

RESOLUTION NO. 2020- 390

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE PROPOSED STATE BUDGET REALLOCATION OF \$12 MILLION DOLLARS IN FUNDS FROM THE STATE RECYCLING FUND AND \$10 MILLION DOLLARS IN FUNDS FROM CLEAN COMMUNITIES GRANTS TO PARKS MANAGEMENT.

WHEREAS, The State Recycling Fund, estimated at \$24 million, provides critical funding to municipalities and counties for essential recycling services mandated under State law; and

WHEREAS, the impact of COVID-19 and subsequent business and government shutdowns have substantially increased residential recycling generation rates due to work from home policies and orders; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey towns and municipalities are already facing severe budget constraints due to higher tipping fees brought on by the collapse of international and domestic recycling markets; and

WHEREAS, the State Recycling Fund provides significant funding (\$330,051.24) to the City of Vineland to support recycling activities such as our residential compost facilities, school programs on recycling, our residential 96 gallon recycling carts, code enforcement, informational flyers & advertising for our residents and other recycling activities; and

WHEREAS, the State Clean Communities grant provides significant funding (\$125,345.98) to the City of Vineland to help with litter pickup and prevention throughout the City and our parks, code enforcement for illegal dumping in addition to school programs on litter and litter prevention; and

WHEREAS, reducing the funding to our county and City of Vineland by over half will have a negative impact on the City's budget and services to our community; and

WHEREAS, this reallocation will severely cut the grants amount available by over half and will have a negative impact on local budgets, as State law mandates recycling; and

WHEREAS, the present time is not the time to compromise a municipality's or county's ability to meet State recycling mandates.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Vineland urges the Governor, Senate and Assembly of the State of New Jersey to keep the State Recycling Fund whole in the coming State Budget and not reallocate its funds.

Adopted:

President of City Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk