

TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Proclamation

THANKING LAWRENCE HOPEWELL TRAIL FOUNDERS AND CO-PRESIDENTS BECKY TAYLOR AND ELEANOR HORNE FOR MORE THAN TWO DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE HOPEWELL VALLEY AND COMMUNITIES ACROSS MERCER COUNTY

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne conceived of and led the development of the Lawrence Hopewell Trail; and

WHEREAS, starting with an idea, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne, without significant funding or ownership of property, brought into being a community asset that is cherished by users from near and far; and

WHEREAS, co-founders Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne endured initial skepticism and disbelief as they sought support for their vision of a multi-use trail loop connecting Hopewell Township and Lawrence Township; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne reached out to community, civic, government, and business leaders to advance their vision; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne built a coalition of support to convert their vision into action; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne established relationships with over two dozen participating organizations, ranging across the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne engaged land trusts and open space advocates in backing the Lawrence Hopewell Trail; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne organized the not-for-profit Lawrence Hopewell Trail Corporation, building a Board of Trustees representing the broad interests of our community; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne worked steadfastly to identify the potential for early successes in building Lawrence Hopewell Trail trail segments; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne led the development of popular local events such as the Full Moon Ride and the Lawrence Hopewell Trail Saturday Morning Walking Club; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne, through their work on the Lawrence Hopewell Trail, opened access to thousands of users and visitors every year; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne provided pivotal leadership in advancing widespread public understanding and acceptance of trails in our region; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne demonstrated endless patience and perseverance in communicating with innumerable groups and interested parties; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne advanced the state of the art in trail development, planning, and construction, creating a model now emulated and sought by many; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne have always conducted themselves with integrity and tact, never wavering from doing what they considered to be the right thing; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne earned the gratitude of Hopewell Township residents and the surrounding region, as well as the respect of every member of the Township Committee for more than 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne have exhibited a continuing commitment to exemplary volunteer service to Hopewell and Lawrence Townships and beyond through their self-less leadership; and

WHEREAS, the Lawrence Hopewell Trail is now enjoyed by thousands of residents of Hopewell and Lawrence Townships, the neighboring communities of Mercer County, and the region, and connects to hundreds of miles of the Circuit Trails network; and

WHEREAS, starting with nothing but an idea, Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne created a beloved community amenity that will be enjoyed for generations to come.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED on this 6th Day of February 2023, the Hopewell Township Committee expresses our deep appreciation and sincere thanks for the many contributions of Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne to the Hopewell Valley and surrounding areas and the resulting positive changes they have delivered to our community; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED that the Township Committee wishes Becky Taylor and Eleanor Horne the best of luck and offers our gratitude for their extraordinary service to our community.

*In Witness Whereof, We Hereunto Set My
Hand and Cause to be Affixed the
Seal of the Township of Hopewell
This 6th Day of February 2023*



*Michael Ruger
Mayor*