

Township of Monroe

County of Middlesex

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:

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GERALD W. TAMBURRO
Mayor

February 9, 2018

The Honorable Phil Murphy
Governor of New Jersey
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy:

Please accept my sincerest congratulations on your installation as the 56th Governor of the State of New Jersey. I am confident that you will have a successful term in office and look forward to your leadership for a prosperous future here in NJ.

I am writing to you today to request your support to ensure that State lands in Monroe Township (Middlesex County) remain undeveloped.

As you know, for the past 151 years, the New Jersey Training School, located in the Township of Monroe, has operated as a home, school and secure facility for troubled youth. The facility has over 60 buildings and is located on over 650 acres of farmland, forests and wetlands in central Monroe Township.

Last month, former Governor Christie announced the reform of New Jersey's Juvenile Justice System which included the eventual closure of this facility. To date, no detailed plan has been presented to demonstrate a timeline for closure or a plan for the decommissioning of the buildings. I recognize it may take many years for the facility to close and a future use may not be finalized for quite some time.

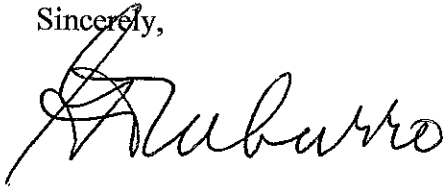
However, as Mayor, I must ensure that the disposition of the entire property must be accomplished thoughtfully and include the input of all stakeholders. As the host for 151 years, we are the largest stakeholder and the township strongly desires the property remain as preserved farmland and open space.

Together with our state legislators, Senator Linda Greenstein, Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo and Assemblyman Daniel Benson, I will be establishing a task force with representation from Middlesex County, Monroe Township Council and Board of Education officials, local land use professionals, and most importantly local residents to ensure any future use of this undeveloped land continue as open space and that the current facility, when decommissioned, benefits the residents of Monroe Township and Middlesex County.

Kindly advise who you wish to designate as your representative in this matter. Monroe Township Council will take action to establish the task force at their March 5, 2018 regular meeting.

In closing, I am confident that we can count on your support to ensure this remains open space, as it is mutually beneficial to both of us.

Sincerely,



Gerald W. Tamburro
Mayor
Township of Monroe

Cc: Senator Linda Greenstein
Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo
Assemblyman Dan Benson
Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin (Middlesex County)
Middlesex Freeholder Director Ron Rios
Middlesex Freeholder Leslie Koppel
Council President Stephen Dalina