BOROUGH OF RIVER EDGE
RESOLUTION #26-281

Regional Deer Management Request to the County of Bergen

WHEREAS, residents of the Borough of River Edge have expressed growing concern regarding the impact of increasing deer populations on public safety, property damage, vegetation, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council recognize that the increasing deer population is a regional issue that extends beyond the borders of any individual municipality and that a deer management program implemented solely within the Borough of River Edge would have limited effectiveness in addressing the broader overpopulation problem; and

WHEREAS, effective management of the regional deer population requires coordination among municipalities and appropriate county and regional authorities in order to address deer movement and population levels across municipal boundaries; and

WHEREAS, management methods such as deer relocation, culling, and sterilization may involve significant financial and administrative costs that can be difficult for a small municipality to undertake independently; and

WHEREAS, increasing deer populations may contribute to public health and safety concerns, including the accumulation of deer droppings in public areas and fields used by children, the spread of ticks, the potential spread of disease, and other environmental and sanitary concerns; and

WHEREAS, increasing deer populations have contributed to an increased risk of motor vehicle accidents involving deer, thereby presenting a concern for motorists, pedestrians, and the general public; and

WHEREAS, the increasing deer population has resulted in substantial damage to natural vegetation, landscaping, gardens, and homeowner plantings throughout the Borough of River Edge; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council believe that a coordinated regional approach, supported by population monitoring, data collection, and cooperation among municipalities and Bergen County, is necessary to effectively address the ongoing deer overpopulation issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, Bergen County, New Jersey, respectfully requests that Bergen County monitor deer populations and their impact on public safety, vegetation, natural resources, and property throughout Bergen County; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council respectfully request that Bergen County coordinate with municipalities throughout the County to evaluate the scope of the regional deer population and develop appropriate, effective, and financially responsible regional deer management strategies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Bergen County Executive and Bergen County Board of Commissioners; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Governor Mikie Sherill, the District 37 Legislators, NJ League of Municipalities, and municipalities within Bergen County.

October 22, 2026

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Montisano-Koen						
Kinsella						
Malellari						
Glass						
Dhariwal						
Feffer						
Mayor Papaleo						

I hereby certify that this resolution, consisting of 2 page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of River Edge, held on this 22nd day of October, 2026

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Anne Dodd, Borough Clerk