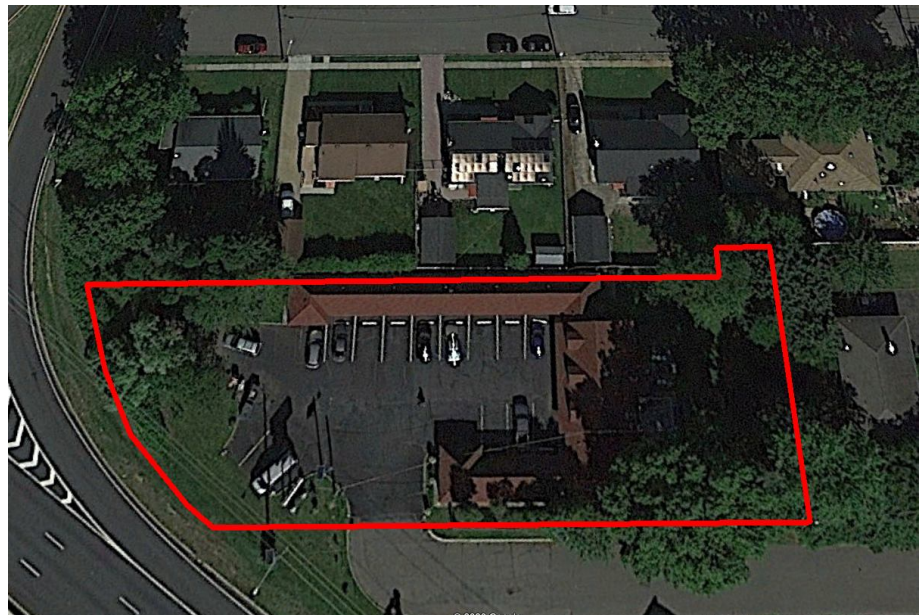


Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Plan



**Township of Edison
Middlesex County, New Jersey**



Bignell Planning Consultants, Inc.

Adopted Version:

**Adopted on
December 22, 2021**

**424 AMBOY AVENUE - SUITE 202
WOODBIDGE, NJ 07095
PHONE: (732) 636 - 0200
FAX: (732) 218 - 5975
MAIL@BIGNELLPLANNING.COM**

Redevelopment Plan

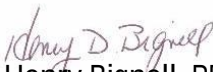
Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area

Block: 692.D, Lots: 30.A, 31, 32, 22, 24, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.A, 40.B

Township of Edison
Middlesex County

This plan was endorsed by the Edison Township Planning Board on December 13, 2021 and adopted by the Edison Municipal Council on December 22, 2021 via Ordinance O.2132-2021.

This is the adopted edition of the plan, and is revised through January 27, 2022.


Henry Bignell, PP
NJ Lic: 33LI00237400
For the Firm

and


Todd Bletcher, AICP, PP
NJ Lic: 33LI00592200
For the Firm

The original of this report was signed and sealed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:14A-1, et. Seq.
and N.J.A.C. 13:41-1.1, et. Seq.

RESOLUTION R.614-112020

EXPLANATION: A Resolution authorizing the Township Planning Board to investigate whether the properties commonly known on the Township tax maps as Block 692.D, Lots 30.A, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.A, and 40.B (a/k/a certain properties fronting U.S. Route 1 and Thomas Place) should be designated as an “area in need of redevelopment.”

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.* (the “**Redevelopment Law**”), authorizes municipalities to determine whether certain parcels of land in the municipality constitute areas in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, to determine whether certain parcels of land constitute areas in need of redevelopment under the Redevelopment Law the municipal council (“**Municipal Council**”) of the Township of Edison (the “**Township**”) must authorize the planning board of the Township (the “**Planning Board**”) to conduct a preliminary investigation of the area and make recommendations to the Municipal Council; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council believes it is in the best interest of the Township that an investigation occur with respect to certain parcels within the Township and therefore authorizes and directs the Planning Board to conduct an investigation of the properties commonly known on the Township tax maps as Block 692.D, Lots 30.A, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.A, and 40.B (a/k/a certain properties fronting U.S. Route 1 and Thomas Place) (hereinafter the “**Study Area**”), to determine whether the Study Area meets the criteria set forth in the Redevelopment Law, specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5*, and should be designated as an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, the redevelopment area determination requested hereunder authorizes the Township and Municipal Council to use all those powers provided by the Redevelopment Law for use in a redevelopment area, other than the power of eminent domain (hereinafter referred to as a “**Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area**”).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2. The Planning Board is hereby authorized and directed to conduct an investigation pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6* to determine whether the Study Area satisfies the criteria set forth in *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-5* to be designated as an area in need of redevelopment.

Section 3. As part of its investigation, the Planning Board shall prepare a map showing the boundaries of the Study Area and the location of the parcel contained therein, and appended thereto shall be a statement setting forth the basis of the investigation.

Section 4. The Planning Board shall conduct a public hearing in accordance with the Redevelopment Law, specifically *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6*, after giving due notice of the proposed boundaries of the Study Area and the date of the hearing to any persons who are interested in or would be affected by a determination that the Study Area is an area in need of redevelopment. The notice of the hearing shall specifically state that the redevelopment area determination shall not authorize the Township or Municipal Council to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire any property in the delineated area, for the Study Area is being investigated as a possible Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area.

Section 5. At the public hearing, the Planning Board shall hear from all persons who are interested in or would be affected by a determination that the Study Area is a redevelopment area. All objections to a determination that the Study Area is an area in need of redevelopment and evidence in support of those objections shall be received and considered by the Planning Board and made part of the public record.

Section 6. After conducting its investigation, preparing a map of the Study Area, and conducting a public hearing at which all objections to the designation are received and considered, the Planning Board shall make a recommendation to the Municipal Council as to whether the Municipal Council should designate all or some of the Study Area as an area in need of redevelopment.

Section 7. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION R.192-042021

EXPLANATION: A Resolution designating the property commonly known on the Township tax maps as Block 692.D, Lots 30.A, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.A, and 40.B (certain properties fronting U.S. Route 1 and Thomas Place), as an area in need of redevelopment (non-condemnation) pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq.

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq. (the “**Redevelopment Law**”), authorizes municipalities to determine whether certain parcels of land in the municipality constitute areas in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, to make such a determination under the Redevelopment Law, the municipal council (the “**Municipal Council**”) of the Township of Edison (the “**Township**”), by way of Resolution R. 614-112020 adopted November 9, 2020, authorized and directed the planning board of the Township (the “**Planning Board**”) to conduct a preliminary investigation of the property identified as Block 692.D, Lots 30.A, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.A, and 40.B (certain properties fronting U.S. Route 1 and Thomas Place) on the Township’s tax maps (the “**Study Area**”), and to determine that the Study Area meets the criteria for a Non-Condensation Redevelopment Area, pursuant to Sections 5 and 6 of the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2021, the Planning Board, after providing due notice, conducted a public hearing in accordance with the Redevelopment Law, at which hearing it determined that the Study Area qualified as an area in need of redevelopment and recommended that the Municipal Council designate the Study Area as an area in need of redevelopment pursuant to the criteria and requirements of the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Council has determined that, based upon the recommendation of the Planning Board, the Study Area should be designated an area in need of redevelopment under the Redevelopment Law, with such designation authorizing the Township and Municipal Council to use all those powers provided by the Redevelopment Law for use in a redevelopment area, without the power of eminent domain.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF EDISON, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1.The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as if set forth in full.

Section 2.The recommendations and conclusions of the Planning Board are hereby accepted by the Municipal Council.

Section 3.Based upon the findings and recommendations of the Planning Board, the Study Area is hereby designated an area in need of redevelopment without the power of eminent domain (the “**Non-Condensation Redevelopment Area**”), pursuant to the provisions of Sections 5 and 6 of the Redevelopment Law.

Section 4.The Township Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for review pursuant to Section 6b(5)(c) of the Redevelopment Law.

Section 5.The Township Clerk is hereby directed to serve, within ten (10) days hereof, a copy of this Resolution upon (i) all record owners of property located within the Non-Condensation Redevelopment Area, as reflected on the tax assessor’s records, and (ii) each person who filed a written objection prior to the hearing held by the Planning Board, service to be in the manner provided by Section 6 of the Redevelopment Law.

Section 6.This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that this is a true and compared copy of an Resolution adopted by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison at their Combined Meeting of April 14, 2021.



Cheryl Russomanno, RMC
Municipal Clerk

ORDINANCE O.2132-2021

EXPLANATION: An Ordinance adopting the Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Plan in the Township, pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq.

WHEREAS, the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq., as amended and supplemented (the “Redevelopment Law”), authorizes a municipality to determine whether certain property within the municipality constitutes an area in need of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, to make such a determination under the Redevelopment Law, the municipal council (the “Municipal Council”) of the Township of Edison (the “Township”), by way of Resolution R. 614-112020 adopted November 9, 2020, authorized and directed the planning board of the Township (the “Planning Board”) to conduct a preliminary investigation of the property identified as Block 692.D, Lots 30.A, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.A, and 40.B (certain properties fronting U.S. Route 1 and Thomas Place) on the Township’s tax maps (the “Study Area”), and to determine that the Study Area meets the criteria for a Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area, pursuant to Sections 5 and 6 of the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2021, the Planning Board, after providing due notice, conducted a public hearing in accordance with the Redevelopment Law, at which hearing it determined that the Study Area qualified as an area in need of redevelopment and recommended that the Municipal Council designate the Study Area as an area in need of redevelopment pursuant to the criteria and requirements of the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, on April 14, 2021, the Municipal Council considered the Planning Board’s recommendation and adopted Resolution R.192-042021, designating the Study Area as an area in need of redevelopment (non-condemnation) (the Study Area hereinafter referred to as the “Redevelopment Area”); and

WHEREAS, by commission of the Municipal Council, Bignell Planning Consultants, Inc. prepared a redevelopment plan for the Redevelopment Area entitled the “Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Plan” (the “Redevelopment Plan”); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the within Ordinance, the Municipal Council hereby refers the Redevelopment Plan to the Planning Board for its review and comment, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7 of the Redevelopment Law; and

WHEREAS, upon review of the Planning Board’s recommendation of the Redevelopment Plan, the Municipal Council has determined to adopt the Redevelopment Plan, in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A, to ensure the success of redevelopment within the Redevelopment Area in conformity with the Township’s redevelopment objectives.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Municipal Council of the Township of Edison as follows:

Section 1. The aforementioned recitals are incorporated herein as though fully set forth at length.

Section 2. The Township Clerk is hereby directed to provide a copy of the Redevelopment Plan to the Planning Board for its review and comment.

Section 3. Upon acceptance of the review and comments of the Planning Board, the Redevelopment Plan, attached hereto as Exhibit A, is hereby adopted pursuant to the terms of N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-7, and supersedes the existing land development regulations of the Township for the Redevelopment Area.

Section 4. A copy of this Ordinance and the Redevelopment Plan shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Township Clerk during regular business hours.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect in accordance with all applicable laws.

INTRODUCTION

The Route 1 corridor is vital to the economic health of Edison Township. Although the corridor hosts many thriving retail and commercial businesses, as well as provides housing for thousands of families, there are some properties where aging facilities and obsolete layouts have stymied economic development. In response to the current conditions hindering development in the Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area, the Edison Municipal Council decided to stimulate investment at this location through the statutory redevelopment process.

The New Jersey Legislature empowers municipalities to utilize the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (LRHL) N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq., as an economic development tool. This Redevelopment Plan represents an opportunity to reclaim an obsolete piece of land within this corridor for development with potential age-restricted residential development.

Pursuant to the statute, municipal governments can designate properties as an “Area in Need of Redevelopment” when such properties meet the criteria for designation set forth in Section 5 of the LRHL. On November 9, 2020, the Edison Township Municipal Council adopted Resolution R.614-112020 authorizing the Edison Township Planning Board to undertake an investigation to determine whether the Route 1 and Thomas Place Study Area, would qualify as a Redevelopment Area in accordance with criteria set forth in the New Jersey Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (LRHL) N.J.S.A. §40A: 12A-5, et. seq.

In response to the Edison Municipal Council's directive, the Edison Township Planning Board directed this office to prepare a preliminary investigation, revised through: December 22, 2020 (coversheet), and conducted a public hearing on February 17, 2021. At the conclusion of that proceeding, the Planning Board recommended to the Municipal Council that the delineated study area be deemed an “Area In Need of Redevelopment.” In response to the conditions affirmed by the Edison Planning Board, the Edison Municipal Council designated this area as an Area in Need of Redevelopment on April 14, 2021 via Resolution R.192-042021 and authorized the preparation of this Redevelopment Plan.

The redevelopment area is herein referred to as the Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area.

GENERAL REDEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The general process of adopting a Redevelopment Area in the Township of Edison is stipulated in the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, (N.J.S.A. §40:12A-1 et. seq.) as amended through 2019, and are as follows:

1. The Edison Township Council adopts a resolution delineating the Study Area and directing the Planning Board to investigate the area as a “non-condemnation study area.”
2. The Planning Board (via its Planner) prepares a study report setting forth the basis for the investigation and a map showing the boundaries of the proposed area.
3. The report and map are made available for public inspection a minimum of 10 days prior to any public hearing.
4. The Planning Board conducts a public hearing makes a recommendation to the Township Council designating all or part of a Study Area as a Redevelopment Area.
5. The Township Council adopts a resolution designating all or part of the Study Area as a Non- Condemnation Redevelopment Area.
6. The Township Clerk transmits a copy of the Redevelopment Area designation to the NJ Department of Community Affairs and transmits notice to property owners.
7. The Edison Municipal Council authorizes preparation of a Draft Redevelopment Plan which may be delegated to, or referred to, the Planning Board.
8. The Draft Redevelopment Plan is referred to the Planning Board for consistency with Master Plan within 45 days.
9. The Township Council adopts, by ordinance, the Redevelopment Plan following its regular ordinance adoption procedures.

STATUTORY DEFINITION OF REDEVELOPMENT

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. §40A:12A-3, “Redevelopment” means clearance, re-planning, development and redevelopment; the conservation and rehabilitation of any structure or improvement, the construction and provision for construction of residential, commercial, industrial, public or other structures and the grant or dedication of spaces as may be appropriate or necessary in the interest of the general welfare for streets, parks, playgrounds, or other public purposes, including recreational and other facilities incidental or appurtenant thereto, in accordance with a redevelopment plan.

REDEVELOPMENT AREA DESIGNATION

Edison Municipal Council Resolution R.192-042021 delineates an eleven (11) parcel redevelopment area containing the property as identified on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Edison and in the aforementioned resolution. This resolution designates this Redevelopment Area as a *Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area*. **This plan does not authorize the powers of Condemnation or Eminent Domain.** The Redevelopment Area is herein referred to as the Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area. This Redevelopment Plan is herein referred to as the Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Plan.

Redevelopment Area:			
Block Number:	Lot Number:	Location:	Owner of Record:
Block 692.D	Lot: 30.A (Lead Lot)	39 Thomas Place	Yashraj5 Realty, LLC (sic) 20 Arbor Circle Edison, NJ 08837
Block 692.D	31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39.A, 40 (aka 40.B)		

REDEVELOPMENT AREA DESCRIPTION

The Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area property contains eleven (11) abutting lots forming an irregular tract. The tract has approximately 185 feet of frontage along the north/west side of Thomas Place and approximately 200' along the frontage of Route 1, which includes about 100' of highway frontage and 100' of frontage along the on-ramp leading from Route 1 to Amboy Avenue (heading northbound into the Borough of Metuchen.) The tract contains approximately 28,300 sf.

Lots 32-40 contain a "J-shaped" motel building which has been on this site since the 1960's. The west and east wings of the building contain a total of 12 motel rooms arranged in a linear fashion around a central parking lot. The central-north portion of the motel building is a 2-story building which has an appearance of a 1950's style residential split-level dwelling. The ground level contains a small office and guest rooms. The upper floors appear to contain staff/owner spaces. From the south side the space appears to be finished attic space with dormer windows, however, the rear (east) façade presents as a 2-story building, with a building height of approximately 25'. The north facade and has the appearance of a residential dwelling. Lots 31 and 30.A, include a "rear yard" area on the north side of the motel. This area contains grass and a few mature trees. There are no permanent buildings on the lot 30.A and 31 portions of the site, however a fence, shed and gate opening connect this area to Thomas Place.

The motel is arranged around a central paved parking lot containing approximately 14 parking spaces. The parking lot has a driveway connection to Thomas Place near the southern tip of the site. A ±40' high pylon sign is located at this location oriented toward Route 1, along with other decorative monuments at the driveway entrance to the site. The pylon sign appears to be of modern construction. The guest rooms are situated in a traditional "motel" style where rooms are accessible from the outside. The building and property have a visibly worn and dated appearance. However, the buildings do appear to be operational in maintained condition. A new roof appears to have been installed on the motel within the last 6 years. The motel business is currently operational.

The property investigation found incidental debris and litter on the site; The walkway in front of the room entrances is littered with random pieces of furniture and personal items. Damaged concrete structures are visible in the parking lot, along with a trash dumpster, shopping carts, damaged trees, and various forms of litter.



**Township of Edison
Route 1 and Thomas Place
Redevelopment Area Map**

Prepared: November 29, 2021

© 2020 Google

Images of the Study Area taken on December 23, 2020

	
Motel site	North wing of hotel rooms
	
North wing	East "rear" facade
	
Thomas Street frontage	East grass/yard area



Service rooms



Breezeway between south wing and office



Base of entrance



Base of sign/parking lot



Dumpster and trash on west frontage of Route 1



East office building

STATUTORY ELEMENTS OF A REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq.), the Redevelopment Plan shall include an outline for the planning, development, redevelopment or rehabilitation of the project area sufficient to indicate:

1. Its relationship to definite local objectives as to appropriate land uses, density of population and improved traffic and public transportation, public utilities, recreational and community facilities and other public improvements;
2. Proposed land uses and building requirements in the project area;
3. Adequate provision for the temporary and permanent relocation as necessary of residents in the project area including an estimate of the extent to which decent, safe and sanitary dwelling units affordable to displaced residents will be available to them in the existing local housing market;
4. An identification of any property within the redevelopment area proposed to be acquired in accordance with the redevelopment plan;
5. Any significant relationship of the redevelopment plan to:
 - a. The Master Plans of contiguous municipalities;
 - b. The Master Plan of the County in which the municipality is located; and
 - c. The State Development and Redevelopment Plan adopted pursuant to the "State Planning Act" P.L. 1985, C398 (C52:18A-196 et al.).
6. As of the date of the adoption of the resolution finding the area to be in need of redevelopment, an inventory of all housing units affordable to low- and moderate-income households, as defined pursuant to section 4 of P.L. 1985 c.222 (C.52:27D-304), that are to be removed as a result of implementation of the redevelopment plan, whether as a result of subsidies or market conditions listed by affordability level, number of bedrooms, and tenure.
7. A plan for the provision, through new construction or substantial rehabilitation of one comparable, affordable replacement housing unit for each affordable housing unit that has been occupied at any time within the last 18 months, that is subject to affordability controls and identified as to be removed as a result of implementation of the redevelopment plan; (See text of statute.)
8. Proposed locations for zero-emission vehicle fueling and charging infrastructure within the project area in a manner that appropriately connects with an essential public charging network.

This plan includes each of these required elements on the following pages.

PLAN OBJECTIVES & RELATIONSHIP TO LOCAL OBJECTIVES

The Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area presents an opportunity to transform a property with an obsolete motel facility into a development to serve the residential needs of the township and surrounding community. The plan will permit a number of uses beyond what would normally be permitted in the underlying Office Service O-S Zoning District. The objectives of the plan include:

- To stimulate economic investment in Redevelopment Areas, which is a township-wide goal of the Edison Township Master Plan;
- To improve the efficient use of land which can be effectively redeveloped for the Township's economic benefit, which is also a goal of the Edison Township Master Plan;
- To remediate to the greatest extent possible environmental contamination, if any, on all sites throughout the township to meet NJDEP standards so that these redevelopment sites can eventually contain occupied uses;
- To modify land-use regulations controlling the Redevelopment Area to allow for an appropriate use or uses, as a function of the environmental remediation levels achieved on the site;
- To provide housing opportunities for adults and senior citizens at affordable costs and appropriate densities in code-compliant units;
- To preserve open space in other undeveloped locations through re-development of sites, such as this one, where roads and utilities already exist on-site or are available nearby;
- To improve traffic circulation and safety on Route 1 via elimination of access roads and driveways;
- To update and revise the specific development goals for this Redevelopment Area to include the possibility of an age-restricted residential development, which was not specifically envisioned by the 2001 Master Plan, and;
- To allow for the possible future reconfiguration of access roads, driveways, property areas in the area to remediate conditions of obsolete and confusing layout;

ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION SHALL BE A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT FOR ALL REDEVELOPMENT AREAS IN EDISON TOWNSHIP

The potential presence of contaminated soil, groundwater, or vapors is existentially harmful to public health when these chemicals have a pathway to human exposure. Without remediation, the physical presence of any chemical known to be harmful to humans would be detrimental to health of future occupants, workers or residents who might be directly or indirectly exposed to these materials.

It shall be a requirement of this Redevelopment Plan to meet, or be remediated to satisfy, the environmental health and safety standards applicable to use proposed based on the NJDEP standards for that use. Any forthcoming development application shall present testimony to address the current conditions on the site and achievability of these standards. When verified site contamination is present, final certification from a Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) must be provided as a condition of any land use approval. This requirement shall be mandatory and may not be waived by any reviewing board.

RELATIONSHIP OF REDEVELOPMENT PLAN TO TOWNSHIP REGULATIONS

The Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area shall be redeveloped in accordance with the standards established in this Redevelopment Plan. This Redevelopment Plan supersedes and replaces the use and bulk standards of the Township of Edison Land Use Ordinance for the Redevelopment Area when the plan is utilized by a designated redeveloper. This plan also provides additional design standards which shall apply to this site and shall supersede the existing standard in the Edison Land Use Ordinance. If this plan does not specify a development or design standard to supersede an existing development design standard, including but not limited to; lighting, landscaping, buffering, screening, street trees, curbing, sidewalks, parking design, tree replacement, steep slopes, stream bank encroachment, stormwater management, pipeline buffering, etc., then the existing design standard in the Edison Land Use Ordinance shall remain in effect.

All applications for development shall be submitted to the Edison Township Planning Board and shall comply with the existing completeness, site plan, subdivision, and variance application procedures set forth within N.J.S.A 40:55D-1, et. seq., and with the Township of Edison Land Use Ordinance. All applications for development requesting site plan approval and/or a deviation from the requirements of this Redevelopment Plan shall provide public notice of such application in accordance with the public notice requirements set forth in N.J.S.A. 40:55D-12. The Planning Board shall have power to grant subdivision, site plan and bulk/design approval and/or relief from bulk and dimensional requirements of this plan to the same extent as the Board may grant relief from bulk and dimensional requirements pursuant to the powers granted under N.J.S.A. 40:55D-70c. Any deviation from the permitted use standards of this plan that would result in a “d” variance shall be addressed as an amendment to the plan rather than an application for “d” variance. The Planning Board shall not have authority to allow deviations from the permitted use standards of this plan that would result in a “d” variance.

Unless otherwise noted, word usage in this plan shall be considered consistent with the definitions provided in the Edison Township Land Use Ordinance and in the Municipal Land Use Law. Final adoption of this Plan by the Edison Municipal Council shall be considered an amendment to the Township Land Use Ordinance and Official Zoning Map. Upon adoption, the NJ Department of Community Affairs, Middlesex County, Edison Township Engineering Department, and the Edison Township Clerk’s Office shall update their maps, ordinances, and records accordingly.

DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN STANDARDS

PURPOSE

The intent of this subsection is to provide specific standards for development of an age-restricted residential development than are provided for in the Township's Land Use Ordinance to provide targeted development guidance for the unique characteristics of this site.

PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES

No building(s), structure(s) shall be used and no building(s) or structure(s) shall be erected or structurally altered except for the following use(s):

- a. Age-restricted senior housing for persons 55 years of age or older, arranged in a single building or garden-apartment style layout.

ACCESSORY USES

Any accessory use that is clearly customary and incidental to any principal use, building, or structure permitted in this plan use shall be permitted as an accessory use including:

- a. When residential development is proposed, accessory uses may include customary elements such as clubhouses, pools, recreation courts, walking trails, gates, guard houses, bus shelters, rental offices, amenity spaces, and other similar uses which are customary and incidental to the permitted residential use. When proposed, a freestanding clubhouse building shall be subject to the bulk requirements for a principal, not accessory building;
- b. One (1) accessory storage building or shed, maximum 400 sf, may be erected on the site for storage of property maintenance equipment. Additional or larger buildings shall require relief from this plan;
- c. Home offices and occupations inside a private residential dwelling unit;

PROHIBITED USES

- a. All drive-through or drive-up uses and windows;
- b. Nightclubs, taverns, smoking clubs, cigar bars, hookah lounges or adult uses;
- c. Uses of a heavy industrial or heavy manufacturing nature or industrial warehouse nature;
- d. Retail, restaurant, office, warehouse and similar commercial uses;

HEIGHT, AREA AND YARD AND DENSITY REQUIREMENTS

- a. Bulk and Height requirements shall be as follows:

Minimum lot/tract area	25,000 sf
Minimum lot width	200 feet
Minimum lot depth	100 feet
Minimum front yard setback to Thomas Place	20 feet
Minimum side yard setback	20 feet
Minimum setback to NJDOT property	5 feet
Minimum rear yard setback	20 feet
Maximum building coverage	70%
Minimum distance between buildings	10 feet
Maximum height of principal building	4 stories
Maximum height of principal building	45 feet
Maximum impervious coverage	85%
Minimum side yard (accessory building)	5 feet
Minimum rear yard (accessory building)	5 feet
Maximum height of all accessory buildings	15 feet

OFF-STREET PARKING

- a. Residential development shall provide parking to comply with the Residential Site Improvement Standards. Residential parking shall be provided in structured parking and/or in surface lots.
- b. Off-street parking spaces shall be provided on the same lot as the building it is intended to serve in accordance with the parking requirements of Edison Land Use Ordinance Section 37-60: Parking. Section 37-60.1.c; Parking Space Variance Payments shall not apply to any outstanding parking requirement.
- c. Up to 50% of the required parking may be arranged in a 2-vehicle “double-stacked” or “double-deep” arrangement as long as both parking spaces in the stack are allocated to a single dwelling unit.
- d. No parking space shall be nearer than five (5) feet to any side, rear or front lot line.
- e. Emergency access shall be provided to all portions of the site. Designated fire lanes and “No Parking” markings shall be provided in all areas not designated for parking.
- f. All parking layout, dimension and design requirements, including requirements for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, shall be provided in accordance with Section 37-60 or M.L.U.L. requirements in effect at the time of site plan application.

LIGHTING

- a. Site lighting shall conform to all current Land Use Ordinance requirements except for where modified herein.

- b. All vehicle and pedestrian walkways shall be lit to a minimum of 0.3 fc. Illumination levels at residential property lines shall not exceed 0.0 fc. Where the property abuts a non-residential use or right-of-way, illumination levels beyond that property line shall not exceed 0.5 fc. Fixtures shall be cast downward and shielded to prevent light spillage onto adjacent properties or sky glow.
- c. Pole-mounted lighting fixtures shall not exceed fourteen feet (14') in height for surface parking lots. Where lighting is provided within a residential development, the height of the lighting poles shall be no higher than fourteen feet (14') in height and shall be provided within a decorative fixture. Wall lighting fixtures shall be provided at a height no greater than ten (10) feet in height.

LOADING & TRASH DISPOSAL

- a. At the time of site plan application, the Redeveloper shall show the ability of delivery and trash vehicles to enter, circulate, and service all parcel delivery and trash loading areas of the site.
- b. For residential developments, trash enclosures should be provided for storage of trash and recycling materials. All freestanding trash enclosures shall consist of a 6' high enclosure of block, brick, fencing, or a combination of similar materials and shall include a self-closing door or gate. Each enclosure shall be surrounded on 3 sides by a 10' deep landscape screen of all-season plantings.

SIGNS

- a. One (1) façade sign shall be permitted with a maximum sign area of 32 sf.
- b. Emergency, address number, and safety signs are permitted without restriction.
- c. Freestanding signs for residential developments shall be permitted as follows:
 - 1. One (1) community name monument sign shall be permitted along the frontage of the site.
 - 2. No one (1) surface of any such sign shall exceed (32) square feet in sign area.
 - 3. Freestanding signs shall be no higher than five feet (5') high. The maximum width of any one (1) side of the sign shall not exceed (10) feet excluding decorative columns which may enclose the ends of the sign. The bottom of the signs shall contain a decorative planter base.
 - 4. Freestanding signs shall be set back at a minimum distance of ten (10) feet from all lot lines.

5. Directional or wayfinding signs shall be permitted throughout the site directing vehicles or providing wayfinding messaging. Such signs may not exceed 4' in height and 24 sf. in area, and shall be surrounded by a decorative planter or landscaping base.

LANDSCAPING AND BUFFERING

1. The landscaping provisions of the Land Use Ordinance shall apply except where modified herein.
2. Landscape plans are required as a part of all development applications. These plans shall include the names, quantities, size, spacing, and method of planting of each plant material.
3. A 15' deep, heavily landscaped buffer shall be provided along the entirety of the rear (west) and north side property lines. The buffer shall contain a heavy mix of shade and evergreen trees to screen the height and bulk of the proposed development. The buffer shall contain a solid 8' high fence for the entirety of the buffer area.
4. Street trees, minimum 2.5" caliper shall be provided on all frontages on 50' centers.
5. Parking lot perimeter trees and parking lot perimeter shrubs, minimum 36" high shall be provided around all surface parking lots and around the building perimeter. No other landscaping shall be required.
6. If the sum of all required trees cannot be physically installed on the site, the Redeveloper shall be permitted to make a contribution to the Township's Tree Fund in accordance with the formulas provided in the Land Use Ordinance Section 25-11.1.c for any outstanding trees. This contribution method may be utilized to comply with the totality of all trees required by the Land Use Ordinance.
7. An irrigation system shall be provided to maintain plantings on the site.
8. All utilitarian equipment, dumpsters, compactors, transformers, generators, etc., shall be enclosed within decorative screening enclosures with self-closing gates or doors.

HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

- a. The intent of this Plan shall be to provide housing for senior-citizens to be occupied by persons 55-62 years of age, or older, as further defined by and subject to the exceptions in and under the U.S. Fair Housing Act, as amended, where such dwellings shall be of a type which promotes the efficient delivery of municipal and personal services, access to mass transportation, the provision of recreation facilities by the developer for the sole use by the residents and their guests, and to be designed specifically for adult citizens in accordance with, and advancement of, the Township of Edison Housing Element and Fair-Share Plan.

- b. "Age-restricted unit" shall mean a housing unit designed to meet the needs of, and exclusively for, the residents of an age-restricted segment of the population where the head of the household is a minimum age of either 62 years, or 55 years and meets the provisions of the 42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq., except that due to death, a remaining spouse of less than 55 years of age shall be permitted to continue to reside. (N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 et seq.)
- c. One (1) dwelling unit(s) in the development may be utilized as a building manager or building superintendent residence, in which case this unit(s) shall not be required to be age-restricted units. All remaining units shall be age-restricted units and described hereinabove.
- d. All units shall remain age-restricted rental units for a period of thirty (30) years, which shall be administered by way of recorded deed restriction.
- e. Since the Township may consider seeking credits for this development in future Housing Element/Fair Share Plans, the development shall demonstrate that construction and administration of the age-restricted units will comply with the administrative and substantive requirements of the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls (UHAC): N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 et seq., including regulations on adaptability, household size, bedroom distribution, heating source regulations and affirmative marketing, as applicable to an age-restricted development.
- f. The Redeveloper shall comply with the Affordable Housing Regulations of the Township of Edison in effect at the time of development application.

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

- a. It shall be a requirement of this Redevelopment Plan that, should any environmental contamination be discovered on the property, this site shall be remediated to the standards applicable with the final use proposed, based on the NJDEP standards for that use.
- b. If environmental contamination is present, applications for development shall be accompanied by a written certification and testimony at a public hearing from the Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) with authority over the site indicating that environmental conditions on the site can be remediated to comply with the applicable NJDEP standards. Once remediation has been completed, a final written certification from a Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) shall be provided to the township construction official before any certificate of occupancy shall be issued by the township. This requirement shall be mandatory condition of approval and may not be waived by any reviewing board.

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS

- a. The developer shall provide a realistic opportunity for transportation connections to nearby shopping centers, banking and grocery stores. This may be provided via connection to public transit or through private provision of a shuttle service.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- a. All utilities are to be constructed underground.
- b. There shall be no outside storage of materials or equipment.
- c. The Pipeline Buffer Ordinance shall remain in effect. However, the Redeveloper may, upon demonstration that no natural gas transmission pipelines as defined by ordinance exist within 75' of the Redevelopment Area, seek a waiver from complying with this provision at the time of development application.
- d. The Redeveloper shall enter into any and all such Developers Agreements and/or Redevelopment Agreements as required by the Edison Municipal Council or Township officials to facilitate development on this site.
- e. When residential development is proposed, a residential amenity space shall be provided which shall have a minimum indoor floor area of 1,000 sf.
- f. The Redeveloper is encouraged to consider creating an outdoor plaza, green space, landscaped space, hardscape area, etc. to provide for seasonal outdoor space for residents.
- g. The Redeveloper shall submit detailed, color architectural drawings to the Technical Review Committee as part of any development application, and shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Planning Board, that proposed buildings will be of high architectural quality.
- h. All buildings are encouraged to be LEED-qualified buildings, and/or employ energy-saving construction and utility techniques. Proposed energy saving techniques shall be provided as part of architectural plans and renderings.
- i. Residential developments shall provide a location and method to facilitate delivery of USPS mail, bulk parcels, and food deliveries to all residential buildings. A secure interior location should be provided where parcels can be delivered and stored until recipient pickup. Parcel delivery methods should not allow unauthorized persons to access secured residential areas of the building(s) or unit.

CONFORMANCE WITH MUNICIPAL OBJECTIVES

The Township's most recent Master Plan was adopted in August 2003. A subsequent re-examination report was adopted in 2011. The Master Plan divides Edison into five Planning Districts. The Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area is located in Planning District 1. The following overall Township goals and objectives listed in the Master Plan are relevant to the Redevelopment Area and Plan:

TOWNSHIP GOALS

- Consistent with recommendations in the State Development and Redevelopment Plan for Metropolitan Planning Areas, capitalize on opportunities for redevelopment.
- Encourage new development with the scale of established land uses while preserving the character and developed nature of existing neighborhoods and proximate land uses at densities which consider available vacant land.

LAND USE

- Provide for future growth and development of Edison's ratable base...
- Analyze existing land use patterns and underlying zoning and make recommendations where incongruous land uses directly abut one another.

HOUSING

- Encourage the development of creative senior-citizen housing options such as assisted living and active-adult market housing to accommodate an aging population. Update the zoning ordinance where appropriate to permit by-right a variety of senior citizen housing options.
- Discourage the construction of isolated housing developments separated from employment and shopping thereby increasing reliance on the automobile and contributing to sprawl.

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PLANS

STATE DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT PLAN (SDRP)

In 2001, the State Planning Commission adopted the State Development and Redevelopment Plan (SDRP). The SDRP is a document that, while not binding, guides state-level development and redevelopment policy as well as local and regional planning efforts. Eight statewide goals are articulated in the Plan, along with dozens of corresponding implantation policies. The goals are as follows:

1. Revitalize the State's cities and towns.
2. Conserve the State's natural resources and systems.
3. Promote beneficial economic growth, development, and renewal for all New Jersey residents.
4. Protect the environment, prevent and clean up pollution.
5. Provide adequate public facilities and services at a reasonable cost.
6. Provide adequate housing at a reasonable cost.
7. Preserve and enhance areas with historic, cultural, scenic, open space, and recreational value.
8. Ensure sound and integrated planning and implementation statewide.

This Plan meets goals 1, 3 and 6 of the SDRP:

- The intended purpose of this Plan is to revitalize certain properties in Edison from their present obsolete condition to an actively utilized, productive site.
- This Redevelopment Plan promotes beneficial economic growth for residents of Edison.
- This Redevelopment Plan promotes creation of age-restricted housing.

The SDRP also includes a State Plan Policy Map, which divides the state into regions known as Planning Areas. The Route 1 and Thomas Place Redevelopment Area is located in the Metropolitan Planning Area (PA-1), which is characterized by intensive existing development and is the target for redevelopment efforts. The goals for PA-1 include the following:

1. Provide for much of the state's future redevelopment.
2. Revitalize cities and towns.
3. Promote growth in compact forms.
4. Stabilize older suburbs.
5. Redesign areas of sprawl.
6. Protect the character of existing stable communities.

This Plan meets goals 1, 2, 3 and 4 for Planning Area 1:

- The Redevelopment project intends to prevent school-aged-children generating residential uses, or highway commercial activity on a lot with an obsolete layout.
- The additional revenue generated by activating the Redevelopment Area will add to Edison's economic base, and thereby, to its fiscal health.
- Edison is an older suburb. This Redevelopment Plan will add to the stability of existing residential neighborhoods by proving an age-restricted development, in a compact form, which will not generate school-aged children.
- The elimination of a highway-centered hotel in an existing residential neighborhood will protect the character of that neighborhood.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY PLAN

Middlesex County has recently created the framework for its Destination 2040 Strategic Plan; however, the details of the plan are still being developed and are unavailable from the Middlesex County Planning Department at this time.

ADJACENT MUNICIPALITIES

The Edison Master Plan recognizes Route 1 as a state highway, linking Edison to Woodbridge Township to the east and providing access to the Borough of Metuchen to the northwest of the Redevelopment Area. The Redevelopment Area is located near Edison's municipal border with the Borough of Metuchen. The uses envisioned by this plan are consistent with the mixed residential land uses in the neighboring area of Metuchen, which contain both single-family detached and apartment style residential uses. This redevelopment area is not proximate to any other municipalities in any meaningful way.

OTHER STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

PROPERTY TO BE ACQUIRED

No direct property acquisition through the use of eminent domain is authorized or anticipated as a part of this Plan.

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

The Redevelopment Area is entirely vacant of residential tenants. This Redevelopment Plan will not affect on-site residential properties, and therefore, no plan for relocation assistance is necessary.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

As described above, there are no residential properties on the Redevelopment Area, nor have there been in the redevelopment area for the last 18 months. Consequently, there are no affordable housing units identified for removal as part of the implementation of this Redevelopment Plan.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

This Redevelopment Plan requires that all parking design requirements, including requirements for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, shall be provided in accordance with Section 37-60 or the NJ law in effect at the time of site plan application.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

AMENDING THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

Upon compliance with the requirements of applicable law, the Township Council of Edison may amend, revise, or modify this Redevelopment Plan, as circumstances may make such changes appropriate.

DURATION OF THE REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

This Redevelopment Plan, as amended, shall be in full force and effect for a period of thirty (30) years from the date of approval of this Plan by the Municipal Council.

SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, word, provision, or application of this Redevelopment Plan shall be held to be illegal, invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of any other section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, word, provision, or application of this Plan which is operable without the offending provision.