

# **NORTH + SPRINGFIELD**

**Redevelopment Plan**  
**Township of Cranford, New Jersey**  
8 Springfield Avenue

## **Acknowledgements**

### **MAYOR + TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty  
Jason Gareis, Deputy Mayor  
Brian Andrews  
Gina Black  
Mary O'Connor

Ryan J. Cooper, Township Attorney  
Jamie Cryan, Township Administrator  
Patty Donahue, Township Clerk

### **PLANNING BOARD**

Mayor Kathleen Miller Prunty, Class I  
Molly Hurley Kellett, Class IV, Chairperson  
Juan Carlos Nordelo, Class II, Vice-Chairperson  
Julie Didzbalis, Class IV  
Jason Gareis, Class III  
David Leber, Alternate #1  
Donna Pedde, Class IV  
Jeff Pistol, Alternate #2  
Kate Rappa, Class IV  
Diana Sen, Class IV  
Peter Taylor, Class IV

Jonathan Drill, Esquire, Board Attorney  
Kathy Lenahan, Board Administrator  
Kathleen Nemeth, Zoning Officer  
Michael Ash, Special Redevelopment Counsel

### **Plan Date: April 12, 2022**

Topology | 60 Union St #1N Newark, NJ 07105  
Prepared by:



Leigh Anne Hindenlang AICP/PP  
NJ Planner License No. 628600

## **Table of Contents**

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>SITE DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>PUBLIC PURPOSES</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>LAND USE</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>42</b>

APPENDIX A: RELATION TO OTHER PLANS

APPENDIX B: RELATED RESOLUTIONS

APPENDIX C: PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

APPENDIX D: LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT + HOUSING LAW

APPENDIX E: DEFINITIONS

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Introduction

This Redevelopment Plan (“Plan”) provides a comprehensive vision for the redevelopment of the *North + Springfield* Redevelopment Area (the “Study Area,” “Redevelopment Area,” or “Area”). This Area is located on the edge of downtown Cranford, northeast of the Cranford NJ TRANSIT train station, and immediately southwest of the Township’s municipal building. The Redevelopment Area measures just under two acres and includes the following properties: Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14

**Figure 1** below reflects the boundaries of the Redevelopment Area.

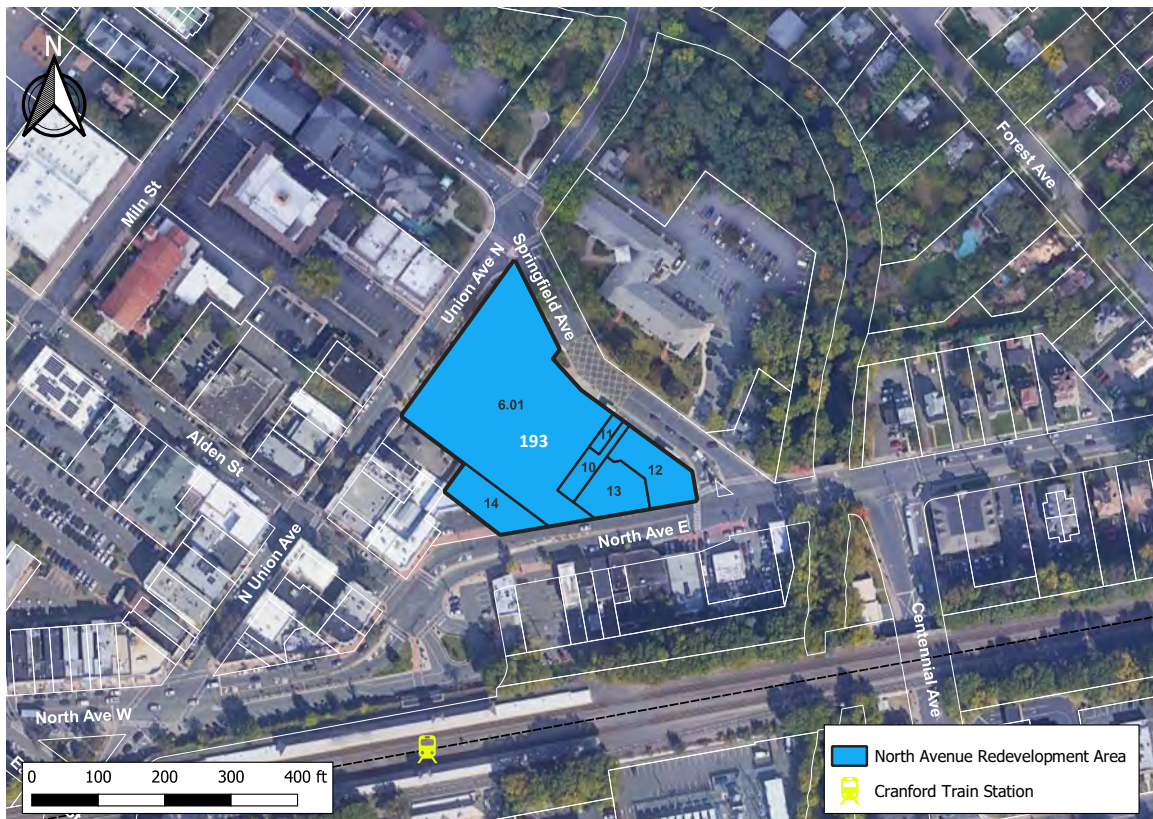


Figure 1: Redevelopment Area Map

The goal of this Plan is to provide a planning and policy framework for the reuse of the Redevelopment Area to effectuate the Township’s goals and objectives. Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (“LRHL”), “all provisions of the redevelopment plan shall be either substantially consistent with the municipal master plan or designed to effectuate the master plan” (N.J.S.A 40A:12A-7(d)). As mentioned in the 2019 Master Plan Reexamination Report, the Township set an objective to utilize redevelopment designations to encourage development on underutilized properties as part of a broader effort to proactively plan for the future and implement projects. Furthermore, both the 2009 Master Plan and the 2019 Master Plan Reexamination Report recognize the need to provide a wide

range of housing options to meet the needs of residents in diverse income groups. The redevelopment of this area aides the Township in achieving its goals to provide additional housing options—in accordance with the Township’s *Housing Plan Element and Fair Share Plan*, as described in **Appendix A**—and to create development opportunities that encourage an increase in mass transit usage and a diverse mix of uses as a means of maintaining an economically vibrant community.

As required by the LRHL, redevelopment plans must address “any significant relationship of the redevelopment plan to (a) the master plans of contiguous municipalities, (b) the master plan of the county in which the municipality is located, and (c) the State Development and Redevelopment Plan” (N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7(a)(5)). This Plan is also consistent with these plans, as detailed in **Appendix A**.

## **1.2 Regulatory History**

The Township of Cranford has determined that the use of redevelopment powers granted to municipalities under the LRHL would be the most effective to redevelop the properties located in the Redevelopment Area consistent with the foregoing.

On February 11, 2020, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford passed Resolution No. 2020-131 requesting the Planning Board to evaluate the properties that constituted the Study Area to determine if they could be designated as an Area in Need of Redevelopment (see **Appendix B**). The Township Planning Board authorized MASER Consulting (now Collier’s Engineering and Design) by resolution on February 19, 2020, to determine whether the Study Area qualifies as an Area in Need of Redevelopment. Subsequently, and in line with the recommendation of the Planning Board, the properties in the Study Area were designated as an “area in need of redevelopment” under Resolution 2020-298, adopted by the Township Committee on September 8, 2020 (see **Appendix B**). MASER Consulting’s Area in Need of Redevelopment Report is also included in **Appendix C**.

The “area in need of redevelopment” designation provides the municipality with more tools to implement reinvestment including the use of short and long-term tax incentives. For more information on Local Redevelopment and Housing Law Regulations and Policy, see **Appendix D**.

With particular attention to site planning, building design, and public improvements, such as parking and traffic concerns, this Plan serves both future businesses and residents located within the Area as well as all members of the greater Cranford community. In accordance with the LRHL (N.J.S.A. 40A-12A-2), this Plan establishes the following requirements and standards for the Redevelopment Area:

- A. Public Purposes
- B. Land Uses
- C. Bulk Standards
- D. Design Criteria



## E. Building Requirements

The provisions set forth in this Redevelopment Plan shall supersede, govern, and control the standards set forth in the Land Development Ordinance (LDO) adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford on December 16, 2014, by Ordinance No. 2014-25, as well as any applicable amendments. Anything not addressed by this Redevelopment Plan shall be governed by the provisions of the LDO. The Redevelopment Plan is consistent with Ordinance No. 2021-03, adopted by the Township Committee on March 30, 2021, to amend the Township's Land Development Ordinance to create affordable housing overlay districts, several of which apply to the Redevelopment Area properties.

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

The Redevelopment Area is located on the northeastern edge of Cranford's downtown and in close proximity to the Cranford NJ Transit train station (**Figure 2**). The Redevelopment Area comprises 6 parcels of Block 193 and is bounded by North Union Avenue to the west, Springfield Avenue to the east, and North Avenue East to the south. Currently, the Area includes the Township's fire department, a public pocket park, a public parking lot, a gas station and two commercial structures.

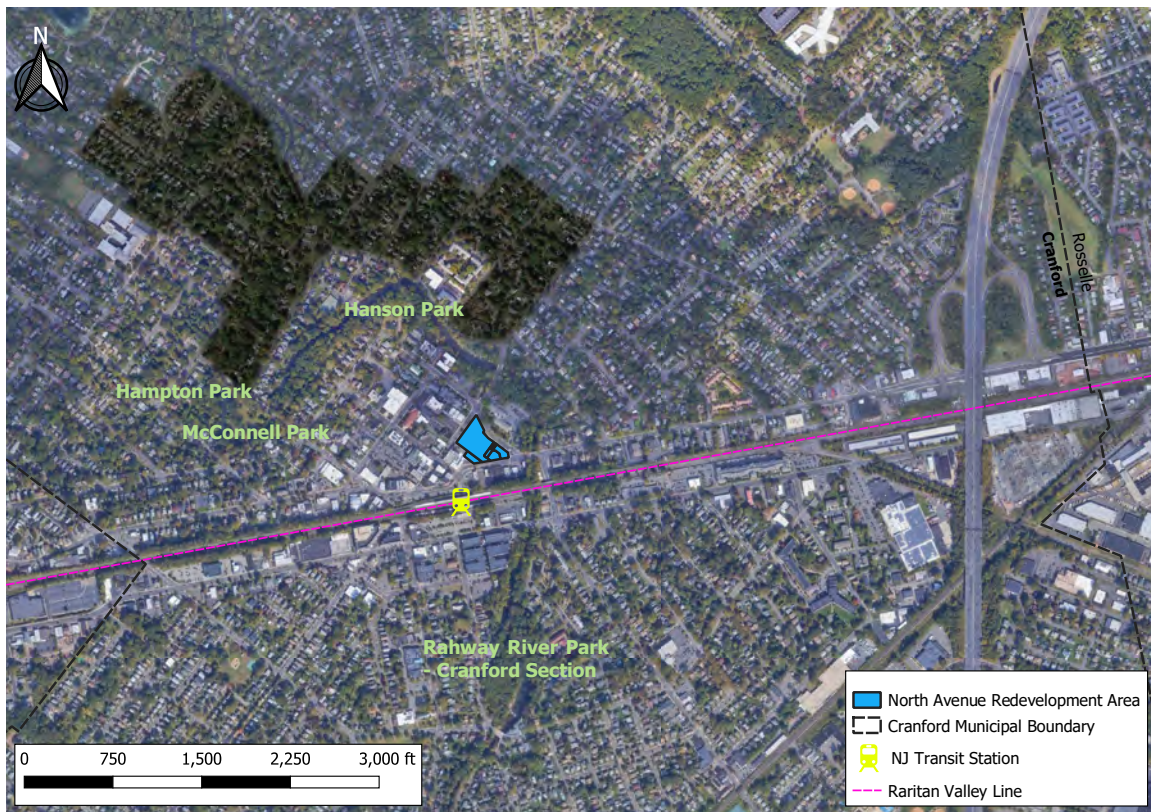


Figure 2: Redevelopment Area Context Map

Institutional uses, namely Cranford's municipal offices and Police Department, are located directly northeast of the Redevelopment Area across Springfield Avenue.

Residential neighborhoods are located across the Rahway River behind the municipal building. To the west and south, lies Cranford's vibrant downtown core. Recent mixed-use redevelopment projects were undertaken near the Redevelopment Area, specifically the Riverfront at Cranford Station and The Albergo. Both projects are located in close proximity to the Redevelopment Area. Another nearby redevelopment project is Cranford Crossing, a mixed-use development built in 2006.

## 2.1 Property Background

### A. History of the Site

Cranford is a suburban community that grew around the Rahway River, which runs to the east of the Redevelopment Area. Cranford developed into a bedroom community for commuters into New York City seeking more suburban amenities. The Township was known as the "Venice of New Jersey" in the early 1900s during a time of significant industrial activity in the state.

The Area was developed early on due to its central location within the Township and proximity to the train station, which opened for service in 1839. As shown on historic Sanborn maps, see **Figure 3 and 4** below, the Redevelopment Area was predominantly used for sparse residential purposes until the early 1900s. The Redevelopment Area featured a few residential dwellings, but otherwise vacant parcels.

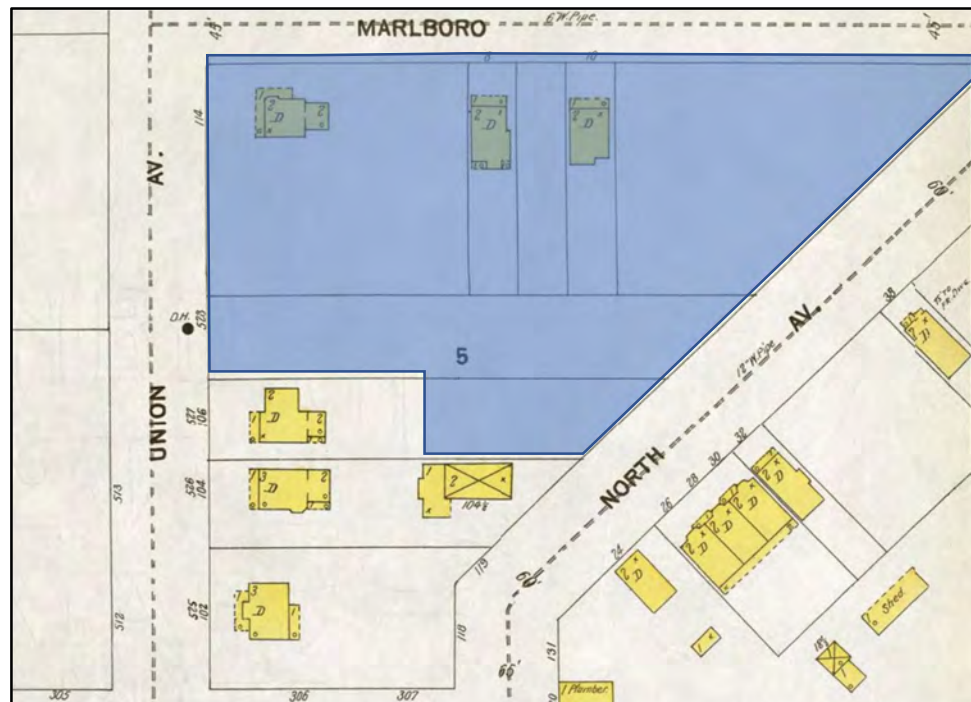


Figure 3: 1893 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

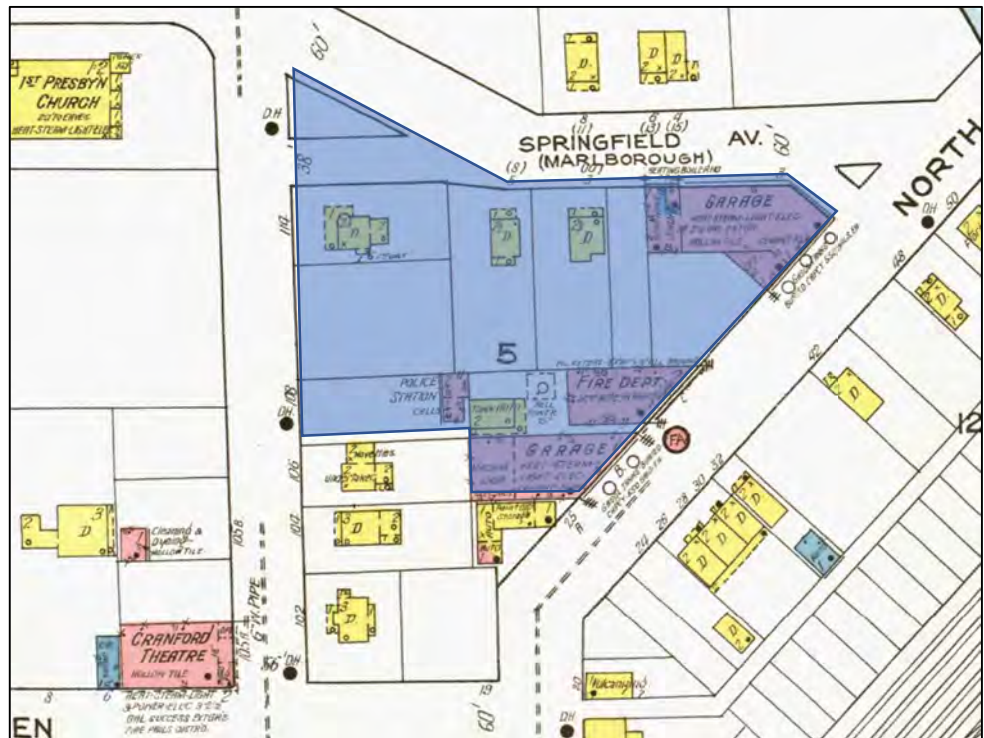


Figure 4: 1922 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

By 1922, this vacant land had become home to the fire department, a police station and several garages serving a variety of purposes.

Today, only one of these buildings, the southernmost garage on North Avenue East, seems to be left standing. The fire department has shifted its location on the block to encompass much of the Springfield Avenue frontage. The police department has moved across Springfield Avenue. None of the original residential dwellings are still present. They have been replaced with several commercial properties.

## B. Existing Conditions

### 1. Neighborhood Context

The existing buildings located within and around the Redevelopment Area were mostly built between the 1920s and 1960s, according to property tax records from the State of New Jersey Division of Taxation's database. The surrounding area is walkable, dense, and mixed use, creating a highly desirable, well-loved downtown.

### 2. Existing Zoning

Prior to the adoption of this Redevelopment Plan, the properties within the Redevelopment Area were under the 'Downtown Core District' (D-C) (see **Figure 5**).





Figure 5: Prior Zoning of Redevelopment Area

The Downtown Core District is considered a business district where a wide range of commercial uses, including pedestrian-oriented retail, is permitted.

As outlined in §255-44 Off-street parking, Article V Zoning, all ground floor nonresidential principal permitted uses in the Downtown Core District (D-C) zone, except offices, shall not be required to provide off-street parking spaces. These properties are part of the Central Business District for which public parking shall be provided by the Township.

A detailed description of the prior zoning can be found in the Township of Cranford's Land Development Ordinance, specifically Article V Zoning.

### 3. *Property Restrictions*

#### a. **Easements**

At the time of the preparation of this Redevelopment Plan, no easements are established within the Redevelopment Area. The Redeveloper(s) will be responsible for identifying, maintaining, terminating, and relocating, if necessary, any existing easements.

**b. Contamination**

The properties in the Redevelopment Area are not included on the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's list of known contaminated sites. The Redeveloper(s) will be responsible for investigating and remediating any possible contamination on parcels they seek to redevelop.

**c. Wetlands and Flood Plain**

According to NJDEP and FEMA mapping, the Redevelopment Area is free of wetlands and the vast majority is located within Flood Zone X, an area of minimal flood hazard. A portion of Block 193, Lot 12 is located within different flood zones of the Rahway River. The Redeveloper(s) will be responsible for obtaining all necessary approvals and permits for proposed development within these flood zones.

**4. Mobility + Circulation**

The Redevelopment Area is located in close proximity to the Garden State Parkway and Route 28 (North Avenue) providing regional access. Union Avenue continues north into more residential areas and continues south to Walnut Avenue, which runs between downtown Cranford and the neighboring Township of Clark further to the south.

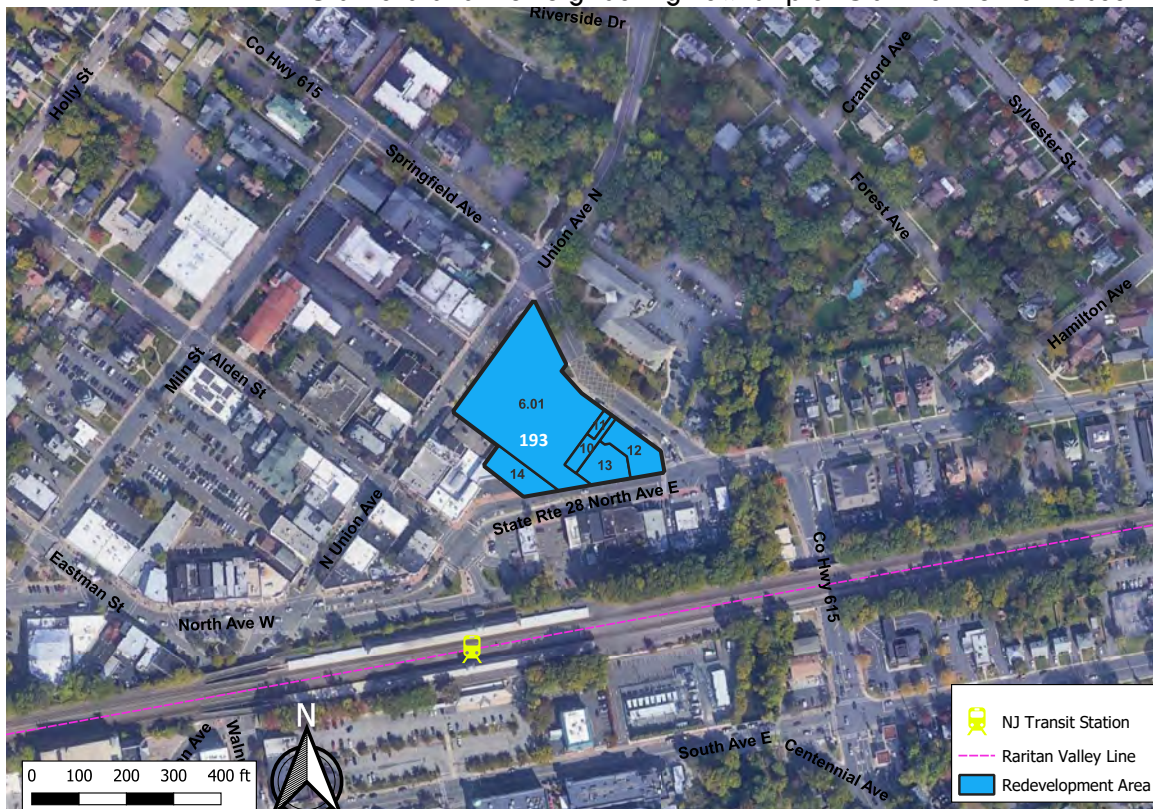


Figure 6: Map of Surrounding Street Network

Cranford's downtown and train station are located directly southwest of the Redevelopment Area. The station is served by NJ Transit's Raritan Valley Line and offers direct access to regional

centers, including Newark and New York City. One-seat rides to and from Penn Station New York are currently available during midday and evening hours on weekdays. A direct service trip to Penn Station takes about 45 minutes.

The Redevelopment Area is also within proximity of two train stations served by two other NJ Transit rail lines, the Northeast Corridor Line and North Jersey Coast Line. The Rahway and Linden train stations are served by both lines and are located about 4 miles away, or approximately a 12- to 15-minute drive, from the Redevelopment Area. The Linden Station is also accessible by NJ Transit bus service from Cranford Station. Accessibility by bus requires one transfer and takes approximately 30 minutes. The Northeast Corridor Line is a frequent commuter rail service running between Trenton and New York. Most trains on the North Jersey Coast Line operate between New York Pennsylvania Station and Long Branch, Monmouth County.

The location is served by two frequent service bus routes. The nearest bus stop is located where the Redevelopment Area fronts on North Avenue East. Here, the NJ Transit 113 bus line on North Avenue connects Dunellen and Midtown Manhattan's Port Authority Bus Terminal by way of Cranford and Roselle Park. The Redevelopment Area is also served by NJ Transit 59 bus line running along South Avenue West and connecting Newark with Plainfield and Dunellen.



### 3. PUBLIC PURPOSES

#### 3.1 Block + Lots

The Redevelopment Area (see **Figure 6**) consists of Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14 within Block 193.

#### 3.2 Project Area Map



Figure 6: Redevelopment Area Map

#### 3.3 Goals + Objectives

In order to successfully achieve the vision for redevelopment of this Area and alleviate existing challenges, any proposed Redeveloper(s) and project(s) must meet the following goals and objectives. These objectives build on and expand the priorities identified in the most recent Master Plan Reexamination and contemporary best practices.

##### A. Promote Economic Development

1. Promote investment in properties to ensure both the long-term economic health of the municipality, and to prevent the further deterioration of older businesses.
2. Create new commercial spaces to allow new businesses to thrive and improve Cranford as a commercial center.
3. Promote the creation of new jobs in Cranford that provide opportunities for both existing residents and for workers throughout the region.

##### B. Create Expanded and Appropriate Housing Options

1. Encourage a diverse range of households in Cranford through redevelopment that promotes a variety of housing options.
2. Assist the Township in meeting its affordable housing obligations by creating a realistic opportunity for developing affordable housing.

3. Establish a mixture of affordable and market-rate units to ensure accessibility to households at a range of income levels.
- C. Reduce Negative Impact of Car Circulation + Traffic Issues
1. Provide sufficient parking to support the development program but minimize the aesthetic and functional impacts.
  2. Create on-site parking and access solutions that accommodate safe and pedestrian-oriented streetscapes.
  3. Reduce overall automobile traffic in the municipality by promoting transit use through transportation policy as well as shared car services and other substitutes for personal private car usage.
- D. Blight Eradication
1. Protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Cranford by redeveloping stagnant properties.
  2. Eliminate detrimental influences such as deteriorated buildings and deleterious site conditions.
- E. Implement Sustainability
1. Incorporate street trees and green infrastructure elements into building and landscaping designs to reduce stormwater runoff and improve local water quality.
  2. Reduce impervious coverage to prevent flooding and promote the absorption of stormwater runoff and alleviate existing flooding by constructing stormwater management systems that are integrated within planted areas, greenways, green roofs, and swales that filter runoff and maximize on-site infiltration.
  3. Encourage the use of sustainable building standards and materials as well as renewable energy technologies to reduce environmental impact.
- F. Design Quality, Usable Open Space
1. Enhance the visual character and safety of the South Avenue frontage via streetscape improvements.
  2. Create a coordinated design for public open spaces and streetscapes that uses street trees and landscaping, lighting, street furniture, open space, and sidewalks to create an attractive pedestrian-friendly environment.



## 4. LAND USE

### 4.1. Definitions

See **Appendix E**.

### 4.2. Uses

#### A. Permitted Principal Uses

- i. All principal permitted uses in the 'Downtown Core District (D-C)' pursuant to the Code of the Township of Cranford Section §255-36
- ii. Dwelling, Multi-family

#### B. Accessory Uses and Structures

- i. Accessory uses and structures customarily subordinate and incidental to permitted principal uses including building lobbies, community rooms, rooftop and outdoor amenity spaces, fitness rooms, maintenance and storage rooms, stairwells, retaining walls, utilities, laundries, parking, pools, storage, and stormwater management facilities ("Accessory Uses and Structures").

#### C. Prohibited Uses

- i. Any uses not specifically permitted herein.

### 4.3. Area + Bulk Requirements

#### A. Maximum Dwelling Units: 40 units

#### B. Lot Requirements:

- i. **Minimum Lot Area:** .5 acres
- ii. **Maximum Building Coverage:** 90%
- iii. **Maximum Lot Coverage:** 95%

### 4.4. Building Placement Standards:

- A. Any building's Primary Façade shall front on North Avenue.
- B. For the implementation of this Plan, Springfield and North Avenue shall be treated as front yards.
- C. Front Yard Setback Minimum: 8' from face of curb line and shall be comprised of at least 6' sidewalk clearance and intermittent planters or landscaping at least 2' in depth adjacent to the building façade. Planters or landscaping may utilize some of the 8' sidewalk intermittently as long as a 6' clearance remains for the pedestrian walkway. Eaves, cornices, bay windows, balconies, gutters, and similar architectural features may project up to three feet into the right-of-way. ADA access ramps or stairs to the entrances of the retail storefronts or building lobby may project into the front yard setback of Subdistrict 1 as long as a 6' clearance remains for the pedestrian walkway.
- D. Side Yard Setback Minimum: 15' between new building façades or 3' from pre-existing building façades.
- E. Rear Yard Setback Minimum: 5' between buildings, curb or property line, whichever is nearest, and proposed new structures. The following Accessory Uses and Structures may project into the rear yard setback as long as a 3' clearance remains between buildings: utility and building maintenance rooms, egress stairwells, bicycle racks, retaining walls, parking, and stormwater management facilities or features.

#### 4.5. Height:

- A. Mixed-Use Structure with Commercial Ground Floor: four stories or 55' maximum.
- B. Structure with Podium Parking: four stories or 55' maximum.
- C. Structure with Required Parking Off-site: three stories or 45' maximum.
- D. Measurement: Building height shall be determined by the vertical distance from the average finished grade to the highest point of the roof surface, except in the case of a building with a pitched roof building height shall be determined by the vertical distance from the average finished grade to the midpoint of the sloped roof. Rooftop appurtenances and mechanical equipment shall be exempt from the calculation of building height if they are appropriately screened from view. In addition, parapets that extend no more than 3 feet above a flat roof shall be exempt from the calculation of building height. Notwithstanding the foregoing, for any properties located in a flood zone or Flood Hazard Area the building height shall be measured from the vertical distance from the Grade Plane to the highest point of the roof surface of a building.
- E. Grade Plane: Areas or portions of the building area of a lot located within the flood hazard area or flood zone: The reference plane shall be the more restrictive of the base flood elevation or advisory base flood elevation of the flood hazard area plus four feet.
- F. Ceiling Height:
  - 1. Measurement: Ceiling height shall be measured from the top of the finished floor to the finished floor above, excluding beam drops and duct soffits.
    - a. Ground-Story Minimum: 12'
    - b. Upper-Story Minimum: 9'

#### 4.6. Parking

- A. Automotive Parking
  - 1. General Requirements
    - a. No existing on-street parking spaces will count towards meeting minimum parking requirements laid out in this plan. However, newly created on-street parking spaces shall count towards meeting the minimum parking requirements laid out in this plan.
    - b. Providing the required parking off-site through existing parking resources or new parking spaces within 300 feet of the proposed structure may be proposed as an alternative to provision of required parking on-site.
    - c. All parking areas shall meet or exceed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards or other applicable standard.
    - d. Parking spaces shall measure nine (9) feet wide by 18 (18) feet deep, except for compact car spaces to the extent permitted by this Plan.
    - e. Compact car spaces measuring eight (8) feet wide by sixteen (16) feet deep, shall be permitted provided their total number does not exceed 20% of the total parking provided.

- f. Vehicular access to parking facilities shall be located and designed to minimize conflicts with pedestrian circulation.
  - g. All parking facility entrances must be equipped with auditory and visual warning systems to avoid conflicts between motorists and pedestrians.
  - h. An increase or decrease of more than 10% of the required minimum parking shall constitute a deviation.
  - i. No parking shall be permitted within the front yard.
  - j. All parking plans must show structural support columns to accurately depict feasibility of parking spaces and drive aisles.
- 2. *Electric Vehicle Requirements*
    - a. All parking facilities shall comply with the State's P.L. 2021, c.171
  - 3. *Minimum Off-Street Parking Ratios*

Use	Minimum Parking Spaces Required
Dwelling, Multi-family	1.4 per unit
All Other Uses	None

## B. Bicycle Parking

- 1. *Location + Design of Facilities*
  - a. Where indoor bicycle parking is required, bicycle parking facilities shall be at least as protected as any automobile parking provided.
  - b. Site plans shall show the proposed location of bicycle parking facilities on the Site and on the building floor plan design. A construction detail of the bicycle rack or parking facilities shall be provided.
- 2. *Requirements for Indoor Bicycle Parking*
  - a. Indoor parking shall, at a minimum, consist of a room within a residential building or workplace, or other setup providing similar security and protection from the elements as any automobile parking provided.
  - b. Any required indoor bicycle parking facility must be in a convenient and accessible location. Ramps and elevators may be utilized to provide access to facilities not located at the ground-floor level.
  - c. Bicycle parking facilities within an automobile parking area shall be separated by a physical barrier (i.e., bollards, reflective wands, curbs, wheel stops, poles, etc.) to protect bicycles from damage by cars.
- 3. *Requirements for Outdoor Bicycle Parking*
  - a. All required outdoor bicycle parking must be convenient and accessible to a main building entrance, street access and driveways.
  - b. Bicycle parking shall be sited in a highly visible location, such as within view of passers-by, commercial activity, office and residential windows, an attendant or other personnel to discourage theft and vandalism and promote awareness of existence and availability.

- c. Bicycle parking shall be located so as not to block the pedestrian path on a sidewalk or within a site. A minimum of six (6) feet of unobstructed passage when parking is in use is required on public sidewalks.
  - d. Size and style of bicycle racks shall be approved by the Township of Cranford Planning Board.
  - e. Bicycle racks must be attached to concrete footings and made to withstand severe weather and permanent exposure to the elements.
  - f. All bicycle racks shall be located at least two (2) feet in all directions from a wall, door, landscaping, or other obstruction that would render use of the racks difficult or impractical.
4. *Minimum Bicycle Parking Ratios*
- a. Minimum bicycle parking requirements shall be in compliance with the bulk standards outlined in this document.

Use	Minimum Indoor Requirement	Minimum Outdoor Requirement
Dwelling, Multi-family	0.25 spaces per unit	0.10 spaces per unit
All Other Uses	None	1 per 3,000 sq ft

#### 4.7. Loading + Unloading

- A. Appropriate accommodations near main residential entrances and significant public spaces, out of the flow of traffic, should be reserved for pick-up and drop-off of passengers.
- B. Appropriate siting of loading areas to accommodate commercial deliveries, including parcel drop-off, residential moving, and other larger deliveries, should be in dedicated on-street loading zones.
- C. Loading zones or areas are preferably located in areas providing rear access.

#### 4.8. Access + Circulation Analysis

Redeveloper(s) shall conduct a Traffic Impact Study for any proposed redevelopment project within the Redevelopment Area, which shall be submitted to the Township Committee, acting as the Redevelopment Entity, prior to any execution of a Redevelopment Agreement.

The traffic study shall conform with applicable standards published by the Institute of Transportation Engineers. The primary purpose of the traffic study is to determine whether additional infrastructure improvements will be necessitated by redevelopment of the Area. Any improvements required in connection with implementation of the Plan shall be addressed in a Redevelopment Agreement to be executed by designated Redeveloper(s) and the Township.

This study shall include, but shall not be limited to, an assessment of existing off-site features within the traffic study area (as defined below):

- Traffic control devices
- Pedestrian crossings and sidewalks
- Geometries of existing and proposed rights-of-way
- Off-street and on-street loading areas

- On-street parking
- Interaction with nearby driveways, alleyways, and access points

The following intersections shall be included within the required traffic study:

- All site driveways
- All intersections abutting the development
- The intersection of North Avenue East and Centennial Avenue
- The intersection of North Avenue East and Forest Avenue
- The intersection of North Union Avenue and Forest Avenue
- The intersection of North Union Avenue and Riverside Drive
- The intersection of North Union Avenue and Alden Street
- The intersection of Miln Street and Alden Street
- The intersection of North Union Avenue and North Avenue East
- The intersection of North Avenue East and Alden Street
- The intersection of Miln Street and Springfield Avenue

A maximum of one (1) curb cut per frontage is allowed. Unless superseding decisions are made by the County or State to the contrary. The dimensions of this curb cut should not exceed any minimum requirements dictated by the County or State to allow for emergency vehicle access.

#### **4.9. Public Open Space**

- A. The parking lot and grass seating area at the northern corner of the site should be maintained and if possible, improved so that it may continue to serve as a space to host community events and parking for nearby businesses.
- B. Additional creation of privately-owned public spaces are encouraged.

#### **4.10. Design Standards**

##### **A. General Building Requirements**

1. Any building at the corner of Springfield and North Avenue shall have a significant, landmarked treatment to reflect the prominence of the intersection as a gateway into the downtown.
2. General character and vernacular should be a mix of loft-style and historic Cranford architecture (Examples of more recent development, identified by Cranford residents as preferred building styles can be found below in **Figures 7 + 8**).
3. Preferred materiality should be brick with a darker windows and accent materials.
4. Fenestration patterns should utilize large window openings and/or tight groupings of smaller windows.
5. Massing should utilize accentuated corners, shall step back at the fourth story, and clearly defined base/middle/top portioning.
6. Buildings should be modulated horizontally while maintaining a complementary architectural vernacular across the façade.
7. A minimum of two (2) complementary but differentiated architectural treatments are required within the Redevelopment Area.
8. Primary entrances shall be defined by architectural features (canopy, portico, or similar).



9. The rhythm of ground floor attachments and openings harmonize with the rhythm of attachments and openings on upper stories.
10. Buildings shall have simple massing and details in order to clearly distinguish the main body of the building and the primary pedestrian entry.
11. The use of awnings and canopies at the first-floor level is encouraged. Awnings and canopies shall be permitted to extend not more than four feet beyond the façade of the structure to which they are attached. Awnings and canopies shall not be permitted to overhang a public right-of way without express consent of the Township Committee.



*Figure 7: Development Precedent at Walnut Avenue and Chestnut Street*



Figure 8: Development Precedent at Centennial Avenue and N. Lehigh Avenue

#### B. Façades

1. Building façades shall be built of no more than three (3) primary materials, excluding accent materials.
2. Buildings shall be articulated to break up façades and ensure that long monotonous building frontages are not constructed.
3. Building façades may include horizontal siding, vertical siding with flush joints, stucco, and medium density overlay plywood (MDO) as an accent material in gables, dormers, and bay windows only.
4. Natural materials are encouraged.
5. Nonnatural materials intended to imitate natural materials shall not be permitted.

#### C. Openings

1. Window sizing and spacing shall be consistent with and complementary to the overall façade composition.
2. As noted herein, the building may be composed of different elements to promote horizontal articulation. Window types shall be consistent within building elements. Window types in different building elements shall be complementary to window types in other building elements.
  - a. *Building Transparency:*
    - i. Story transparency shall be measured by dividing the area of windows, doors and other openings by the total façade area of a story.
    - ii. Primary Façade: The ground level story shall have at minimum 35% transparency. All other stories shall have at minimum 30% transparency.

3. Openings in walls with siding shall be trimmed with flat casing, a sloping sill, and drip cap at a minimum.
4. Openings in masonry walls or walls with masonry veneer shall include brickmold casing.
5. Openings in masonry walls or walls with masonry veneer other than stucco, shall have a precast lintel; masonry arch; or masonry header.
6. Shutters, if included, shall be the same height as the window, and 1/2 the width of the window. Small windows may have one shutter that is the full width of the window.
7. Shutters shall be operable or designed and installed as if they were operable including hardware.
8. Openings, including dormers, should be centered vertically with other openings or shall be centered with the wall between openings.
9. Openings above should be equal in size or smaller than openings below.

D. Roofs

1. Eaves shall be continuous or include appropriate eave returns, unless overhanging a balcony or porch.
2. The ridge of the primary building should generally be oriented either parallel to or perpendicular to the street.
3. All gable and hipped roofs of a building, excluding ancillary roofs, should generally have the same slope where visible from a street or open space.

E. Attachments:

1. Bay windows or other projecting elements are encouraged on facades spanning more than 30' to create articulation.
2. Permitted attachments include awnings, canopies, bay windows, and chimneys.
3. Awnings and canopies shall not be internally illuminated.
4. Balconies shall not be fully enclosed. Balconies with walls on three sides and railings shall not be considered fully enclosed.
5. Bay windows shall have visible support, either by extending the bay to grade with a foundation or transferring the projection back to the wall with beams, brackets, or brick corbeling.
6. Chimneys shall extend to grade.
7. The above standards shall not preclude the provision of outdoor dining.

F. Permitted Materials:

1. *Permitted foundation materials*
  - a. Brick masonry
  - b. Stone masonry
  - c. Cement-parged concrete block
2. *Permitted primary façade materials*
  - a. Brick masonry
  - b. Stone masonry
  - c. Cementitious panel
3. *Permitted façade accent materials*

- a. Cast stone
  - b. Wood
  - c. Fiber-cement trim, siding, and panels
  - d. Composite trim, siding, and panels
  - e. Architectural metal
  - f. Accent materials shall not comprise more than 30% of the first story façade.
4. *Prohibited materials*
- a. Materials not listed as permitted shall only be permitted within the reasonable discretion of the Planning Board.

G. Vertical Rhythm

1. *Generally*: The design of all structures shall incorporate a clear visual division between the base, middle and top as described below. These elements shall be established using cornice lines, windows, or similar horizontal architectural elements.
2. *Building Base*: The base is defined as the first story of the building. Building base and ground floor shall be clearly defined utilizing the following architectural elements:
  - a. The ground floor should be distinguished from upper floors. Use of a horizontal element such as a lintel or canopy allows for flexibility in design without interruption of repeated vertical elements used in upper floors. Residential ground floors may use similar techniques, or may include alternative strategies such as stoops, entryways, or other openings, to create contrast with upper floors.
  - b. The relationship of width to height of windows and door openings at ground level should be visually compatible with openings in the same building façade and/or other nearby or related structures.
  - c. Generally, massing should be oriented towards the base of the building.
  - d. Awnings/canopies are encouraged, particularly at primary entrances.
3. *Building Middle*: The middle shall be defined as the space between the top and base portions of the building. This space may be broken up through the use of more subtle and subdued horizontal architectural elements.
  - a. Enclosed architectural projections (such as bay windows) up to three feet are allowed beyond the primary façade or projected façade components of the building, but minimum sidewalk width must be maintained.
  - b. At the discretion of the Planning Board, projections over three feet are allowed above the first story, so long as they do not encroach into a required setback.
4. *Building Top*: The top shall be defined as the top floor of the building. Appropriate cornice lines may enhance the top of the building. The top of the building may be differentiated in materials or staggered rooflines. Pitched or gabled roofs are encouraged.

- a. Vertical rhythm shall be defined utilizing the following techniques:
  - i. Awnings or canopies over ground floor entrances.
  - ii. Differentiation between vertical components, as follows:
    - Materials
    - Masonry details
    - Color changes
    - Fenestration changes
    - Inclusion of pre-cast or masonry details to define columns, piers and keystones
    - Decorative gutter, downspouts and scuppers
    - Spacing of columns and piers

#### H. Horizontal Rhythm

1. Generally, all buildings shall incorporate elements that divide façade planes and create a visual play of light and shadow. Long, uninterrupted horizontal façades are prohibited.
2. Horizontal rhythm may be created using the following design elements:
  - a. Building projections
  - b. Stepbacks
  - c. Uniformity and/or variety in fenestration patterns.
  - d. A balcony or bay window
  - e. A change in the roofline by including chimneys or by alternating parapet heights
  - f. A change in building materials that correspond to a change in the façade plane
  - g. Differentiated lighting fixtures or similar architectural elements.
  - h. Landscape features such as trellises, trees, or other landscape features
  - i. Shifting façade planes
3. Rooflines: Rooflines shall be modulated with the remainder of the façade and can be used as an effective horizontal rhythm technique. Pitched or gabled roofs are permitted. For flat roofs or façades with a horizontal eave, fascia, or parapet, the roofline shall correspond with the modulation of the primary façade.
4. Parking Garages + Blank Walls
  - a. To the greatest extent feasible, all above ground parking structures shall be screened by habitable building space, particularly along Springfield and North Avenue.
  - b. Parking that is unable to be screened by habitable building space shall be screened by alternative means, including:
    - i. Residential stoops
    - ii. Landscaping
    - iii. Green walls
    - iv. False windows
    - v. Balconies
    - vi. Fencing



- Chain link fences are prohibited. Either black weather resistant metal or wood subject to Planning Board approval.
  - c. Garage fenestration shall be designed to shield vehicle headlights from exterior view to the greatest extent possible.
  - d. Open podium parking garages are not permitted.
  - e. Where applicable, garage openings will be treated with similarly scaled openings as the windows above them. Garage openings shall be located within the same vertical alignment as windows or decorative grills that relate in color and scale to the windows above them. The size and scale of garage doors shall be minimized.
  - f. Blank walls, meaning walls that lack fenestration or architectural features, are discouraged. Where blank walls must occur and are visible from the public right-of-way or Privately-Owned Public Open Space, measures to mitigate their aesthetic impact are encouraged, including public art landscaping, green walls, and false windows.
  - g. All surface parking areas shall be exempt from Building Placement Standards and shall be permitted a 0' setback minimum requirement from any property lines, though subject to the landscaping and buffering requirements to the extent feasible.
5. Sustainability
- a. The following sustainable development standards and development practices are mandated:
    - i. Community and Site:
      - Create a tenant sustainability manual or fact sheet for residents, including information about how to improve energy efficiency, public transportation options, safe walking and bike routes, and waste disposal locations and recycling policies.
      - Enforce a no-smoking policy in the communal and shared spaces within the building and outdoors within 25 feet of the building.
    - ii. Mitigating Heat Island Effect:
      - Use native tree species that will provide shade within 10 years.
      - Use a light-colored roofing material for any roofs to reduce heat island effect.
    - iii. Landscaping:
      - Use native species that do not need excessive watering for all landscaping trees and plantings.
      - Retain existing native trees and shrubs and replant more trees than removed.

- iv. Lighting:
    - Use LED lighting in all indoor spaces, including dwelling units and parking facilities, and for external lights.
    - Use occupancy sensors in common areas.
    - Use occupancy sensors in stairwells, hallways, but ensure safe lighting levels.
    - Design exterior lighting to reduce light pollution for the areas surrounding the site.
  - v. Waste Management and Recycling:
    - Facilitate recycling in common areas within buildings and in outdoor open spaces by providing easily accessible recycling bins.
    - Facilitate recycling in dwelling units by adding recycling bins and ensuring that the recycling drop-off location is clear and accessible.
    - Ensure that each trash room includes recycling containers or a mechanism to separate trash from recyclable materials.
    - Provide sufficient recycling collection capacity through meeting a minimum required 0.0625 cubic yards per resident and 0.035 cubic yards per full time employee of any commercial uses.
  - vi. Renewable Energy:
    - Evaluate the feasibility of adding photovoltaic solar panels on each building roof and provide Township of Cranford with evaluation and all underlying information.
  - vii. Energy Efficiency:
    - Ensure refrigerators, washers, dryers, and dishwashers are ENERGY STAR rated.
    - Specify windows with a low-E coating and follow ENERGY STAR guidelines.
    - Ensure windows are operable in dwelling units to allow residents to naturally vent or cool space.
    - Include digital, programmable and user-friendly thermostats in the dwelling units.
  - viii. Indoor Air Quality:
    - Incorporate ENERGY STAR rated fans that automatically vent in bathrooms in dwelling units.
    - Protect ducts and HVAC from dust during construction to ensure they are clean before occupancy.
  - ix. Water Efficiency:
    - Use WaterSense rated fixtures in dwelling unit bathrooms.
- b. The following sustainable development standards and development practices are encouraged, but not mandated:

- i. Community and Site:
  - Enforce a no-smoking policy within the dwelling units.
- ii. Mitigating Heat Island Effect:
  - Consider placing any surface parking spaces under cover.
  - For residential buildings, meet an initial Solar Reflectance Index (SRI) of 78 or greater for a roof slope less than or equal to 2:12. For a roof slope greater than 2:12, meet an initial SRI of 29 or greater.
  - Use hardscape surfaces with a solar reflectance (SR) value of at least 0.28.
- iii. Landscaping:
  - Avoid or minimize the use of irrigation to the extent possible.
  - Consider alternate water sources to replace the use of potable water for irrigation purposes.
- iv. Stormwater:
  - Undertake efforts to integrate porous concrete or other (semi-)permeable materials on-site designed in accordance with the New Jersey Stormwater Best Management Practices Manual. Address the use of pervious paving in any required maintenance plan for stormwater management measures.
- v. Materials:
  - Use low VOC paints, finishes, adhesives, and sealants.
  - Use recycled aggregate from crushed concrete, for instance, from buildings and pavement, and the demolition of existing structures on the Site, if feasible based on a contamination analysis conducted by a Licensed Site Remediation Professional.
  - Use materials and building products that are regionally sourced and have recycled content.
  - Prioritize using products of manufacturers that disclose an evaluation of their product life cycle.
- x. Indoor Air Quality:
  - Ensure all kitchen exhausts in dwelling units are directly vented to the outside.
- xi. Water Efficiency:
  - Use low-flow shower heads in dwelling unit bathrooms, preferably with a flow not higher than 1.75 gallons per minute.
  - Use low-flow faucets in dwelling unit bathrooms, preferably with a flow not higher than 0.35 gallons per minute.

- Use low-flow toilets, preferably with a flow not higher than 0.9 gallons per minute.
- c. In furtherance of Chapter 217 – Energy Efficiency of the Township of Cranford General Legislation, Redeveloper(s) are encouraged through the Township’s Green Building Density Incentive Program, to achieve formal LEED certification.

#### **4.11. General Site Design Standards**

- A. Public and private realms should be integrated and connected. All streetscape and landscape improvements shall be designed by a licensed Landscape Architect.
- B. Fencing shall comply with the regulations in Section §255-26 of Cranford’s Land Development Ordinance.
- C. Building massing and design should avoid impeding the viewsheds of the historic First Presbyterian Church of Cranford from within the site.
- D. Circulation
  - 1. No more than one (1) curb cut for vehicular access shall be permitted per façade.
  - 2. Demarcated pedestrian pathways shall be provided from the street front and all parking areas to entrances as well as across vehicular access points.
- E. Streetscape
  - 1. Sidewalk, Pedestrian zone: A dedicated pedestrian zone along the sidewalk shall be provided and will have a minimum unobstructed width of 6’ at all points, except where a currently existing sidewalk conflicts with the recommended sidewalk width, the design standards should supersede this requirement and adhere to the current streetscape and site conditions. In such circumstances, the sidewalk shall taper over no more than 4’ from this Plan’s required sidewalk clearance and the adjacent existing sidewalks.
  - 2. Interstitial spaces: Area between the pedestrian zone and building frontages shall be designed in a manner that integrates the sidewalk into the site’s functionality. Direct pathways should be provided from sidewalks to pedestrian entrances. Interstitial spaces should include vegetation and publicly accessible seating areas to be activated by ground floor uses including, but not limited to, outdoor dining or parklets. Interstitial spaces shall be designed using hardscaping and landscaping to complement the pedestrian and planting zones.
- F. Sidewalks
  - 1. ADA compliant tactile pavers shall be used to define the edge of any service drive or driveways.
  - 2. Tactile pavers shall be installed to the same standards required by ADA at the base of public sidewalk curb ramps and should indicate to pedestrians that they are entering the driveway.

G. Street Trees

1. Pollution and salt resistant street shade trees are to be planted along the street, at regular intervals pending species type, 30' on center if a small street tree with a canopy spread up to 30' or spaced at 40' on center intervals if a medium or large tree with a canopy spread above 30'. Trees shall be a minimum of two-and-a-half (2.5) inches in diameter at breast height. The Planning Board shall approve species and location of trees.
2. Brick or Belgian block pavers at the perimeter of tree pits are encouraged.
3. Raingardens and/or bioswales in tree pits are encouraged.
4. Tree irrigation bags must be installed and maintained for at least six months after planting.
5. Street trees should be coordinated with site lighting.

H. Street Furniture

1. The use of street furniture in interstitial spaces is encouraged.
2. Any street furniture provided, including but not limited to benches, trash receptacles, and tables, shall be located such that a minimum of six feet of unobstructed sidewalk remains for the safe passage of pedestrians.
3. Trash receptacles are to be provided at regular intervals along pedestrian walkways at a minimum of 100 feet. The use of compacting trash receptacles is encouraged.
4. Street furniture must be designed to accommodate people of all ages and abilities and be compliant with ADA requirements and New Jersey Barrier Free Subcode.
5. Developer shall propose a palette of furniture, fixtures, and finishes for seating that are consistent with the aesthetic of Cranford and the project as part of any subsequent redevelopment agreement.

I. Lighting

1. Security Lighting: where used for security purposes or to illuminate walkways, roadways and parking lots, only shielded light fixtures shall be used.
2. Commercial Lighting: where used for commercial purposes such as in merchandise display areas, work areas signs, or architectural, landscape, all light fixtures shall be equipped with automatic timing devices and comply with the following:
  1. Light fixtures used to illuminate flags, statues, or any other objects mounted on a pole, pedestal, or platform, shall use a narrow cone beam of light that will not extend beyond the illuminated object.
  2. Other upward directed architectural, landscape, or decorative direct light emissions shall have at least 90% of their total distribution pattern within the profile of the illuminated structure.



3. Externally illuminated signs including commercial building identification or other similar illuminated signs, shall comply with the following:
    1. Top mounted light fixtures shall be shielded and are preferred.
    2. When top mounted light fixtures are not feasible, illumination from other positioned light fixtures shall be restricted to the sign area. Visors or other directional control devices shall be used to keep spill light to an absolute minimum.
  4. All other outdoor lighting shall use shielded light fixtures.
  5. Floodlight type fixtures, once properly installed, shall be permanently affixed in the approved position.
  6. Foundations supporting lighting poles not installed four feet behind the curb, shall not be less than 24 inches above ground.
  7. Light Trespass (Nuisance Light): all light fixtures, except street lighting, shall be designed, installed and maintained to prevent light trespass, as specified below:
    1. At grade level above the property line of subject property, illuminations from light fixtures shall not exceed 0.3 foot-candles in a vertical plane on residentially zoned property.
    2. Outdoor light fixtures properly installed and thereafter maintained, shall be directed so that there will not be any objectionable direct glare source visible above a height of five feet from any property or public roadway.
  8. Light fixtures near adjacent property may require special shielding devices to prevent light trespass.
  9. All lighting must be made to conform to the provisions of this section.
- J. Landscaping + Buffers
1. Buffers may include dense vegetation, hedge rows, fences, and walls. Walls utilized as buffers may be constructed of stone, brick, or similar materials that promote an attractive aesthetic. Fences shall comply with §255-26 of the Township of Cranford Land Development Ordinance, including any amendments or supplements.
  2. Landscaped beds, gardens, and planting strips must be incorporated into open spaces, particularly in locations that separate vehicles from pedestrians and where blank façades, or utilities are present.
  3. Landscape buffers shall have a minimum height of three (3) feet at planting.
  4. The use of green infrastructure, such as bioswales or rain gardens, is highly encouraged.
  5. Shrubs, flowers, and ground cover should be designed to reduce expansive areas of mulch. Planting sizes and spacing should be provided for review and approval by the Planning Board.
- K. Retaining Walls
1. Retaining walls may be required as a component of site improvements. If retaining walls are required, best efforts shall

be made by the developer to minimize the impact of the walls on site design and circulation.

2. Retaining walls shall be constructed of or clad in brick, stone, modular block, or stucco.
3. Retaining walls should be designed in a manner that is harmonious with the balance of the site design. Efforts should be made to design retaining walls in an attractive manner through treatments like landscaping, art, or other interventions.

#### **4.12. Utilities**

##### **A. General Requirements**

1. To the extent feasible by respective public utility providers servicing the area, all utilities (including transformers, HVAC, generators, telecommunication equipment) shall be located in a way that is visually unobtrusive and shall be suitably screened. Utilities shall be placed within the interior of the principal structure, if feasible. Otherwise, utilities shall be located to the rear of the side of the principal structure where such locations are infeasible inside, to the extent feasible. Decentralized HVAC systems are not permitted.
2. Distribution lines for all utility systems shall be placed underground, to the extent feasible.
3. All easements shall comply with Township requirements. Exact locations for utility lines and easements shall be established at the time of preliminary site plan approval or subdivision.
4. Existing above-ground utilities shall be incorporated into the underground systems as improvements are undertaken, to the extent feasible. Any relocation and/or replacement of utility lines shall be the sole responsibility of the Redeveloper(s) and/or utility provider and shall not be an expense to the Township, provided, however, Township shall reasonably consent to the relocation and/or replacement of any needed utility lines.
5. Remote readers for all utilities, in lieu of external location of the actual metering devices, are preferred.
6. Any proposed ground-mounted equipment (i.e., transformers, air conditioner units, etc.) within view from a street shall be screened by evergreen shrubs.
7. No through-wall mechanical equipment shall be permitted.
8. Façade penetrations, such as for dryer vents, shall be minimized. Any necessary façade penetrations shall be color matched with adjacent materials.
9. Utility meters and similar infrastructure should be located within an enclosed room, to the extent feasible. Utility meters should not be visible from the street unless screening is provided.
10. Rooftop utilities must be screened from view and architecturally treated to match the principal structure. In no case shall mechanical equipment be allowed to exceed 5' above the maximum permitted building height. Rooftop utilities that exceed 5' above the roofline/maximum permitted building height shall be counted in the overall building height calculation.

- B. Fire Suppression
  - 1. Must meet NFPA 13R Codes and Standards.
- C. Water + Sewer
  - 1. Each development shall be connected to the public sanitary sewer and water systems, as approved by the Township Engineer.
  - 2. Redeveloper(s) must ensure all project provide sufficient flow and meet all standards required by the Fire Department.
  - 3. For water and sewer, Redeveloper(s) must model and provide guidance to Township of Cranford on existing service and capacity to ensure proper service for any development proposed. Continued monitoring and coordination with the Township of Cranford is required for all projects.
- D. Stormwater
  - 1. Any redeveloper within this Redevelopment Area will work with the Town to resolve the stormwater issues at Springfield and North Avenue. This will involve technical, physical space and financial support.
  - 2. All projects within the Redevelopment Area shall comply with Chapter 365 – Stormwater Management for Major Developments of the Township of Cranford General Legislation, as well as any applicable amendments or supplements, and be in accordance with New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection’s rules on Stormwater Management, N.J.A.C. 7:8.

#### **4.13. Affordability**

At least 20% of the total number of dwelling units pursued under this Redevelopment Plan shall be set aside and made available to the region’s very low-, low- and moderate-income households (the “Affordable Units”). All affordable units shall comply with the Township’s Affordable Housing Ordinance.

All Affordable Units shall be family rental units and shall fully comply with the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls, N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1, et seq. (UHAC”), including but not limited to the required bedroom and income distribution, with the sole exception that fifty percent (50%) of the Affordable Units within each bedroom distribution shall be required to be for low- or very-low-income households earning less than fifty percent (50%) or thirty percent (30%) of the median income, respectively. The Fair Housing Act’s definition of very low-income shall control. The income and bedroom distributions described above shall apply within each income strata (low-, very low- and moderate-income). Further, the Affordable Units shall be subject to affordability controls of at least 30 years and affordable deed restrictions as provided for by UHAC.

The Affordable Units shall be integrated with the market units and shall not be concentrated in separate building(s) or in separate area(s) from the market units. In buildings with multiple dwelling units, this shall mean that the Affordable Units shall be generally distributed within each building with market units. The residents of the Affordable Units shall have full and equal

access to all of the amenities, common areas, and recreation areas and facilities as the market units.

Construction of the Affordable Units shall be phased in compliance with N.J.A.C. 5:93-5.6(d) and the description of phasing shall be included in the Redevelopment Agreement. The Redevelopment Agreement shall comply with the requirements in N.J.A.C. 5:97-6.6.

The Redeveloper shall not make any arguments relative to the Property's creation of Realistic Development Potential ("RDP") and/or treatment as an RDP Site as opposed to an unmet need mechanism in Round 3 or any subsequent affordable housing Round in the future.

Further, the Redeveloper shall not apply for or request an upward deviation of the Maximum Dwelling Units permitted pursuant to Section 4.3.A, which is 40 units.

## **5. ADMINISTRATION**

### **5.1. Redevelopment Actions**

The Township of Cranford shall have such powers and duties as set forth in the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (LRHL) and as may be set forth in this Redevelopment Plan, including, but not limited to, the authority to acquire all real property identified in this Plan with and without eminent domain, to relocate residents and businesses, to designate Redeveloper(s), to establish clear terms and conditions for redevelopment through the negotiation, execution, and administration of Redevelopment Agreement(s), and to do such other things as permitted by law.

### **5.2. Relocation Requirements**

Should implementation of this Redevelopment Plan require the displacement and relocation of businesses located within the Redevelopment Area, the Redeveloper(s) shall be responsible for any and all costs incurred by the Township in providing assistance to displaced parties in accordance with the Relocation Assistance Act, N.J.S.A. 20:4-1 et seq. and the Relocation Assistance Law of 1967, N.J.S.A. 52:31B-1 et seq. At the time of property acquisition, the actual extent of displacement will be confirmed, and if it is necessary, a Workable Relocation Assistance Plan will be prepared and submitted to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approval. The Township will comply with the requirements of the New Jersey State relocation statutes and regulations as applicable and will provide all benefits and assistance required under applicable law.

### **5.3. Township Designation of Redeveloper**

#### **A. Usage of the Word ‘Developer’**

Anytime the word “developer” is utilized in this Redevelopment Plan, the same shall mean the Redeveloper or Redevelopers that are to be designated by the Township Committee in accordance with this Redevelopment Plan.

#### **B. Standing before Planning Board**

Only Redeveloper(s) designated by the Township by resolution of the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford may proceed to implement the redevelopment project(s) set forth in this Redevelopment Plan before the Planning Board. In order to assure that the vision of the Redevelopment Plan and this Redevelopment Agreement(s) will be successfully implemented in an effective, comprehensive and timely way, and in order to promptly achieve the public purpose goals of the Plan, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, acting as the Redevelopment Entity, will select one or more Redeveloper(s) in all areas governed by this Redevelopment Plan. Any party not specifically designated as the “Redeveloper” and a party to a Redevelopment Agreement(s), as set forth above, shall not have the standing to proceed before the Planning Board for site plan approval.

#### **C. Procedural and Substantive Standards for Redeveloper Designation**

All designated Redeveloper(s) will be required to execute a Redevelopment Agreement(s) satisfactory to and authorized by the

Township Committee of the Township of Cranford. The procedural and substantive standards described herein will guide Redeveloper selection(s). The Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, acting as the Redevelopment Entity reserves all options available to it under the LRHL to designate one or more Redeveloper(s) to execute Redevelopment Agreement(s) to implement this Plan. This Plan also encourages the owners of real property within the Redevelopment Area to apply for designation as a Redeveloper(s) in order to carry out redevelopment activities in accordance with the Plan.

#### **5.4. Redevelopment Agreement**

A Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall be negotiated with all designated Redeveloper(s). Each Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall provide a detailed description of the project(s) to be constructed and a schedule setting forth the timing and phasing, if applicable, of the construction. The following provisions regarding redevelopment shall be included in a negotiated Redevelopment Agreement(s) in connection with the implementation of this Redevelopment Plan and the selection of a Redeveloper(s) for any property or properties included in the Redevelopment Plan and shall apply notwithstanding the provisions of any zoning or building ordinance or other regulations to the contrary:

- A. The Redeveloper(s), its successor or assignees shall develop the property in accordance with the uses and building requirements specified in this Redevelopment Plan and shall comply with all the terms and obligations of the Redevelopment Agreement(s).
- B. Until the required improvements are completed, and a Certificate of Completion is issued by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford as the Redevelopment Entity, the Redeveloper covenants as required under N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-9 and imposed in any Redevelopment Agreement(s), lease, deed or other recorded instrument between the Redevelopment Entity and the Redeveloper shall remain in full force and effect.
- C. The Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall include a provision that requires the Redeveloper(s) to provide the minimum inclusionary affordable housing as required by law or the Redevelopment Plan or, as negotiated between the parties, inclusionary affordable housing units in excess of the minimum requirement.
- D. The Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall contain provisions to assure the timely construction of the redevelopment project, the qualifications, financial capability and financial guarantees of the Redeveloper(s) and any other provisions to assure the successful completion of the project.
- E. The Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall provide that designated Redeveloper(s) shall be responsible for undertaking appropriate measures concerning utilities, services or infrastructure that, as a result of the redevelopment, may need to be installed or upgraded whether on-site or offsite if it is determined that the utility, service or infrastructure work has a rational nexus to complete the Redevelopment Project pursuant to this Redevelopment Plan. The

Redeveloper(s), at the Redeveloper(s)' sole cost and expense, shall provide all necessary engineering studies for, and construct or install all on- and off-site municipal infrastructure improvements and capacity enhancements or upgrades required with a rational nexus to the project in connection of traffic control measures, water service, sanitary sewer service, stormwater management, and flood mitigation measures to the project, in addition to all required tie-in or connection fees. The Redeveloper(s) shall also be responsible for providing, at the Redeveloper(s)' sole cost and expense, all sidewalk, curb and streetscape improvements (street trees and other landscaping), street lighting, and on and off-site traffic controls and road improvements with a rational nexus to the project or required due to the sole impacts of the project. All infrastructure improvements shall comply with applicable local, state and federal law and regulations.

- F. In addition to the provisions set forth herein, the Redevelopment Agreement(s) may provide that the Redeveloper(s) will agree to provide amenities, benefits, fees, and payments in addition to those authorized under the Municipal Land Use Law.
- G. The Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall provide that the Redeveloper(s) shall be responsible to post sufficient escrows to cover any and all costs of the Township and the consultants retained by the Township to review the proposed redevelopment project and advise the Township on any and all aspects of the redevelopment process, negotiation of the Redevelopment Agreement(s), and the implementation of the project, and as otherwise set forth in the Redevelopment Agreement(s).
- H. The Redevelopment Agreement shall require that the Redeveloper reimburse the Township for some or all of the costs and fees incurred by the Township in the process it undertook to designate the Redevelopment Area as an area in need of redevelopment, to adopt this Redevelopment Plan and to select Redeveloper(s) to implement the Redevelopment Plan.
- I. The Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall provide that no covenant, lease, conveyance or other instrument shall be effectuated or executed by the Township of Cranford or by a Redeveloper(s) or any of its successors or assignees, whereby land within the Redevelopment Area is restricted upon the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, affectional preference, marital status or gender in the sale, lease, use or occupancy thereof. This covenant shall run with the land.
- J. The Redevelopment Agreement(s) shall comply with the requirements in N.J.A.C. 5:97-6.6.

#### **5.5. Planning Board Approval Process**

This Redevelopment Plan requires the designated Redeveloper(s) to submit all plans to the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, acting as Redevelopment Entity, for review and authorization to proceed before the Planning Board prior to the Planning Board holding a public hearing on the

application pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq.. Within 45 days after submission of a site plan or subdivision application to the Township under its regular procedures for submission to the Planning Board, the Township Committee shall review the application for consistency with this Redevelopment Plan. Within that 45-day timeframe, the Township Committee shall issue a letter of material consistency, or non-consistency. Should no letter of material consistency or non-consistency be issued within the 45-day timeframe, then the application shall be deemed consistent for the purposes of this Redevelopment Plan and the Planning Board shall hear the application for Site Plan and/or Subdivision Approval once the application is deemed complete pursuant to applicable law.

A. Township Committee Review

The Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, acting as the Redevelopment Entity, shall review and approve, in a manner materially consistent with this Redevelopment Plan and all proposed redevelopment projects within the Redevelopment Area to ensure that such project(s) is materially consistent with the Redevelopment Plan and any relevant Redevelopment Agreement(s). Such review shall occur concurrently with the submission of an application for approval of the redevelopment project(s) to the Planning Board. In addition, the review may address the site and building design elements of the project to ensure that the project adequately addresses the goals and objectives of this Plan and the Redevelopment Agreement(s). Such a review by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford may not be duplicative with the review by the professionals engaged by the Township of Cranford Planning Board. The Township Committee shall not be reviewing checklists or making determinations of Completeness, and the review shall be limited to consistency with the Redevelopment Plan, Affordable Housing Settlement and applicable Redevelopment Agreements.

B. Planning Board Review Process

After the Township Committee review process noted above is completed, all redevelopment applications shall be submitted to the Township of Cranford's Planning Board through the normal site plan and subdivision procedures as outlined in N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq. The Planning Board shall deem any application for redevelopment for any property subject to this Redevelopment Plan incomplete if the applicant has not been designated by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford as a Redeveloper(s), a Redevelopment Agreement(s) has not been fully executed and the redevelopment application is not submitted with a letter of approval authorized by resolution of the Township Committee.

1. Site Plan and Subdivision Review

Prior to commencement of construction, site plans for the construction of improvements within the Redevelopment Area, prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Land Use Law (N.J.S.A. 40:55D- 1 et. seq.), shall be submitted by



the applicants for review and approval by the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford so that compliance with this Redevelopment Plan can be determined.

Any subdivision of lots and parcels of land within the Redevelopment Area shall be in accordance with the requirements of this Redevelopment Plan and the subdivision ordinance of the Township of Cranford except that where this Redevelopment Plan contains provisions that differ from those in the subdivision ordinance, this Plan shall prevail.

No construction or alteration to existing or proposed buildings shall take place until a site plan reflecting such additional or revised construction has been submitted to, and approved by, the Planning Board. This pertains to revisions or additions prior to, during and after completion of the improvements.

In addition to the above-mentioned items, the following items, which shall be acceptable and approved by the Township Committee, shall be submitted as part of a site plan application:

**2. *Mandatory Submissions***

- a. A copy of applications or conceptual designs that have been or will be submitted to Union County.
- b. A technical memorandum outlining energy efficiency strategies consistent with this Plan and the Town's Zoning Code.
- c. A streetscape/landscape design package including name of designer and design drawings.
- d. When proposing accessory roof decks, a report including design drawings and operations shall be provided.

**C. Approvals by Other Agencies**

The designated Redeveloper(s) shall be required to provide the Township with copies of all permit applications made to federal, state and county agencies upon filing such applications, as will be required by the Redevelopment Agreement(s) to be executed between the designated Redeveloper(s) and the Township.

**5.6. Deviations/Variances**

The Planning Board shall be allowed to grant "c" variances, deviations, design waivers, and/or exceptions. The Zoning Board of Adjustment shall not be allowed to grant any "d" variances, but rather the applicant shall be required to seek an amendment to the Redevelopment Plan. Any proposed changes to the Redevelopment Plan shall be in the form of an amendment to the Redevelopment Plan adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford in accordance with the procedures set forth in the LRHL.

**5.7. Severability**

The provisions of this Redevelopment Plan are subject to approval by Ordinance. If a Court of competent jurisdiction finds any word, phrase, clause, section, or provision of this Redevelopment Plan to be invalid, illegal,

or unconstitutional, the word, phrase, clause, section, or provision shall be deemed severable, and the remainder of the Redevelopment Plan and implementing Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

**5.8. Adverse Influences**

No use or reuse shall be permitted which, when conducted under proper and adequate conditions and safeguards, will produce corrosive, toxic or noxious fumes, glare, electromagnetic disturbance, radiation, smoke, cinders, odors, dust or waste, undue noise or vibration, or other objectionable features so as to be detrimental to the public health, safety or general welfare.

**5.9. Non-Discrimination Provisions**

No covenant, lease, conveyance or other instrument shall be affected or executed by the Township of Cranford or by a Redeveloper(s) or any of his successors or assignees, whereby land within the Redevelopment Area is restricted, or the Redeveloper(s), upon the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, affectional preference, marital status or gender in the sale, lease, use or occupancy thereof.

Appropriate covenants, running with the land forever, will prohibit such restrictions and shall be included in the Redevelopment Agreement(s) and the disposition instruments. There shall be no restrictions of occupancy or use of any part of the Redevelopment Area on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, affectional preference, marital status or gender.

**5.10. Infrastructure**

- A. Redeveloper should make commercially reasonable best efforts to locate transformers in locations that do not negatively affect the pedestrian experience.
- B. When proposing the use of ground mounted electrical transformers within the confines of the Redevelopment Area, a narrative explanation shall be provided that identifies other possible locations and feasibility considerations of each site and provides an explanation for the reasonable infeasibility of alternative sites.

**5.11. Procedure for Amending the Plan**

This Redevelopment Plan may be amended from time to time upon compliance with the requirements of state law. A request for same may be submitted to the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford. The Township of Cranford reserves the right to amend this plan. A \$7,500 escrow shall be paid by the party requesting such amendment, unless the request is issued from an agency of the Township. The Township, at its sole discretion, may require the party requesting the amendments to prepare a study of the impact of such amendments, which study must be prepared by a professional planner licensed in the State of New Jersey and other additional professionals as may be required by the Township.

**5.12. Redevelopment Plan Duration**

The provisions of this Redevelopment Plan specifying the redevelopment of the Redevelopment Area and the requirements and restriction with respect thereto shall be in effect for a period of fifty (50) years from the date of adoption of this Redevelopment Plan by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford.

**5.13. Certificates of Completion**

Upon completion of a project, the Redeveloper(s) shall submit for a Certificate of Completion. Concurrently, a zoning ordinance amendment shall be submitted to the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford requesting that the zoning for the subject parcel(s) be incorporated into the Township's Land Development Ordinance to ensure that the standards remain applicable. Any variances or deviances sought after the adoption of this zoning ordinance amendment shall be granted by either the Planning Board or Zoning Board of Adjustment.

**5.14. Land Use Map Amendments**

The adoption of this Redevelopment Plan or any amendments thereto shall automatically allow for any necessary modifications to the official Township of Cranford Zoning Map to ensure consistency between the two documents.

**5.15. Additional Superseding Provisions**

The standards contained within this Redevelopment Plan shall supersede any conflicting standards contained within the Land Development Ordinance (LDO) of the Township of Cranford or other applicable Township of Cranford codes or ordinances.

A. Terms and Definitions

Any terms or definitions not addressed within this Redevelopment Plan shall rely on the applicable terms and conditions set forth in the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Cranford.

B. Other Applicable Design and Performance Standards

Any design or performance standards not addressed within this Redevelopment Plan shall rely on the applicable design and performance standards set forth in the Land Development Ordinance of the Township of Cranford.

**5.16. Other Provisions**

- A. This Redevelopment Plan herein has delineated a definite relationship to local objectives as to appropriate land uses, density of population, and improved public utilities, recreation and community facilities and other public improvements. This Redevelopment Plan has set forth various programs and strategies requiring implementation in order to carry out the objectives set forth herein.
- B. This Redevelopment Plan sets forth the proposed land uses and building requirements for the Redevelopment Area.
- C. The diagrams, images and other graphic representations provided in this Redevelopment Plan are intended to provide a framework for

interpretation of the written standards and regulations contained herein. Nothing in this Redevelopment Plan shall preclude the partial redevelopment of a block depicted in such diagrams, images or other graphic representations, provided that such subdivision or re-subdivision and partial redevelopment of a block is fully in conformance with the written standards and regulations contained herein.

- D. Final adoption of this Plan by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford shall be considered an amendment of the Township's Zoning Map.

#### **5.17. Other Redevelopment Actions**

In carrying out this Redevelopment Plan, the Township of Cranford and any designated Redeveloper(s) may be required to undertake a variety of redevelopment actions. These may include, but will not be limited to:

- A. Consolidation and/or subdivision of tax lots.
- B. Acquisition and assembly of suitable parcels of land for the construction of the uses set forth in this Redevelopment Plan.
- C. Clearance of abandoned, deteriorated, obsolete structures or uses or structures, or remains of structures, on underutilized land areas, where necessary.
- D. Construction of new structures or other improvements.
- E. Provisions for public infrastructure necessary to service and support new redevelopment, including improved streetscapes and beautification of the area.
- F. Vacation of public utility easements or rights-of-way as may be necessary for redevelopment.

#### **5.18. Public Improvement Approvals**

In cases where third party governmental approvals are pending at the time of project completion, the Township of Cranford may at its discretion allow a certificate of occupancy to be issued for site while public improvements are pending. It is anticipated that the conditions required to issue a certificate of occupancy will be specified in a Redevelopment Agreement(s) to be negotiated between designated Redeveloper(s) and the Township of Cranford. It is recommended that this aspect of potential Redevelopment Agreement(s) be structured to require Redeveloper(s) to work collaboratively with the Township's professionals to design the required improvements and, in cases where the municipality applies for permits directly, Redeveloper(s) shall facilitate the Township's efforts to obtain permits from requisite third-party agencies. The following steps are recommended in cases where certificates of occupancy may be issued prior to implementation of all public approvals:

- A. Step 1 – Engineering Studies / Preliminary Analysis:  
Redeveloper(s) shall prepare required technical memoranda that may be required by third-party governmental agency on a pre-application basis. The memorandum will be presented to the municipality for the municipality to use for coordination with third-

party agencies. Redeveloper(s') professionals shall attend all required coordinated meetings prior to preparing application materials.

B. Step 2 – Engineered Plans:

Once authorization to design is granted, the Redeveloper(s) shall prepare engineered design documents suitable for public bidding and in accordance with applicable requirements and standards for approval. The Redeveloper(s) shall coordinate with the Township and the Township's professionals on all final designs.

C. Step 3 – Permit Applications & Supporting Materials:

At such a time when the Redeveloper(s) and the Township agree on the final engineered design, the Redeveloper(s) shall provide all necessary materials to support the requisite application(s) to applicable approval agency, which the Township shall, in turn, submit for approval. The Redeveloper(s) shall support the Township during the requisite application review process on an as needed basis. The Redeveloper(s) shall maintain an escrow account to compensate the Township's professionals for work required to facilitate receipt of necessary approvals.

D. Step 4 – Construction Bond:

Once approvals are obtained, the Redeveloper(s) shall post a bond in an amount necessary to cover the construction cost, which shall be based upon the awarded contract amount.

E. Step 5 – Post-Design & Inspection Services:

The Redeveloper(s') consultants shall provide all post-design engineering services; inspection coordination and other services as may be required as part of any approval process. Redeveloper(s') consultants shall be approved as may be necessary for construction inspection and other services as may be applicable.

F. Step 6 – As-Built Certification:

Redeveloper(s') consultant shall provide as-built certification documents and other close-out materials as may be required in accordance with any approval process and shall provide support at such a time when new improvements are accepted by third party agencies.

- G. This Section 5.18 is not applicable to any applications for Preliminary and Final Site Plan Approval pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq.

**5.19. Computations**

When a numerical calculation of zoning standards for a particular lot results in a fractional number, such numbers shall be rounded down to the next whole

number for fractions less than .500 and rounded up for fractions .500 and above.

## **APPENDIX A: RELATION TO OTHER PLANS**

### **A.1. 2009 TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD MASTER PLAN**

The Township's Master Plan provides three sets of guiding criteria: The Township Vision for 2020, Principles, and Goals and Objectives.

This Redevelopment Plan is consistent with the Master Plan's Vision and Principles, as it permits dense, mixed-use development in proximity to downtown and NJ Transit rail and bus service. The Plan will support economic activity within the downtown, expanding the Township's tax base, and employ sustainable design practices.

This Redevelopment Plan is also consistent with the Goals & Objectives, which include:

- Conserve and promote the economic vitality of the Downtown so that the core of Cranford remains healthy.
- Provide a parking strategy to accommodate all of the Downtown's constituents: commuters, office workers, shoppers and Downtown residents. Require adequate parking as a prerequisite to new development.
- Promote the Township's accessibility to transportation facilities such as the Garden State Parkway and New Jersey Transit rail and bus lines as attractive to both Township businesses and residents.
- Continue to develop commercial and business (i) in the Downtown, (ii) on the North, South and Centennial Avenues, and (iii) in existing centers of commerce.
- Continue to evaluate development opportunities that utilize Cranford's rail and bus lines in order to encourage an increase in mass transit usage.
- Encourage the development of a diversified economic base that generates employment growth, increases property values, and promotes the improvement of underutilized properties.
- Capitalize on Cranford's competitive advantages for economic development, including its designation as a regional work center, metropolitan location, extensive transportation and utility infrastructure, a stable and highly skilled labor force and an excellent quality of life.
- Create attractive gateways at the principal entrances to the Township through upgraded land uses, streetscape improvements and signage.
- Provide a wide range of housing to meet the needs of residents in diverse income groups.
- Define residential uses and boundaries to guard against intrusion from incompatible land uses.
- Concentrate higher density residential uses in the Downtown to take advantage of transportation infrastructure and require adequate parking as a prerequisite to new development.
- Require all in-fill development to be done in a manner that is consistent and compatible with the surrounding neighborhood and environment.
- Encourage sustainable development practices.
- Incorporate energy-efficient and renewable energy technologies into new development.
- Promote change to establish Cranford as an environmentally sustainable community.
- Promote development in existing nonresidential areas that accommodate alternative modes of transportation and shared parking.

- Create attractive "gateways" into the Township and improve the appearance of intermediate and major thoroughfares.
- Develop and implement streetscape projects for major public thoroughfares.
- Preserve and protect Cranford's small-town character, historic elements and natural amenities.

## **A.2. 2019 MASTER PLAN REEXAMINATION REPORT**

The Township's recent Reexamination Report did not replace the Master Plan's Goals & Objectives but thoroughly reviewed and streamlined them to better state Cranford's vision and address changes to conditions and assumptions. The only notable revision regarding this Redevelopment Plan is to promote a variety of uses in the Downtown, instead of just commercial and business uses, which this mixed-use plan advances.

## **A.3. 2021 HOUSING PLAN ELEMENT + FAIR SHARE PLAN**

In March 2021, the Township adopted its Housing Plan Element and Fair Share Plan (HPEFSP), incorporating Cranford's affordable housing requirements into its Master Plan pursuant to its Mount Laurel settlement. The Redevelopment Area was considered as part of the Township's Realistic Development Potential calculation. The HPEFSP estimated 40 total housing units would be built in the Area and that this development would provide a total of 8 affordable units, which would be family rental units. This Redevelopment Plan will permit the project envisioned by the HPEFSP to be developed, and, therefore, this Redevelopment Plan is consistent with the HPEFSP.

## **A.4 ADJACENT MUNICIPALITIES**

### **A. Township of Clark**

Clark updated its Master Plan in 2003 and last reexamined it in 2013. The Reexamination Report recommended expanding housing opportunities and promoting a pedestrian-oriented downtown, in addition to prior Township goals to promote a balance of land-uses and nonresidential tax ratables while maintaining Clark's the single-family suburban character. This Plan is consistent with the above goals and recommendations.

### **B. Borough of Garwood**

Garwood adopted its Master Plan & Re-Examination Report in 2009. Garwood's goals and objectives are consistent with this Plan and include providing affordable housing, providing a healthy mix of land uses, guiding redevelopment to limit the disruption of existing neighborhoods, and promoting a desirable built environment through creative development techniques and effective design and arrangement.

### **C. Borough of Kenilworth**

Kenilworth adopted a new Master Plan in 2011, and the Goals and Objectives of the Master Plan are consistent with this Redevelopment Plan. These Goals and Objectives include providing opportunities for residents to age in place, enforcing performance standards, retaining existing commercial businesses, enhancing the appearance of commercial districts and the downtown through design and landscaping ordinances, provide downtown street furniture and streetscape enhancements, improve the Borough's gateways through innovatively designed development projects, encouraging sustainable development, and developing the Borough's economic base by leveraging underutilized properties and expanded permitted nonresidential uses.

### **D. City of Linden**

The City adopted its last Reexamination Report in 2008, reaffirming the goals and objectives from the City's 2002 Master Plan and 2003 Reexamination. Linden prioritized preserving the residential density and character of existing neighborhoods, diversifying the



City's commercial economic base, rehabilitating existing structures for housing, encouraging development that improves the community. The City also pursued designation as a transit village and adopted a Transit Oriented Development area around its train station in 2008, encouraging revitalization in the train station area. More recently, the City adopted a new Land Use Element in 2019. The Element details Linden's existing redevelopment areas, which include several mixed-use redevelopment plans. Two of these mixed-use plans are transit-oriented projects near the train station along Elizabeth Avenue and South Wood Avenue. This Redevelopment Plan is consistent with Linden's Master Plan and Reexamination Report.

E. Borough of Roselle

Adopted in 2010, Roselle's Master Plan is consistent with this Redevelopment Plan. The Master Plan calls preserving the character and density of existing residential neighborhoods, guiding redevelopment to limit the disruption of existing neighborhoods, and encouraging alternative forms of mass transportation. In particular, the Master Plan recommends encouraging "planned unit developments that incorporate the best features of design and relate the type, design and layout of residential, commercial, and recreational development to the particular site."

F. Borough of Roselle Park

Roselle Park adopted its last comprehensive Master Plan in 1997 and reexamined it in 2003 and 2009. This Redevelopment Plan is consistent with the Goals and Objectives of the Borough's 2009 Reexamination Report, which calls for preserving the integrity and desirable environment of existing neighborhoods, rezoning underutilized properties to capitalize on mass transit and highway access, encouraging redevelopment adjacent to the central business district (CBD), and improving the CBD through design and streetscape enhancements.

G. Township of Springfield

Springfield adopted a Reexamination and Update in 2017, following up on its 1997 Master Plan and previous 2005 Reexamination. The 2017 Reexamination focused on zoning amendments in relation to its affordable housing settlement and did not significantly modify the Township's Master Plan Goals and Objectives, which remain consistent with this Redevelopment Plan and include actively pursuing redevelopment of vacant and underutilized properties, rezoning areas to allow for more residential and mixed-use development and enhancing streetscapes.

H. Town of Westfield

Westfield adopted its Master Plan in 2002 and completed reexaminations in 2009 and 2019. The Town undertook an extensive public participation process in 2019 in preparation for the new 2019 Master Plan Reexamination Report. Based on this process, the Town adopted new a new set of Guiding Principles and updated their Goals and Objectives from the 2002 Master Plan and 2009 Reexamination. This Redevelopment Plan is consistent with Westfield's new vision, which encourages redevelopment of underutilized lots, concentrating a variety of uses in the downtown, sustainable and equitable practices, promoting high-quality residential and commercial development, maintaining a diverse business sector, multi-modal transportation, diversifying housing stock and providing affordable housing while maintaining the predominant single-family character of the Town, and embracing the opportunities of new concepts in urban design while retaining the best qualities of a small town.

I. Township of Winfield

Developed in the 1940s, Winfield is a fully built-out, master-planned community. There is no master plan for the community readily available. Given the Redevelopment Area's central location within Cranford, no adverse impacts are expected for Winfield by this Redevelopment Plan.

**A.5. 2016 UNION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN**

This Redevelopment Plan is largely consistent with the 2016 Union County Transportation Master Plan, which seeks to integrate transportation planning with land use and economic development. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 12A-7(a)(5), this Redevelopment Plan relates directly to the goals and objectives of the Union County Transportation Master Plan, including:

- Goal #2: To ensure that quality public transportation is available in Union County, also by achieving the following objective:
  - o Support transit-oriented development.
- Goal #3: To increase safety and mobility while minimizing congestion on the roadway system.
- Goal #4: To maintain the efficient movement of goods.
- Goal #6: To encourage and support programs and policies that create transportation options and enhance quality of life, also by achieving the following objective:
  - o Promote compact, mixed-use development patterns which promote walkability and support transit.
- Goal #7: To promote a coordinated, comprehensive, and cooperative transportation planning process.

**A.6. STATE PLANS**

A. 2001 New Jersey State Development + Redevelopment Plan

The State Development and Redevelopment Plan (SDRP) was adopted in 2001 and organized the state into several planning areas. The Redevelopment Plan is located within the Metropolitan Planning Area, (PA-1) of the SDRP. The following intent was documented for PA-1:

- Provide for much of State's future redevelopment;
- Revitalize cities and towns;
- Promote growth in compact forms;
- Stabilize older suburbs;
- Redesign areas of sprawl; and
- Protect the character of existing stable communities.

The SDRP also puts forth statewide goals, including:

- Revitalize the state's cities and towns;
- Promote beneficial economic growth, development and renewal for all residents of New Jersey;
- Provide adequate housing at a reasonable cost; and
- Preserve and enhance areas with historic, cultural, scenic, open space, and recreational value.

This Redevelopment Plan effectuates the above goals and will redevelop and rehabilitate underutilized properties into a mixed-use, transit-oriented development that will enhance the Township's tax base. The Redevelopment Plan will also provide diverse housing options to ensure the housing needs and preferences of all residents are met.

#### B. New Jersey Smart Growth Principles

New Jersey Department of State has developed a definition and has identified areas within the state as Smart Growth Areas. This encourages a compact form of development and redevelopment in recognized Centers as stipulated in the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, including existing infrastructure that serves the economy, the community, and the environment. This Plan is a Smart Growth project and conforms to New Jersey's Smart Growth Principles, including:

- It provides for a mix of land uses in a community design that takes advantage of existing transportation opportunities and diversifies the Township's housing stock.
- The Redevelopment Area's uses and proximity to transportation corridors, the downtown, parks, and schools encourage efficient transportation movements and walkable communities.
- This Redevelopment Plan provides a framework for equitable, predictable, and efficient development decision making.
- The Redevelopment Plan expands upon a collaborative and transparent redevelopment process.

#### C. 2011 New Jersey State Strategic Plan

The New Jersey State Planning Commission released its final draft of the State Strategic Plan on November 14, 2011. Compared to the State Development & Redevelopment Plan, the State Strategic Plan emphasizes a more "proactive, aggressive, and strategic approach to planning for the State's future. An approach that aligns clear goals with sound decision making and coordination among government entities will better position New Jersey for growth opportunities and allow New Jersey to once again compete for and capitalize on growth opportunities."

Central to the State Strategic Plan is its contemplation of development in Smart Growth locations and regional centers. This Plan furthers several objectives, goals, and findings of the State Strategic Plan as it effectuates the following "Garden State Values:"

- Concentrate Development and Mix Uses;
- Prioritize Redevelopment, Infill, and Existing Infrastructure;
- Increase Job and Business Opportunities in Priority Growth Investment Areas;
- Create High-Quality, Livable Places;
- Provide Transportation Choice + Efficient Mobility of Goods;
- Diversify Housing Opportunities; and
- Make Decisions with Regional Framework.

## APPENDIX B: RELATED RESOLUTIONS

TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD  
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-131

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PLANNING BOARD TO EVALUATE  
CERTAIN PROPERTIES ON NORTH AVENUE TO DETERMINE IF THEY SHOULD  
BE DESIGNATED AS A CONDEMNATION AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-4(a), a municipal governing body has the power to cause a preliminary investigation to be made by the Planning Board pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford desires to have a preliminary investigation made on certain lands and premises within the Township of Cranford ("Township") known Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 on the Township Tax Map to see if the area is in need of redevelopment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township intends to use all those powers provided by the Legislature for use in a redevelopment area, including the power of eminent domain.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, in the County of Union, New Jersey does hereby, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-4, request and authorize the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford to undertake a preliminary investigation as to whether the land identified as Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 on the Township of Cranford Tax Map be classified as a condemnation area in need of redevelopment; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Planning Board of the Township of Cranford shall conduct the aforesaid investigation in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the redevelopment area determination, if such a determination is made, shall authorize the municipality to use all those powers provided by the Legislature for use in a redevelopment area, including the power of eminent domain; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that in making its preliminary investigation, the Planning Board shall make its recommendations based upon a finding that the conditions as set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5 are found to be present.

Certified to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held February 11, 2020.

  
Patricia Donahue, RMC  
Township Clerk

Dated: *February 11, 2020*

**CRANFORD TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD**

**RESOLUTION ENGAGING BOARD PLANNING EXPERT MASER CONSULTING, PA  
TO STUDY AND EVALUATE WHETHER THE STUDY AREA IDENTIFIED BELOW  
QUALIFIES AS AN AREA IN NEED OF REDEVELOPMENT AS A CONDEMNATION  
REDEVELOPMENT AREA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-003**

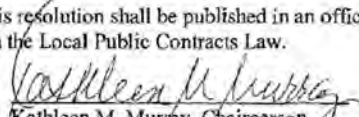
**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford adopted Resolution 2020-131 on February 11, 2020 which authorized and directed the Cranford Township Planning Board (the "Board") to undertake a preliminary investigation to determine whether a "Study Area", which is described in detail below, is an area in need of redevelopment as a Condemnation Redevelopment Area;

**WHEREAS**, the Study Area consists of the following lots as set forth on the Township of Cranford tax maps: Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14;

**WHEREAS**, the Board wishes to engage its planning expert to conduct a study and evaluate whether the property in the Study Area is an area in need of redevelopment as a Condemnation Redevelopment Area under the criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD, BY MOTION  
DULY MADE AND SECONDED ON FEBRUARY 19, 2020, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. Board planning expert Nicholas Dickerson, PP, AICP, and other professional planners from Maser Consulting, PA are hereby engaged and directed to conduct a study and evaluate whether the property in the Study Area is an area in need of redevelopment as a Condemnation Redevelopment Area under the criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5, which study and evaluation shall be submitted to the Board for further action.
2. The Board may designate the other professional planners from the firm of Maser Consulting, PA to provide planning services related to the preparation and adoption of the study and evaluation.
3. The within appointment is subject to entry into a professional services contract between the Maser Consulting, PA and the Board.
4. Notice of the adoption of this resolution shall be published in an official newspaper of the Township and in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law.

  
Kathleen M. Murray, Chairperson  
Cranford Township Planning Board

**TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD  
CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2020-298**

**RESOLUTION DESIGNATING CERTAIN PROPERTIES IDENTIFIED ON THE  
TOWNSHIP TAX MAP AS BLOCK 193, LOTS 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 AS A  
CONDEMNATION REDEVELOPMENT AREA PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL  
REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING LAW, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 ET SEQ.**

**WHEREAS**, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (the “Redevelopment Law”), authorizes a municipality to determine whether certain parcels of land in the municipality constitute a “condemnation area in need of redevelopment”; and

**WHEREAS**, in areas designated as Condemnation Redevelopment Areas, the Township may use all of those powers provided under the Redevelopment Law for use in a redevelopment area including the power of eminent domain; and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution Number 2020-131 adopted on February 11, 2020, the Cranford Township Committee directed the Planning Board to conduct a preliminary investigation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6 to determine whether the properties designated on the Township tax map as Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 (the “Properties”) qualify as a condemnation area in need of redevelopment according to the criteria set forth in Section 5 of the Redevelopment Law; and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 2020-003 adopted on February 19, 2020, the Planning Board directed Maser Consulting to undertake an investigation of the Properties and prepare a preliminary investigation report as required by the statute, prepare a map of the redevelopment study area, and Maser Consulting prepared a Preliminary Investigation Report dated July 2020 (the “Study”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Board provided the required legal notices and conducted a public meeting in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6 on August 19, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, during the aforesaid hearing, the Planning Board reviewed the Preliminary Investigation Report prepared by Maser Consulting, dated July 2020, and heard testimony from Nicholas Dickerson, PP, AICP, a planning expert employed by Maser Consulting, the author of said report; and

**WHEREAS**, the Planning Board considered testimony and comments from members of the public and written correspondence received from members of the public, marked for identification into the record; and

**WHEREAS**, upon review and consideration of the aforementioned report, the exhibits entered into evidence, and the testimony presented during the hearing, the Planning Board determined that the Properties satisfy the criteria for designation as a Condemnation Area in Need of Redevelopment pursuant to the aforementioned statute; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 19, 2020, the Planning Board voted to recommend to the Town Committee that the Study Area be designated a Condemnation Redevelopment Area; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 2, 2020, the Planning Board adopted a resolution 2020-011 memorializing its August 19, 2020 vote accepting and adopting the conclusions contained in the Study and recommending designation of the Properties as a Condemnation Redevelopment Area; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee agrees with the recommendation of the Planning Board and finds that such conclusion is supported by substantial evidence as set forth in the Study; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee desires to designate the Study Area as a Condemnation Redevelopment Area, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford, New Jersey as follows:

1. Generally. The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.
2. Condemnation Redevelopment Area Designation. Based upon the Study and the recommendation of the Planning Board, the Study Area, Block 193, Lots 6.01, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14 satisfy the criteria to be designated as a Condemnation Redevelopment Area pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1.
3. Transmission of Resolution. The Township Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6(b)(5)(c) of the Redevelopment Law.
4. Mailing of Notice. The Township Clerk is hereby directed to serve, within ten days hereof, a copy of this resolution upon (i) all record owners of property located in the Study Area, as reflected on the Tax Assessor's Records, and (ii) any person who filed a written objection with respect to the designation of the Study Area as a Condemnation Redevelopment Area.
5. Severability. If any part of this resolution shall be deemed invalid, such parts shall be served and the invalidity thereby shall not affect the remaining parts of this resolution.
6. Resolution on File. A copy of this resolution shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the City Clerk.
7. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

Certified to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford at a meeting held September 8, 2020.

  
Patricia Donahue, RMC  
Township Clerk

Date: September 8, 2020





## **APPENDIX C: PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION**

## APPENDIX D: LOCAL REDEVELOPMENT + HOUSING LAW

New Jersey's Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (the "LRHL") empowers local governments to initiate a process by which designated properties can be transformed to advance the public interest that meet certain statutory criteria may be designated "in need of redevelopment". Municipalities then have the option of adopting a redevelopment plan for all or a portion of the designated area and employ several planning and financial tools to make redevelopment projects more feasible to remove deleterious conditions.

### C.1. PROCESS

The LRHL requires local governments to follow a process involving a series of steps before they may exercise powers under the LRHL. The process is designed to ensure that the public is given adequate notice and opportunity to participate in the public process. Further, the redevelopment process requires the Governing Body and Planning Board interact to ensure that all redevelopment actions consider the municipal Master Plan. The steps required are generally as follows:

- A. The Governing Body must prepare a proposed resolution with a supporting report attached, which would determine identified properties as an area in need in redevelopment and refers both the report and proposed resolution to the Planning Board for its review. Section 14 of the LRHL lists the following criteria that are used to determine if properties can be designated as an area in need of redevelopment:
  1. A signification portion of structures therein are in a deteriorated or substandard condition;
  2. More than half of the housing stock in the delineated area is at least 50 years old;
  3. There is a pattern of vacancy, abandonment or underutilization of properties in the area;
  4. Environmental contamination is discouraging improvements and investment in properties in the area; or
  5. A majority of the water and sewer infrastructure in the delineated area is at least 50 years old and is in need of repair or substantial maintenance.
- B. Within 45 days of the receipt of the proposed resolution, the Planning Board submits its recommendations, including any modifications recommended, to the Governing Body for its consideration. The Governing Body is not bound by the Planning Board's recommendations and may adopt the resolution with or without modifications. If the Planning Board does not submit recommendations within 45 days, the Governing Body may adopt the resolution with or without modification.
- C. The Governing Body adopts the proposed resolution, with or without modification, designating the proposed area as an area in need of redevelopment.
- D. A redevelopment plan may be prepared establishing the goals, objectives, and specific actions to be taken with regard to the "area in need of redevelopment."
- E. The Governing Body may then act on the Plan by passing an ordinance adopting the Plan as an amendment to the municipal Zoning Ordinance. Only after completion of this process is a municipality able to exercise the powers under the LRHL.

## **C.2. REDEVELOPMENT PLAN CONTENT**

The LRHL identifies required components to be included in a redevelopment plan. In accordance with N.J.S.A 40A:12A-7a, the redevelopment plan must include an outline for the planning, development, redevelopment or redevelopment of a project area which is sufficient to indicate:

- A. Its relationship to definite local objectives as to appropriate land uses, density of population, and improved traffic and public transportation, public utilities, recreational and community facilities and other public improvements.
- B. Proposed land uses and building requirements in the project area.
- C. Adequate provision for the temporary and permanent relocation, as necessary, of residents in the project area, including an estimate of the extent to which decent, safe and sanitary dwelling units affordable to displaced residents will be available to them in the existing local housing market.
- D. An identification of any property within the redevelopment area which is proposed to be acquired in accordance with the redevelopment plan.
- E. Any significant relationship of the redevelopment plan to (a) the master plans of contiguous municipalities, (b) the master plan of the county in which the municipality is located, and (c) the State Development and Redevelopment Plan adopted pursuant to the "State Planning Act," P.L. 1985, c.398 (C.52:18A-196 et al.).

## **APPENDIX E: DEFINITIONS**

### **DWELLING, MULTI-FAMILY**

A building containing more than two dwelling units.

### **INTERSTITIAL ZONE**

The area between the build-to-line and the nearest sidewalk edge.

### **OPEN PODIUM PARKING**

On-grade parking that is sheltered under a building that is elevated on piers without being wrapped either in habitable residential or commercial uses or proper architectural screening treatments.

### **PARKING FACILITY**

Any private customer and employee garage, private residential garage, and public garage.

### **PRIMARY FAÇADE**

The façade where the primary entrance and address for a building are located along a public right-of-way.

