

CALENDAR YEAR 2026
MODEL ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION
LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK
(N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)

WHEREAS, the Local Government Cap Law, N.J.S. 40A: 4-45.1 et seq., provides that in the preparation of its annual budget, a municipality shall limit any increase in said budget up to 2% unless authorized by ordinance to increase it to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, subject to certain exceptions; and,

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.15a provides that a municipality may, when authorized by ordinance, appropriate the difference between the amount of its actual final appropriation and the 3.5% percentage rate as an exception to its final appropriations in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

WHEREAS, the Township of Washington in the County of Morris finds it advisable and necessary to increase its CY 2026 budget by up to 3.5% over the previous year's final appropriations, in the interest of promoting the health, safety and welfare of the citizens; and,

WHEREAS, the governing body hereby determines that a 1.5% increase in the budget for said year, amounting to \$225,573.14 in excess of the increase in final appropriations otherwise permitted by the Local Government Cap Law, is advisable and necessary; and,

WHEREAS the governing body hereby determines that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township of Washington, in the County of Morris, a majority of the full authorized membership of this governing body affirmatively concurring, that, in the CY 2026 budget year, the final appropriations of the Township of Washington shall, in accordance with this ordinance and N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14, be increased by 3.5%, amounting to \$526,337.32, and that the CY 2026 municipal budget for the Township of Washington be approved and adopted in accordance with this ordinance; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any amount authorized hereinabove that is not appropriated as part of the final budget shall be retained as an exception to final appropriation in either of the next two succeeding years; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance as introduced be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services within 5 days of introduction; and,

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that a certified copy of this ordinance upon adoption, with the recorded vote included thereon, be filed with said Director within 5 days after such adoption.

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY OF MORRIS
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ATTEST:

Denean Probasco, Township Clerk

By: _____
Michael A. Marino, Mayor

NOTICE OF FINAL ADOPTION

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinance published herewith was introduced and passed upon first reading at a meeting of the Township Committee of Washington Township, in the County of Morris, New Jersey, held on the 3rd of January, 2026, and the same came up for final passage at a meeting of said Township Committee on the 17th day of February, 2026 at which time, after persons interested were given an opportunity to be heard concerning said ordinance, the same was passed and will be in full force in the Township according to law. By order of the Township Committee of the Township of Washington, County of Morris and State of New Jersey.

Attest: I herein certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly adopted by the Washington Township Committee at a regular meeting held by the Township Committee on February 17, 2026.

Denean Probasco, RMC, Township Clerk