

RESOLUTION NO. R2022x84
TOWN OF BELVIDERE
WARREN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING BELVIDERE AS A LOWER DELAWARE WILD AND SCENIC MUNICIPALITY

WHEREAS, the Town of Belvidere is committed to protecting the natural and environmental resources including floodplains, wetlands, steep slopes and aquifer areas and areas suitable for public and quasi-public activities; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2022, 67 miles of the Lower Delaware River among the border of eastern Pennsylvania and western New Jersey received federal Wild and Scenic designation; and

WHEREAS, Belvidere's westerly boundary is the Lower Delaware National Wild and Scenic River, the Pequest River as a tributary; and

WHEREAS the oversight of the Wild and Scenic sections of the Delaware river is a cooperative effort between the National Park Service, the Delaware River Greenway Partnership and the Lower Delaware Management Council with a Delaware Wild and scenic Management Plan website: lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org; and

WHEREAS, Belvidere houses the State-owned boat launch, which includes a public access point for fishing or to launch watercraft; and

WHEREAS, Belvidere's residents, particularly in the historic waterfront area, have long-relied upon the beauty and resilience of the Wild and Scenic Delaware River not only as a draw for tourism, but also as a source of pride which the community is unified around. The environmental and economic well being of the Town is directly related to the health of the Lower Delaware River; and

WHEREAS, Belvidere agrees with the principles of the non-binding Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") which includes:

- 1) Agree to cooperatively implement the Lower Delaware River Management Plan ("Plan"), along with the other signatories to this agreement to conserve the special natural resources of the area and enhance the cultural, recreational and economic opportunities of the watershed.
- 2) Agree to appoint one representative to participate on the Lower Delaware River Management Committee ("Committee").
- 3) May at their discretion contribute staff, in-kind, or financial assistance to the Committee.
- 4) Agree to take into consideration the objectives and recommendations of the Plan in land use or water use decision-making which could impact the health and conservation of the resources of the Lower Delaware River and its tributaries.
- 5) Agree to work together through the Committee to address funding and regulatory issues related to implementation of the national wild and scenic river designation and the Plan.
- 6) Agree to enforce all applicable land use, water use or zoning regulations in such a

manner to ensure that the Lower Delaware River and its tributaries are protected and that actions are consistent with the goals, objectives and recommendations of the Plan.

- 7) Agree to work with the Committee as appropriate to identify and address issues related to the management of the Lower Delaware River and its tributaries as a national wild and scenic river, as detailed in the Plan.
- 8) Agree to control land and waters under their jurisdiction within the Lower Delaware River in a manner consistent with the goals, objectives and recommendations within the Plan.
- 9) Agree that the Management Committee, with the advise and consent of the Belvidere Town Council in each instance, can write letters of support and take other actions to help members receive grants for projects that will further the goals and objectives of the Plan.
- 10) The States and the Delaware River Basin Commission agree to carry out a water quality monitoring program to implement the water quality goal of the Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Town of Belvidere agrees to enter into an MOU to participate in the cooperative implementation of the Lower Delaware River Management Plan and to protect and enhance the values that have caused the Lower Delaware River and its tributaries to be designated by the United States Congress as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Certification

I, Teresa A. Yeisley, Municipal Clerk/Administrator, Town of Belvidere, Warren County, New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Belvidere Town Council at a regular meeting held on October 24, 2022.

Teresa A. Yeisley, RMC/CPM
Municipal Clerk/Administrator