

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUSINESS ACTION CENTER
OFFICE FOR PLANNING ADVOCACY
PO BOX 820
TRENTON NJ 08625-0820

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lieutenant Governor

GERRY SCHARFENBERGER, PH.D.
Director

November 18, 2014

The Honorable Rob Greenbaum
Mayor, Mount Olive Township
PO Box 450
Budd Lake, NJ 07828

Dear Mayor Greenbaum:

The Office for Planning Advocacy (OPA) is currently undertaking an initiative to help municipalities address the vacant corporate campuses located within their boundaries. It is our goal to assist municipalities with all of the resources available to OPA and to turn these sites back into revenue generating, job-creating assets that will maximize their use potential to the benefit of every taxpayer.

You are receiving this letter as a follow-up to our earlier letter of July 14, 2014 regarding this initiative. As a result, OPA has scheduled four meetings throughout the State to review case studies, and discuss strategies that were taken to repurpose these properties. We ask that you or a representative consider attending one or more of these meetings. The dates and locations of these meetings are as follows:

December 2, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., Mays Landing Branch of the Atlantic County Library, 2nd Floor Meeting Room, 40 Farraut Ave, Mays Landing

December 8, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., Hunterdon County Assembly Room, 314 State Route 12, Building #1, Flemington

December 19, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., Branch Brook Park, Cherry Blossom Welcome Center, GPS Address Use: 5 Franklin Street, Belleville, NJ 07109 (this address is directly across the street from the section of the park where the Welcome Center is located).

December 19, 2014 at 2:00 p.m., Somerset County, Freeholder's Meeting Room, 20 Grove Street, Somerville

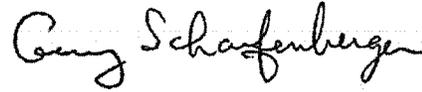
In these challenging economic times, it is important that we find ways to encourage economic activity. Encouraging redevelopment is one strategy and we feel that reviewing successful case studies and establishing a menu of services from OPA will help to facilitate activity on these sites. In addition, the adverse impact on municipal revenues and increased demands on services resulting from chronic vacancies is something that most municipalities cannot easily absorb. OPA's goal is to help municipalities navigate the difficult process of positioning vacant corporate campuses in such a way as to attract new occupants and uses.

Please RSVP to Barry Ableman, Senior Planner at Barry.Ableman@sos.nj.gov or at (609) 292-3228.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to seeing you at one of the upcoming meetings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerry Scharfenberger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Gerry Scharfenberger, Ph.D.
Director, Office for Planning Advocacy

c: Municipal Clerk
Planning Board Chair
