

**RESOLUTION 2024-204**

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, COUNTY OF OCEAN,  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY, STRONGLY OPPOSING THE STATE'S INCREASE TO  
ANOTHER GASOLINE TAX**

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, New Jersey has repeatedly voiced strong opposition to increases in the state gasoline tax; and

**WHEREAS**, New Jersey is again poised to increase the gas tax to 50 cents – the 4<sup>th</sup> highest state gasoline tax in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, this latest increase will burden Ocean County's nearly 100,000 daily commuters and more than 200,000 senior citizens with an additional financial hardship; and

**WHEREAS**, this increase comes on the heels of the state already hiking the tolls on the Garden State Parkway and NJ Turnpike and increasing NJ Transit fares by 15 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Barnegat residents already pay a disproportionate amount of these toll and gasoline increases due to limited access to public transportation, forcing residents to rely on their personal vehicles; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Barnegat commuters tend to travel a longer distance on the Parkway to reach their jobs than drivers in many other parts of the state; and

**WHEREAS**, the increase could also deter visitors from travelling to Ocean County, negatively impacting our \$7 billion tourism industry; and

**WHEREAS**, while the increase in the gas tax is expected to fund the state's Transportation Trust Fund, the Township Committee of the Township of Barnegat have expressed their collective frustration that money collected from Township of Barnegat residents often goes to urban areas of the state with only limited funding returning to our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Committee of Barnegat has repeatedly called on the state to improve Route 9, which remains a two-lane road and very little changed in over a century; and

**WHEREAS**, Ocean County maintains more than 600 miles of county roads and more than 250 bridges and culverts – one of the largest road networks in the state – making it imperative that the state provide its fair share of funding to the Township of Barnegat.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BARNEGAT, STATE OF NEW JERSEY** continues to strongly oppose another increase to the gasoline tax and urges the State of New Jersey to explore all options to sufficiently fund the Transportation Trust Fund through existing sources of revenue without placing as additional burden on the taxpayers of Township of Barnegat and the State of New Jersey.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that certified copies of this Resolution shall be sent to Governor Phil Murphy, the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Representatives, all Ocean County municipalities and the Director of the New Jersey Department of Transportation.

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Donna M. Manno Municipal Clerk of the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Township Committee of the Township of Barnegat at their regular meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2024 in the Municipal Complex, 900 West Bay Avenue, Barnegat, New Jersey.

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Donna M. Manno, RMC  
Municipal Clerk