



Englewood

MICHAEL WILDES Mayor, City Hall

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August 11, 2023

City of Englewood
2-10 N. Van Brunt Street
Englewood, NJ 07631

Attention: Yancy Wazirmas, City Clerk

RE: Veto of Ordinance 23-22

Dear Ms. Wazirmas:

In connection with Ordinance 23-22 which the Council passed on August 8, 2023, I offer the following.

Veto Message

Pursuant to the Charter of the City of Englewood, New Jersey, adopted on August 30, 1978, and N.J.S.A. 40:69A-41, Approval or Veto of Ordinances, I hereby veto Ordinance 23-22.

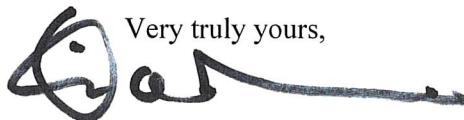
Statement of Objections

I am vetoing this Ordinance 23-22 largely for the reason expressed in the Englewood Planning Board's Resolution dated August 3, 2023 finding that the Ordinance is inconsistent with the Master Plan in failing to properly respect our residential zoning, failing to incorporate the Planning Board's suggested re-development study areas, and for an opaque process that has diminished public support for the governing process and our noble / historic efforts to continue to provide low and moderate income housing.

The Planning Board was clear that the Ordinance did not respect the character of our residential neighborhoods; specifically concerns for buffers; lighting; density; height and even permitting chain link fencing: all deemed to be incompatible with the integrity of our residential zones.

While the Planning Board adopted the City Planner's Revised Third Round Housing Element and Fair Share Plan, the City Council's implementing Ordinance 23-22 fails to preserve our goal of maintaining neighborhood character, fails to target development to blighted areas of the City, and was conducted in a fashion that has alienated our citizenry.

Finally, the City should litigate and push further on our robust inventory of low income/moderate income housing that we have historically provided, as a unique exemplar of equity in providing housing for our citizens.


Very truly yours,

MICHAEL WILDES,
MAYOR