

# WEST WINDSOR & PLAINSBORO NEWS

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## Two steps back for affordable housing

I was pleased to learn that the West Windsor Township Planning Board has recently approved plans for 72 new affordable homes by Project Freedom. Too many New Jersey residents are struggling to make ends meet and affordable homes are too few and far between.

It's especially challenging for those living with special needs who simply wish to live with dignity and independence, in safe communities among their families, friends and neighbors. However, West Windsor takes two steps back with its ongoing obstruction tactics to prevent affordable home opportunities within its borders.

West Windsor continues to engage in a costly legal battle rather than fostering opportunities for New Jersey's struggling hardworking families. The approval of the Freedom Village project should be applauded, but West Windsor needs to recognize the growing need for affordable homes among New Jersey's diverse population.

If people can't afford to live in places like West Windsor, it's the economy that will suffer. West Windsor elected officials and future leaders must understand that by making sure we can afford

homes in the communities where we work and live, we can build a thriving New Jersey. Web: [hcdnnj.org/buildathrivingnj](http://hcdnnj.org/buildathrivingnj).

**Paige Carlson-Heim**  
West Windsor

*Carlson-Heim is an associate director on the board of the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey and has previously served as managing director of the nonprofit.*

## Time to consider a WW-P breakup?

I think it's time for Plainsboro and West Windsor to divorce.

The proposed Howard Hughes development does nothing for Plainsboro except hang over our heads a huge potential school tax increase. Plainsboro develops tax generating commercial health care-related projects while West Windsor seems to want to develop low income housing that puts a tremendous burden on a school system that is already at capacity.

When you are in the business of providing a free education to the population, there must be capacity limits. Let West Windsor do what it wants but don't drag Plainsboro into the  
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