

ORDINANCE NO. 3, 2026

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LINWOOD REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 124 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE ENTITLED DEVELOPMENT FEES”, AND REPEALING OTHER ORDINANCES HERETOFORE ADOPTED, THE PROVISIONS OF WHICH ARE INCONSISTENT HEREWITH.**

**WHEREAS**, Chapter 124, Development Fees of the Land Development Ordinance of the City of Linwood has to be repealed and replaced in its entirety to comply with the Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301, et. seq. (“FHA”), as was amended in 2024, the newly adopted Uniform Housing Affordability Controls (“UHAC”) regulations, N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 et seq., and newly adopted N.J.A.C. 5:99-1 et seq; and

**WHEREAS**, this chapter establishes standards for the collection, maintenance, and expenditure of development fees that are consistent with regulations set forth in P.L. 2024, c. 2, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq., N.J.A.C. 5:99-1 et seq. and as previously established in accordance with P.L. 2008, c. 46, Sections 8 and 32 through 38 (N.J.S.A. 52:27D-329.2) and the Statewide Nonresidential Development Fee Act (N.J.S.A. 40:55D-8.1 through 8.7). Fees collected pursuant to this chapter shall be used for the sole purpose of providing very-low, low and moderate-income housing in accordance with a Court-approved Spending Plan;

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Linwood, in the County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey that Chapter 124, Development Fees of the Land Development Ordinance of the City of Linwood is hereby repealed and replaced as follows:

**Section 1.** Chapter 124, Development Fees, of the Land Development Ordinance of the City of Linwood, shall be repealed and replaced as follows:

**§ 124-1 Purpose.**

- A. This section establishes standards for the collection, maintenance, and expenditure of development fees that are consistent with the amended Fair Housing Act (P.L.2024, c.2), N.J.A.C. 5:99, and the Statewide Non-Residential Development Fee Act (C. 40:55D-8.1 through 8.7). Fees collected pursuant to this Ordinance shall be used for the sole purpose of providing very low, low and moderate-income housing in accordance with a Court-approved Spending Plan.

**§ 124-2 Basic Requirements.**

- A. The municipality previously adopted a Development Fee Ordinance, which established the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund.
- B. The municipality shall not spend development fees until the court has approved a Spending Plan for spending such fees.

**§ 124-3 Definitions.**

As used herein the following terms shall have the following meanings:

“Act” means the New Jersey Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq.

“Adaptable” means constructed in compliance with the technical design standards of the barrier free subcode adopted by the Commissioner of Community Affairs pursuant to the “State Uniform Construction Code Act,” P.L.1975, c. 217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.) and in accordance with the provisions of section 5 of P.L.2005, c. 350 (C.52:27D-123.15).

“Administrative Agent” means the entity approved by the Division responsible for the administration of affordable units, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:99-7, and UHAC at N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.15.

“Affordability assistance” means the use of funds to render housing units more affordable to low and moderate-income households and includes, but is not limited to, down payment assistance, security deposit assistance, low interest loans, rental assistance, assistance with homeowner’s association or condominium fees and special assessments, common maintenance expenses, and assistance with emergency repairs and rehabilitation to bring deed-restricted units up to code, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:99-2.5.

“Affordable housing development” means a development included in a municipality’s housing element and fair share plan, and includes, but is not limited to, an inclusionary development, a municipally sponsored affordable housing project, or a 100 percent affordable development. This includes developments with affordable units on-site, off-site, or provided as a payment in-lieu of construction only if such a payment-in-lieu option has been previously approved by the Program or Superior Court as part of the HEFSP. Payments in lieu of construction were invalidated per P.L. 2024, c.2.

“Affordable Housing Monitoring System” or “AHMS” means the Department’s cloud-based software application, which shall be the central repository for municipalities to use for reporting detailed information regarding affordable housing developments, affordable housing unit completions, and the collection and expenditures of funds deposited into the municipal affordable housing trust fund.

“Affordable Housing Trust Fund” or “AHTF” means that non-lapsing, revolving trust fund established in DCA pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-320 and N.J.A.C. 5:43 to be the repository of all State funds appropriated for affordable housing purposes. All references to the “Neighborhood Preservation Nonlapsing Revolving Fund” and “Balanced Housing” mean the AHTF.

“Barrier-free escrow” means the holding of funds collected to adapt affordable unit entrances to be accessible in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:27D-311a et seq. Such funds shall be held in a municipal affordable housing trust fund pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:99-2.6.

“Construction” means new construction and additions, but does not include alterations, reconstruction, renovations, conversion, relocation, or repairs, as those terms are defined in the State Uniform Construction Code promulgated pursuant to the State Uniform Construction Code Act, P.L. 1975, c. 217(N.J.S.A. 52:27D-119 et seq.).

“Developer” means the legal or beneficial owner or owners of a lot or of any land proposed to be included in a proposed development, including the holder of an option or contract to purchase, or other person having an enforceable proprietary interest in such land.

“Development” means the division of a parcel of land into two or more parcels, the construction, reconstruction, conversion, structural alteration, relocation, or enlargement of any building or other structure, or of any mining, excavation, or landfill, and any use or change in the use of any building or other structure, or land or extension of use of land, for which permission may be required pursuant to the Municipal Land Use Law, N.J.S.A. 40:55D-1 et seq.

“Development fee” means money paid by a developer for the improvement of residential and non-residential property as permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-329.2 and 40:55D-8.1 through 40:55D-8.7 and N.J.A.C. 5:99-3.

“Division” means the Division of Local Planning Services within the Department of Community Affairs.

“Emergent opportunity” means a circumstance that has arisen whereby affordable housing will be able to be produced through a delivery mechanism not originally contemplated by or included in a fair share plan that has been the subject of a compliance certification.

“Equalized assessed value” or “EAV” means the assessed value of a property divided by the current average ratio of assessed to true value for the municipality in which the property is situated, as determined in accordance with sections 1, 5, and 6 at P.L. 1973, c. 123 (N.J.S.A. 54:1-35a, 54:1-35b, and 54:1-35c). Estimates at the time of building permit may be obtained by the tax assessor using construction cost estimates. Final EAV shall be determined at project completion by the municipal assessor.

“FHA” means the New Jersey Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq.

“Inclusionary development” means a residential housing development in which a substantial percentage of the housing units are provided for a reasonable income range of low and moderate- income households.

“Low-income household” means a household with a household income equal to 50 percent or less of the regional median income.

“Low-income unit” means a restricted unit that is affordable to a low-income household.

“Mixed use development” means any development that includes both a non-residential development component and a residential development component, and shall include developments for which: (1) there is a common developer for both the residential development component and the non-residential development component, provided that for purposes of this definition, multiple persons and entities maybe considered a common developer if there is a contractual relationship among them obligating each entity to develop at least a portion of the residential or non-residential development, or both, or otherwise to contribute resources to the development; and (2) the residential and non-residential developments are located on the same lot or adjoining lots, including, but not limited to, lots separated by a street, a river, or another geographical feature.

“Moderate-income household” means a household with a household income in excess of 50 percent but less than 80 percent of the regional median income.

“Moderate-income unit” means a restricted unit that is affordable to a moderate-income household.

“Municipal Housing Liaison” or “MHL” means an appointed municipal employee who is, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:99-6, responsible for oversight and/or administration of the affordable units created within the municipality.

“Municipal affordable housing trust fund” means a separate, interest-bearing account held by a municipality for the deposit of development fees, payments in lieu of constructing affordable units on sites zoned for affordable housing previously approved prior to March 20, 2024 (per P.L. 2024, c.2), barrier-free escrow funds, recapture funds, proceeds from the sale of affordable units, rental income, repayments from affordable housing program loans, enforcement fines, unexpended RCA funds remaining from a completed RCA project, application fees, and any other funds collected by the municipality in connection with its affordable housing programs, which shall be used to address municipal low and moderate-income housing obligations within the time frames established by the Legislature and this chapter.

“Municipal development fee ordinance” means an ordinance adopted by the governing body of a municipality that authorizes the collection of development fees.

“New construction” means the creation of a new housing unit under regulation by a code enforcement official regardless of the means by which the unit is created. Newly constructed units are evidenced by the issuance of a certificate of occupancy and may include new residences created through additions and alterations, adaptive reuse, subdivision, or conversion of existing space, and moving a structure from one location to another.

“New Jersey Affordable Housing Trust Fund” means an account established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-320.

“Non-residential development” means:

Any building or structure, or portion thereof, including, but not limited to, any appurtenant improvements, which is designated to a use group other than a residential use group according to the State Uniform Construction Code, N.J.A.C. 5:23, promulgated to effectuate the State uniform Construction Code Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-119 et seq., including any subsequent amendments or revisions thereto;

Hotels, motels, vacation timeshares, and child-care facilities; and

The entirety of all continuing care facilities within a continuing care retirement community which is subject to the Continuing Care Retirement Community Regulation and Financial Disclosure Act, N.J.S.A.52:27D-330 et seq.

“Non-residential development fee” means the fee authorized to be imposed pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-8.1 through 40:55D-8.7.

“Payment in lieu of constructing affordable units” means the prior approval of the payment of funds to the municipality by a developer when affordable units are not produced on a site zoned for an inclusionary development. The statutory permission for payments in lieu of constructing affordable units was eliminated per P.L. 2024, c.2.

“Recreational facilities and community centers” means any indoor or outdoor buildings, spaces, structures, or improvements intended for active or passive recreation, including, but not limited to, ballfields, meeting halls, and classrooms, accommodating either organized or informal activity.

“Residential development fee” means money paid by a developer for the improvement of residential property as permitted pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-329.2 and N.J.A.C. 5:99-3.2.

“Spending plan” means a method of allocating funds contained in an affordable housing trust fund account, which includes, but is not limited to, development fees collected and to be collected pursuant to an approved municipal development fee ordinance, or pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-329.1 et seq., for the purpose of meeting the housing needs of low- and moderate-income individuals.

“UHAC” means the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls set forth at N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.

“Very-low-income household” means a household with a household income less than or equal to 30 percent of the regional median income.

“Very-low-income unit” means a restricted unit that is affordable to a very-low-income household.

## **§ 124-4 Residential Development Fees.**

### **A. Imposed fees**

1. Residential developers, except for developers of the types of development specifically exempted below, shall pay a fee of 1.5% of the equalized assessed value for residential development, provided no increased density is permitted. Development fees shall also be imposed and collected when an additional dwelling unit is added to an existing residential structure; in such cases, the fee shall be calculated based on the increase in the equalized assessed value of the property due to the additional dwelling unit.
2. When an increase in residential density is permitted pursuant to a “d” variance granted under N.J.S.A. 40:55D-70d(5), developers shall be required to pay a “bonus” development fee of 6.0% of the equalized assessed value for each additional unit that may be realized, except that this provision shall not be applicable to a development that will include affordable housing. If the zoning on a site has changed during the two-year period preceding the filing of such a variance application, the base density for the purposes of calculating the bonus development fee shall be the highest density permitted by right during the two-year period preceding the filing of the variance application.

Example: If an approval allows four units to be constructed on a site that was zoned for two units, the fees could equal 1.5% of the equalized assessed value on the first two units; and the specified higher percentage of 6% of the equalized assessed value for the two additional units, provided zoning on the site has not changed during the two-year period preceding the filing of such a variance application.

### **B. Eligible exactions, ineligible exactions and exemptions for residential development**

1. Affordable housing developments, developments where the developer is providing for the construction of affordable units elsewhere in the municipality, and developments where the developer has made an eligible payment in lieu of on-site construction of affordable units, if permitted by ordinance, or by agreement with the municipality and if approved by a municipality prior to the statutory elimination

of payments in-lieu on March 20, 2024 per P.L.2024, c.2, shall be exempt from development fees.

2. Developments that have received preliminary or final site plan approval prior to the adoption of this ordinance and any preceding ordinance permitting the collection of development fees shall be exempt from the payment of development fees, unless the developer seeks a substantial change in the original approval. Where a site plan approval does not apply, the issuance of a zoning and/or building permit shall be synonymous with preliminary or final site plan approval for the purpose of determining the right to an exemption. In all cases, the applicable fee percentage shall be determined based upon the development fee ordinance in effect on the date that the building permit is issued.
3. The expansion or improvement of an existing residential structure shall be exempt from any development fee requirement.
4. Other development shall be exempt from any development fee required to the extent provided by the terms of any order entered by the Superior Court of New Jersey.
5. No development fee shall be collected for the demolition and replacement of a residential building resulting from a fire, flood, or a natural disaster.

#### **§ 124-5 Non-Residential Development Fees.**

##### **A. Imposition of fees**

1. Within all zoning districts, non-residential developers, except for developers of the types of development specifically exempted, shall pay a fee equal to 2.5% of the equalized assessed value of the land and improvements, for all new non-residential construction on an unimproved lot or lots.
2. Within all zoning districts, non-residential developers, except for developers of the types of development specifically exempted, shall also pay a fee equal to 2.5% of the increase in equalized assessed value resulting from any additions to existing structures to be used for non-residential purposes.
3. Development fees shall be imposed and collected when an existing structure is demolished and replaced. The development fee of 2.5% shall be calculated on the difference between the equalized assessed value of the pre-existing land and improvements and the equalized assessed value of the newly improved structure; i.e., land and improvements; and such calculation shall be made at the time a final certificate of occupancy is issued. If the calculation required under this section results in a negative number, the non-residential development fee shall be zero.

##### **B. Eligible exactions, ineligible exactions and exemptions for non-residential development**

1. The non-residential portion of a mixed-use inclusionary or market-rate development shall be subject to a 2.5% development fee, unless otherwise exempted below.

2. The 2.5% fee shall not apply to an increase in equalized assessed value resulting from alterations, change in use within existing footprint, reconstruction, renovations and repairs.
3. Non-residential developments shall be exempt from the payment of non-residential development fees in accordance with the exemptions required pursuant to the Statewide Non-Residential Development Fee Act (N.J.S.A. 40:55D-8.1 through 8.7), as specified in Form N-RDF "State of New Jersey Non-Residential Development Certification/Exemption." Any exemption claimed by a developer shall be substantiated by that developer.
4. A developer of a non-residential development exempted from the non-residential development fee pursuant to the Statewide Non-Residential Development Fee Act shall be subject to the fee at such time as the basis for the exemption no longer applies, and shall make the payment of the non-residential development fee, in that event, within three years after that event or after the issuance of the final certificate of occupancy of the non-residential development, whichever is later.
5. If a property that was exempted from the collection of a non-residential development fee thereafter ceases to be exempt from property taxation, the owner of the property shall remit the fees required pursuant to this section within 45 days of the termination of the property tax exemption. Unpaid non-residential development fees under these circumstances may be enforceable by the municipality as a lien against the real property of the owner.
6. Other development shall be exempt from any development fee required to the extent provided by the terms of any order entered by the Superior Court of New Jersey.

**§ 124-6 Collection Procedures.**

- A. Upon the granting of a preliminary, final or other applicable approval for a development, the applicable approving authority shall direct its staff to notify the construction official responsible for the issuance of a building permit.
- B. For non-residential developments only, the developer shall also be provided with a copy of Form N-RDF, "State of New Jersey Non-Residential Development Certification/Exemption," to be completed by the developer as per the instructions provided in the Form N-RDF. The construction official shall verify the information submitted by the non-residential developer as per the instructions provided on Form N-RDF. The tax assessor shall verify exemptions and prepare estimated and final assessments as per the instructions provided in Form N-RDF.
- C. The construction official responsible for the issuance of a building permit shall notify the tax assessor of the issuance of the first construction permit for a development that is subject to a development fee.
- D. Within 90 days of receipt of that notice, the tax assessor shall provide an estimate, based on the plans filed, of the equalized assessed value of the development.

- E. The construction official responsible for the issuance of a final certificate of occupancy shall notify the tax assessor of any and all requests for the scheduling of a final inspection on property that is subject to a development fee.
- F. Within 10 business days of a request for the scheduling of a final inspection, the tax assessor shall confirm or modify the previously estimated equalized assessed value of the improvements associated with the development; calculate the development fee; and thereafter notify the developer of the amount of the fee.
- G. Should the municipality fail to determine or notify the developer of the amount of the development fee within 10 business days of the request for final inspection, the developer may estimate the amount due and pay that estimated amount consistent with the dispute process set forth in Subsection b. of section 37 of P.L.2008, c.46 (N.J.S.A. 40:55D-8.6).
- H. Fifty percent (50%) of the development fee shall be collected at the time of issuance of the construction permit. The remaining portion shall be collected at the time of issuance of the certificate of occupancy. The developer shall be responsible for paying the difference between the fee calculated at the time of issuance of the construction permit and that determined at the time of issuance of certificate of occupancy.

#### **§ 124-7 Appeal of Development Fees.**

- A. A developer may challenge residential development fees imposed by filing a challenge with the County Board of Taxation. Pending a review and determination by that board, collected fees shall be placed in an interest-bearing escrow account by the municipality. Appeals from a determination of the board may be made to the Tax Court in accordance with the provisions of the State Tax Uniform Procedure Law, R.S. 54:48-1 et seq., within 90 days after the date of such determination. Interest earned on amounts escrowed shall be credited to the prevailing party.
- B. A developer may challenge non-residential development fees imposed by filing a challenge with the director of the Division of Taxation. Pending a review and determination by the director, which shall be made within 45 days of receipt of the challenge, collected fees shall be placed in an interest-bearing escrow account by the municipality. Appeals from a determination of the director may be made to the Tax Court in accordance with the provisions of the State Tax Uniform Procedure Law, R.S. 54:48-1 et seq., within 90 days after the date of such determination. Interest earned on amounts escrowed shall be credited to the prevailing party.

#### **§ 124-8 Affordable Housing Trust Fund.**

- A. A separate, interest-bearing Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund shall be maintained by the chief financial officer of the municipality for the purpose of depositing development fees collected from residential and non-residential developers and proceeds from the sale of units with extinguished controls.
- B. The following additional funds shall be deposited in the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund and shall at all times be identifiable by source and amount:
  - 1. Payments in lieu of on-site construction of an affordable unit, where previously permitted by ordinance or by agreement with the municipality and if approved by

a municipality prior to the statutory elimination of payments in-lieu on March 20, 2024 per P.L.2024, c.2;

2. Funds contributed by developers to make 10% of the adaptable entrances in a townhouse or other multistory attached dwelling unit development accessible;
  3. Rental income from municipally operated units;
  4. Repayments from affordable housing program loans;
  5. Recapture funds;
  6. Proceeds from the sale of affordable units; and
  7. Any other funds collected in connection with the municipal affordable housing program including but not limited to interest earned on fund deposits.
- C. The municipality shall provide the Division with written authorization, in the form of a tri-party escrow agreement(s) between the municipality, the Division and the financial institution in which the municipal affordable housing trust fund has been established to permit the Division to direct the disbursement of the funds as provided for in N.J.A.C. 5:99-2.1 et seq.
- D. Occurrence of any of the following deficiencies may result in the Division requiring the forfeiture of all or a portion of the funds in the municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund:
1. Failure to meet deadlines for information required by the Division in its review of a development fee ordinance;
  2. Failure to commit or expend development fees within four years of the date of collection in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:99-5.5;
  3. Failure to comply with the requirements of the Non-Residential Development Fee Act and N.J.A.C. 5:99-3;
  4. Failure to submit accurate monitoring reports pursuant to this subchapter within the time limits imposed by the Act, this chapter, and/or the Division;
  5. Expenditure of funds on activities not approved by the Superior Court or otherwise permitted by law;
  6. Revocation of compliance certification or a judgment of compliance and repose;
  7. Failure of a municipal housing liaison or administrative agent to comply with the requirements set forth at N.J.A.C. 5:99-6, 7, and 8;
  8. Other good cause demonstrating that municipal affordable housing funds are not being used for an approved purpose.
- E. All interest accrued in the housing trust fund shall only be used on eligible affordable housing purposes approved by the Court.

#### **§ 124-9 Use of Funds.**

- A. The expenditure of all funds shall conform to a Spending Plan approved by Superior Court. Funds deposited in the municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund may be used

for any activity approved by the Court to address the fair share obligation and may be set up as a grant or revolving loan program. Such activities include, but are not limited to: preservation or purchase of housing for the purpose of maintaining or implementing affordability controls; housing rehabilitation; new construction of affordable housing units and related costs; accessory apartments; a market-to-affordable program; conversion of existing non-residential buildings to create new affordable units; green building strategies designed to be cost-saving and in accordance with accepted national or state standards; purchase of land for affordable housing; improvement of land to be used for affordable housing; extensions or improvements of roads and infrastructure to affordable housing sites; financial assistance designed to increase affordability; administration necessary for implementation of the Housing Element and Fair Share Plan; and/or any other activity permitted by Superior Court and specified in the approved Spending Plan.

- B. Funds shall not be expended to reimburse the municipality or activities that occurred prior to the authorization of a municipality to collect development fees.
- C. At least a portion of all development fees collected and interest earned shall be used to provide affordability assistance to very low, low and moderate-income households in affordable units included in the municipal Fair Share Plan. A portion of the development fees which provide affordability assistance shall be used to provide affordability assistance to very low-income households.
  - 1. Affordability assistance programs may include down payment assistance, security deposit assistance, low-interest loans, rental assistance, assistance with homeowners association or condominium fees and special assessments, infrastructure assistance, and assistance with emergency repairs. The specific programs to be used for affordability assistance shall be identified and described within the Spending Plan.
  - 2. Affordability assistance for very low-income households may include producing very low-income units or buying down the cost of low or moderate-income units in the municipal Fair Share Plan to make them affordable to households earning 30% or less of median income.
- D. No more than 20% of all affordable housing trust funds, exclusive of those collected to fund an RCA prior to July 17, 2008, shall be expended on administration, including, but not limited to, salaries and benefits for municipal employees or consultants' fees necessary to develop or implement a new construction program, prepare and implement a Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, administer an Affirmative Marketing Program and for compliance with the Superior Court and the Program including the costs to the municipality of resolving a challenge.

#### **§ 124-10 Monitoring.**

- A. On or before February 15 of each year, the municipality shall provide annual electronic data reporting of trust fund activity for the previous year from January 1st to December 31st through the AHMS Reporting System. This reporting shall include an accounting of all Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund activity, including the sources and amounts of all funds collected and the amounts and purposes for which any funds have

been expended. Such reporting shall include an accounting of development fees collected from residential and non-residential developers, previously eligible payments in lieu of constructing affordable units on site (if permitted by ordinance or by agreement with the municipality prior to the March 20, 2024 statutory elimination per P.L. 2024, c.4), funds from the sale of units with extinguished controls, barrier-free escrow funds, rental income from municipally-owned affordable housing units, repayments from affordable housing program loans, interest and any other funds collected in connection with municipal housing programs, as well as an accounting of the expenditures of revenues and implementation of the Spending Plan approved by the Court.

#### **§ 124-11 Ongoing Collection of Fees.**

- A. The ability to impose, collect and expend development fees shall continue so long as the municipality retains authorization from the Court in the form of Compliance Certification, or a Judgment of Compliance and Repose, or the good faith effort to obtain either one.
- B. If the municipality fails to renew its ability to impose and collect development fees prior to the expiration of its Compliance Certification or its Judgment of Compliance and Repose, it may be subject to forfeiture of any or all funds remaining within its Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Any funds so forfeited shall be deposited into the New Jersey Affordable Housing Trust Fund established pursuant to section 20 of P.L.1985, c.222 (C. 52:27D-320).

#### **§ 124-12 Emergent Affordable Housing Opportunities.**

Requests to expend affordable housing trust funds on emergent affordable housing opportunities not included in the municipal fair share plan shall be made to the Division and shall be in the form of a governing body resolution. Any request shall be consistent with N.J.A.C. 5:99-4.1.

#### **Section 2. Invalidation.**

If any section, subsection, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance.

#### **Section 3. Inconsistent Ordinances Repealed.**

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

#### **Section 4. Effective Date.**

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon:

1. Final passage and publication according to law and filing with the Atlantic County Planning Board; and

2. Approval by the Court through the issuance of a Compliance Certification or other appropriate order.

*FIRST READING: February 11, 2026*  
*PUBLICATION: February 17, 2026*  
*FINAL PASSAGE: February 25, 2026*

The within Ordinance was introduced at a meeting of the Common Council of the City of Linwood, County of Atlantic and State of New Jersey held on February 11, 2026 and will be further considered for final passage after a public hearing thereon at a meeting of said Common Council on February 25, 2026.

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LEIGH ANN NAPOLI, RMC, MUNICIPAL CLERK

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DARREN MATIK, MAYOR