

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF WHARTON IN SUPPORT OF THE
LOCATION AND OPERATION OF A MEDICINAL AND ADULT-USE CANNABIS
RETAIL FACILITY BY ASCEND NEW JERSEY, LLC**

WHEREAS, both the medical and adult use of cannabis is authorized in the State of New Jersey (“State”) under the Jake Honig Compassionate Use Medical Cannabis Act, N.J.S.A. 24:6I-1, et seq. (“Jake Honig Law”), as well as for adult use sales pursuant to the recent passage of the New Jersey Cannabis Regulatory, Enforcement Assistance, and Marketplace Modernization Act (“CREAMMA”) (the Jake Honig Law and CREAMMA collectively referred to as the “New Jersey Cannabis Laws”).

WHEREAS, the Borough of Wharton (the “Borough” or “Wharton”) has adopted Ordinance No. O-11-23 (the “Ordinance”), which permits the operation of both a medical cannabis dispensary and/or an adult-use cannabis retailer specifically in the area East of West Union Turnpike (the “Cannabis Zone”).

WHEREAS, Ascend New Jersey, LLC (“Ascend”) has identified a property located at 325 NJ-15 North, Wharton, New Jersey 07885, which is located in the Cannabis Zone, wherein Ascend would look to operate an Expanded ATC, i.e., serving both registered patients as well as adult-use consumers.

WHEREAS, the Borough recognized that Ascend is a reputable operator and would be a worthwhile and credible operator to welcome into the Borough.

WHEREAS, the Borough continues to recognize the benefits of permitting a cannabis retail facility to be located within its borders, including job creation and tax revenues associated with hosting a medicinal and adult-use retail facility. Ascend also agrees to enter into a Host Community Agreement with the Borough.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Wharton, Morris County, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Mayor and Borough Council believe that the Borough will benefit from the location of an Expanded ATC within the Borough’s boundaries.
2. Ascend has indicated to the Borough its desire to locate its Expanded ATC facility at 325 NJ-15 North, Wharton, New Jersey 07885 (the “Property”), which is located in the Cannabis Zone, an area designated by the Ordinance for such medical and/or adult-use cannabis retail use.
3. The Borough recognizes not only the suitability of the operation of an Expanded ATC at the Property, but also as to the benefits that a company such as Ascend would bring to the community as a whole.

4. Based on the preceding, the Borough is satisfied not only that the Property Ascend seeks to utilize is compliant with the Borough's zoning rules, but also that Ascend will be a valuable addition to the licensed operators here in New Jersey.

5. The issuance of this Resolution does not exceed any municipal caps on licenses set by the Ordinance.

6. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Adopted: September 11, 2023

BOROUGH OF WHARTON

ATTEST:

**WILLIAM J. CHEGWIDDEN,
MAYOR**

**Cheryl Muzzillo,
Deputy Borough Clerk**