

**TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS
MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY**

RESOLUTION

R2022-059: RESOLUTION OF THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS SUPPORTING THE CONSERVATION OF THE DREW FOREST

WHEREAS, consistent with the goals of preserving and protecting New Jersey's unique cultural and historic sites in order to strengthen community assets; preserving natural systems and environmentally sensitive areas for the community and the wildlife it supports; protecting the Buried Valley Aquifer; and creating opportunities for additional resource-based recreation while fostering the growth and sustainability of a rare urban forest; and

WHEREAS, Drew University is a significant contributor to the economic, cultural, historical and educational well-being of our region; and

WHEREAS, its 53-acre, intact Forest is a significant element of the campus and educational life; and

WHEREAS, protecting New Jersey's forests' ability to store and sequester carbon is an important defense against the potential damages caused by climate change as described in the "New Jersey's Global Warming Response Act 80x50 Report"; and


WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills also recognizes the benefits of this unique public space to Morris County and the Drew University community for the following reasons:

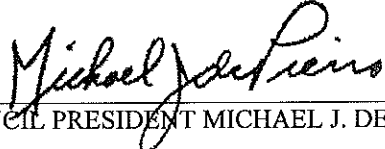
- The Forest provides biodiversity, groundwater recharge, clean air and carbon storage;
- The Forest is a living classroom for teaching and research for Drew students and the wider community;
- For the past 13 years, 22 acres of the 53 forested acres known as the Zuck Arboretum and the Hepburn Woods have been restored through the Drew Forest Restoration Project, removing invasives and creating a rare understory of native plants and native trees;
- In 2012, Drew University received the Governor's Environmental Excellence for Healthy Ecosystems for this work;
- Habitats for pollinators, birds and other wildlife have been restored;
- A portion of the Forest lies in the Passaic River Watershed that serves approximately two million people;
- The Forest recharges the Buried Valley Aquifer, which serves clean water to municipalities accounting for over 450,000 people in New Jersey and nearly 200,000 people in Morris County, and reduces flooding and soil erosion; and
- The Forest serves as a major cooling zone to offset the urban heat island effect.

NOW THEREFORE BE RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Township of Parsippany-Troy Hills supports the conservation of the entire 53 acres of the Drew Forest.

COUNCIL MEMBER	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Motion	Second
Mr. Carifi	X					
Mr. dePierro	X					
Mrs. Gragnani	X					
Mr. Musella	X					X
Mr. Neglia	X				X	

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE IS A TRUE AND LAWFUL COPY
OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF PARSIPPANY-TROY HILLS, COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE
OF NEW JERSEY AT ITS MEETING OF MARCH 15, 2022.


KHALED MADIN TOWNSHIP CLERK


COUNCIL PRESIDENT MICHAEL J. DEPIERRO