, and

WHEREAS, the State Budget mandates collecting fees from rural municipalities who rely on the State Police for police services, and

WHEREAS, we believe these fees represent an unconstitutional "unfunded local mandate" and will force an increase in local property taxes, and

WHEREAS, State Police service for rural communities is a service that we believe is required to be provided by and paid for by the State based on the Act of the Legislature that created the State Police nearly 100 years ago for that specific purpose and which has been the established precedent throughout all these years, and

WHEREAS, the Mayors, governing body members and other elected and appointed officials in Cumberland County, including the Board of Directors of Cumberland Development Corporation (CDC), remain strongly opposed to the State charging any amount to the municipalities for rural State Police coverage since that was the purpose and function of State Police from its creation by the Legislature and remains so today, and

WHEREAS, many Mayors and other elected and appointed municipal officials, including representatives of Cumberland Development Corporation, have served on a Special Executive Committee of the NJ State League of Municipalities and have met with the Attorney General, State Police, State Treasury officials and representatives of the Governor's office, expressing our opposition to these fees and offering an alternative to charging fees to rural municipalities and raising property taxes, and

WHEREAS, the proposed Bills S-1976 and A-2982 support the alternative suggested by the Special Executive Committee of the State League of Municipalities by authorizing a \$40 surcharge to be added to all motor vehicle violations and directs that one-half of the amount collected be deposited in the "Rural Police Services Property Tax Relief Patrol Services Fund", and

WHEREAS, the proposed Bill directs that the moneys in this fund, and any interest that might be earned, are to be used exclusively for the purpose of offsetting the State's costs for providing State Police patrol services in the State's smaller and more rural communities, and

WHEREAS, charging those who violate State laws, would provide funds in lieu of relying solely on New Jersey property taxpayers, is a sensible solution to address the problem, and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1976, sponsored by Senator Van Drew, and Assembly companion, A-2982 (Assemblyman Milam) would impose such a \$40 surcharge on all motor vehicle violations for such purposes, and

WHEREAS, S-1976/A-2982 establishes two funds into which revenues from the surcharge will be divided equally between the “Rural Police Services Property Tax Relief Patrol Services Fund” and the “Police Services Property Tax Relief Fund”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Cumberland Development Corporation remains strongly opposed to charging rural municipalities any amount for State Police services.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of Cumberland Development Corporation does hereby endorse the sensible solution and appropriate surcharge rates as proposed in S-1976/A-2982 and supports the adoption thereof and urges the District Three Legislators, other Legislators throughout New Jersey, Governor Corzine, Cumberland County Board of Freeholders, the Governing Bodies of the rural Townships in Cumberland County and other elected officials and the public to support adoption of this legislation and to oppose imposition on any fees for State police coverage on the municipalities and the property tax payers.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the Governor, Senators Van Drew and Sweeney, Assemblymen Milam, Albano, Fisher and Burzichelli, other members of the State Legislature, Cumberland County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Mayors and Clerks of the rural Municipalities in Cumberland County and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

Adopted at a meeting of the Cumberland Development Board of Directors held on July 28, 2008.



Elmer Bowman, Chairman of the Board



Anthony Stanzione, Executive Director