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Township Committee's Update to the Community - Skillman Village

Earlier this summer, Montgomery Township issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for redevelopment of the 256 acre Skillman Village property. The RFP was offered to three pre-qualified redevelopment teams and the deadline for proposals was Monday, September 15.

All three development teams expressed continuing interest in the site, but none of the three is in a position to submit a development proposal at this time. Not surprisingly, the redevelopers cited the economy, market conditions and other practical realities.

However, one developer offered to create a master plan of the site for the Township at no cost of taxpayers. Township Attorney and staff are reviewing the proposal. It is noteworthy that all three developers commented upon the value and attractiveness of the site and how both are now vastly enhanced by the Township's clean-up effort.

On a different note, I am delighted to inform the community that Montgomery has received a \$1.52 million grant from the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to help offset the investigation cost of the environmental clean-up work at the NPDC site. The grant comes from the Hazardous Discharge Site Remediation Fund. We are proceeding to apply for the second phase of the same grant to help reduce the cost of the clean up and remediation.

I want to thank our superb staff as well as our consultant, JM Sorge, for their invaluable help in applying for and securing this grant. This \$1.52 million is a terrific start. We will continue to vigorously pursue additional grants to recover costs associated with cleanup, infrastructure upgrades and open space preservation on the Skillman Village site.

Given today's deeply uncertain and volatile economic climate, now is a time to proceed with caution. Still, there is plenty of work to do and we will continue to move forward.

Sincerely,

Montgomery Township Committee