

## ALLENDALE

# Borough's housing plan approved

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Allendale's affordable housing plan received state approval Oct. 14.

The action by the Council on Affordable Housing [COAH] signals the fulfillment of the borough's state-mandated affordable housing obligation through 2018.

"We're very excited that we have gotten certification from COAH," Mayor Vince Barra said.

The approval, known as substantive certification, means that COAH has determined that a municipality's plan represents a "realistic" opportunity to address its affordable housing obligation.

Allendale's plan details how it proposes to meet all its affordable housing obligations, which include

its most recent 20-unit "third round" requirement. To meet its obligations, 10 bedrooms of housing for the developmentally disabled are being constructed on the Orchard Common site at the intersection of West Orchard Street and Franklin Turnpike, and should be ready to be occupied around June 1, Barra said.

Housing for the developmentally disabled and people with multiple sclerosis, along with units for rent and sale, also will be built on the Foreit site on West Crescent Avenue. In addition, a West Crescent Avenue house will be converted into three bedrooms of housing for the developmentally disabled. A rental unit also has been added at Allendale Senior Housing on Cebak Court.

The housing will be funded

through money from the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, federal HOME grants, the Federal Home Loan Bank, the borough's affordable housing fund and Bergen United Way.

"The bottom line to all of that is the acquisition and construction should all be paid ... without any cost to the Allendale taxpayer," Barra said.

The certification is valid through the end of 2018 and provides protection from builder's remedy lawsuits.

Allendale was one of nine municipalities to receive approval Oct. 14, increasing the statewide total to 44.

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