

TOWNSHIP OF FREEHOLD,
IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH,
NEW JERSEY

NOTICE OF SALE OF
\$9,855,000
OPEN SPACE BONDS, SERIES 2026
(BOOK-ENTRY BONDS) (CALLABLE)

ELECTRONIC PROPOSALS (the "Proposals"), via BiDCOMP/PARITY Competitive Bidding System ("PARITY") only, will be received by the Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Freehold in the County of Monmouth, New Jersey (the "Township"), on October 6, 2026 until 10:30 a.m., New York City time, at which time they will be announced, for the purchase of all, but not less than all, of the Township's Open Space Bonds, Series 2026 (the "Bonds"). Bidders are required to submit their Proposal for the purchase of the Bonds in accordance with the terms of the Notice of Sale.

Principal Amortization

Principal of the Bonds will be paid annually, subject to prior optional redemption, on the fifteenth day of October in the following years and in the following aggregate amounts:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal Amount</u>
2027	\$525,000	2035	\$665,000
2028	540,000	2036	685,000
2029	555,000	2037	710,000
2030	570,000	2038	740,000
2031	585,000	2039	770,000
2032	605,000	2040	800,000
2033	625,000	2041	835,000
2034	645,000		

Interest Payment Dates

The Bonds will be dated the date of delivery (which is expected to be October 16, 2026) and will bear interest at the rate per annum specified by the Successful Bidder (as hereinafter defined) therefor in accordance herewith, payable on April 15, 2027 and semi-annually thereafter on the fifteenth day of October and April in each year until maturity or prior optional redemption.

Optional Redemption Provisions

The Bonds maturing on or prior to October 15, 2036 shall not be subject to redemption prior to their respective maturity dates. The Bonds maturing on or after October 15, 2037 shall be subject to redemption prior to their respective maturity dates, on or after October 15, 2036 at the option of the Township, either in whole or in part at any time in any order of maturity at one hundred percent (100%) of the principal amount of the Bonds being redeemed (the “Redemption Price”), plus in each case accrued interest thereon to the date fixed for redemption.

Notice of redemption shall be given by mailing by first class mail in a sealed envelope with postage prepaid to the registered owners of such Bonds at their respective addresses as they last appear on the registration books kept for that purpose by the Township, at least thirty (30) but not more than sixty (60) days before the date fixed for redemption. However, so long as DTC (or any successor thereto) acts as securities depository for the Bonds, notices of redemption shall be sent to such depository and shall not be sent to the beneficial owners of the Bonds, and will be done in accordance with DTC procedures. Any failure of such depository to advise any of its participants or any failure of any participant to notify any beneficial owner of any notice of redemption shall not affect the validity of the redemption proceedings. If the Township determines to redeem a portion of the Bonds of a maturity, such Bonds shall be selected by lot. If notice of redemption has been given as described herein, the Bonds, or the portion thereof called for redemption, shall be due and payable on the date fixed for redemption at the Redemption Price, together with accrued interest to the date fixed for redemption. Payment shall be made upon surrender of the Bonds redeemed.

Book-Entry-Only System

As long as DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co., is the registered owner of the Bonds, payments of the principal of and interest on the Bonds will be made directly to Cede & Co., as nominee of DTC, which will credit payments of principal of and interest on the Bonds to the DTC participants as listed in the records of DTC as of each next preceding April 1 and October 1, respectively (the “Record Dates” for payment of interest on the Bonds), which participants will in turn credit such payments to the beneficial owners of the Bonds.

All bidders of the Bonds must be participants of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York (“DTC”) or affiliated with its participants. The Bonds will be issued in fully registered form, and when issued will be registered in the name of and held by Cede & Co., as the registered owner thereof and nominee for DTC, an automated depository for securities and clearinghouse for securities transactions.

Individual purchases of beneficial ownership interests in the Bonds will be made in book-entry form (without certificates) in the denomination of \$5,000 each or any integral multiple thereof. It shall be the obligation of the Successful Bidder to furnish to DTC an underwriter’s questionnaire and the denomination of the Bonds not less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the delivery of the Bonds.

In the event that either DTC determines not to continue to act as securities depository for the Bonds or the Township determines that the beneficial owners of the Bonds be able to obtain

bond certificates, the Township will appoint a paying agent and will issue and deliver replacement Bonds in the form of fully registered certificates.

Electronic Bidding Procedures

Bids may be submitted electronically via PARITY in accordance with this Notice of Sale, until 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on October 6, 2026, but no bid will be received after the time for receiving bids specified above. To the extent any instructions or directions set forth in PARITY conflict with this Notice of Sale, the terms of this Notice of Sale shall control. For further information about PARITY, potential bidders may contact PARITY at (212) 849-5021. In the event that a bid for the Bonds is submitted via PARITY, the bidder further agrees that:

1. The Township may regard the electronic transmission of the bid through PARITY (including information about the purchase price of the Bonds, the interest rate or rates to be borne by the various maturities of the Bonds, the initial public offering price of each maturity and any other information included in such transmission) as though the same information were submitted directly to the Township and executed by a duly authorized signatory of the bidder. If a bid submitted electronically by PARITY is accepted by the Township, the terms of the Proposal for Bonds and this Notice of Sale and the information that is electronically transmitted through PARITY shall form a contract, and the Successful Bidder shall be bound by the terms of such contract.

2. PARITY is not an agent of the Township, and the Township shall have no liability whatsoever based on any bidder's use of PARITY, including but not limited to any failure by PARITY to correctly or timely transmit information provided by the Township or information provided by the bidder.

3. The Township may choose to discontinue use of electronic bidding via PARITY by issuing a notification to such effect via TM3 News Services, or by other available means, no later than 3:00 p.m. (New York City Time) on the last business date prior to the bid date set forth above.

4. Once the bids are communicated electronically via PARITY to the Township as described above, each bid will constitute a Proposal for Bonds and shall be deemed to be an irrevocable offer to purchase the Bonds on the terms provided in this Notice of Sale. For purposes of submitting all Proposal for Bonds, electronically via Parity, the time as maintained on PARITY shall constitute the official time.

5. Each bidder choosing to bid electronically shall be solely responsible to make necessary arrangements to access PARITY for purposes of submitting its bid in a timely manner and in compliance with the requirements of this Notice of Sale. Neither the Township nor Parity shall have any duty or obligation to undertake such registration to bid for any prospective bidder or to provide or assure access to any qualified prospective bidder, and neither the Township nor Parity shall be responsible for the proper operation of, or have any liability for any delays or interruptions of, or any damages caused by PARITY. The Township is using PARITY as a communication mechanism, and not as the Township's agent, to conduct the electronic bidding

for the Bonds. By using PARITY, each bidder agrees to hold the Township harmless for any harm or damages caused to such bidder in connection with its use of PARITY for bidding on the Bonds.

Bid Specifications

Each Proposal submitted must name the rate or rates of interest per annum to be borne by the Bonds bid for and the rate or rates named must be multiples of one-eighth or one-twentieth of one per centum. Not more than one rate may be named for Bonds of the same maturity. There is no limitation on the rates that may be named. The difference between the highest and lowest rates of interest named in the Proposal shall not exceed three percent (3%). Each Proposal submitted must be for all of the Bonds and the purchase price specified in the proposal must be not less than 100% of the aggregate par value of the Bonds or for more than 103% of the aggregate par value of the Bonds.

Award, Delivery And Payment

The Bonds will be awarded to the bidder on whose bid the total loan may be made at the lowest true interest cost. Such true interest cost shall be computed, as to each bid, by doubling the semiannual interest rate (compounded semiannually) necessary to discount the debt service payments from the payment dates to the date of the Bonds and the price bid, excluding accrued interest to the delivery date. No Proposal shall be considered that offers to pay an amount less than the principal amount of Bonds offered for sale or under which the total loan is made at an interest cost higher than the lowest true interest cost to the Township under any legally acceptable proposal. If two or more such bidders offer to pay the lowest true interest cost, then the Bonds will be sold to one of such bidders selected by lot from among all such bidders. The bidder to which the Bonds are awarded (in the manner specified above) is herein referred to as the "Successful Bidder."

It is expected that delivery of the Bonds to DTC and payment for the Bonds will take place on or about, October 16, 2026 at the offices of FBT Gibbons LLP, bond counsel to the Township ("Bond Counsel"), in Newark, New Jersey or at such other place as may be agreed upon with the Successful Bidder. The Bonds will be delivered to DTC in single denominations for each maturity of each type of bond. PAYMENT FOR THE BONDS AT THE TIME OF ORIGINAL ISSUANCE AND DELIVERY SHALL BE IN IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE FUNDS.

Change of Bid Date and Closing Date

The Township reserves the right to postpone, from time to time, the date established for the receipt of bids and will undertake to notify registered prospective bidders via notification published on Thomson Municipal Market Monitor ("TM3") (www.tm3.com). Prospective bidders may request notification by facsimile transmission of any such changes in the date or time for the receipt of bids by so advising, and furnishing their telecopier numbers to the Chief Financial Officer of the Township at (732) 294-2016 by 12:00 Noon, New York City time, on the day prior to the announced date for receipt of bids. In addition, the Township reserves the right to make changes to this Notice of Sale. Such changes will be announced on the TM3.

A postponement of the bid date will be announced via TM3 not later than 11:00 a.m., New York City time, on the last business day prior to any announced date for receipt of bids, and an alternative sale date and time will be announced via TM3 by Noon, New York City time, not less than forty-eight (48) hours prior to such alternative date for receipt of bids.

On any such alternative date and time for receipt of bids, the Township will accept electronic bids for the purchase of the Bonds, such bids to conform in all respects to the provisions of this Notice of Sale, except for the changes in the date and time for receipt of bids and any other changes announced via TM3 at the time the date and time for receipt of bids are announced.

Right To Reject Bids; Waive Irregularities

The right is reserved to reject all bids, and any bid not complying with the terms of this Notice of Sale will be rejected. The Township reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals and so far as permitted by law, to waive any irregularity or informality in any or all Proposals.

Good Faith Deposit

A good faith deposit (the "Deposit"), in the form of an electronic transfer of immediately available federal funds in accordance with the wiring instructions contained in the immediately succeeding paragraph, in the amount of \$197,100 is required for each bid for the Bonds to be considered.

Bidders shall contact Joe Calogero, Acacia Financial Group, Inc., at jcalogero@acaciafin.com or telephone (856) 234-2266, for wire instructions with respect to transmittal of such funds to the Township.

Such funds must be received in the account identified immediately above no later than 11:00 a.m. New York City time on the date for receipt of bids, and must be accompanied by detailed wiring instructions for the return thereof in the event that such bidder is not the Successful Bidder. Please note that the contact information provided immediately above should be used by bidders for the purposes of confirming receipt of electronic transfer of funds and the transmittal of instructions for the return of such electronic transfers of funds in the event such bidder is not the Successful Bidder. Electronic transfers of funds of unsuccessful bidders for the Bonds will be returned upon award of the Bonds. It is the intent of the Township that electronic transfers of funds will be returned via wire transfer to the unsuccessful bidders not later than 5:00 p.m. on the date for receipt of bids, provided that wiring instructions have been provided by such unsuccessful bidder at the time of transmission of the Deposit to the Township. The Township shall not bear any liability for any delay that may occur in the return of an electronic transfer of the Deposit to an unsuccessful bidder. Interest earned on the Deposit will be credited to the Township and will not be available to the Successful Bidder for the Bonds.

The Deposit of the Successful Bidder will be collected and the proceeds thereof retained by the Township to be applied in partial payment for the Bonds and no interest will be allowed or paid upon the amount thereof, but in the event the Successful Bidder shall fail to comply with the terms of its respective bid, the proceeds thereof will be retained as and for full liquidated

damages. Award of the Bonds to the Successful Bidder or rejection of all bids is expected to be made within five hours after opening of the bids, but such Successful Bidder may not withdraw its Proposal for Bonds until after 5:00 p.m. of the day of such bid-opening and then only if such award has not been made prior to the withdrawal.

Bond Insurance

If the Bonds qualify for issuance of any policy of municipal bond insurance, any purchase of such policy shall be at the sole option and expense of the Successful Bidder. If the Bonds are to be insured, the Successful Bidder shall pay the premium therefor prior to the delivery of the Bonds. Any failure of the Bonds to be so insured or of any such policy of insurance to be issued shall not in any way relieve the Successful Bidder of its contractual obligations arising from the acceptance of its Proposal for Bonds for the purchase of the Bonds.

CUSIP Numbers

It is anticipated that CUSIP identification numbers will be printed on the Bonds, but neither the failure to print such number on any Bond nor any error with respect thereto shall constitute cause for the failure or refusal of the Successful Bidder to accept delivery of and pay for the Bonds. The Township's municipal advisor shall be responsible for making the application for the assignment of CUSIP identification numbers. The CUSIP Global Services charges for the assignment of CUSIP numbers on the Bonds shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the Successful Bidder. **ONE SERIES OF CUSIP NUMBERS WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE BONDS.**

Establishment of Issue Price

(10% Test to Apply if Competitive Sale Requirements are Not Satisfied)

The Successful Bidder shall assist the Township in establishing the issue price of the Bonds and shall execute and deliver to the Township at Closing an "issue price" or similar certificate, setting forth the reasonably expected initial offering price to the Public or the sales price or prices of the Bonds, together with supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, substantially in the form prepared by and available from Bond Counsel, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgment of the Successful Bidder, the Township and Bond Counsel. All actions to be taken by the Township under this Notice of Sale to establish the issue price of the Bonds may be taken on behalf of the Township by the Township's municipal advisor identified herein, if any, and any notice or report to be provided to the Township may be provided to the Township's municipal advisor.

The Township intends that the provisions of Treasury Regulation Section 1.148-1(f)(3)(i) (defining "competitive sale" for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Bonds) will apply to the initial sale of the Bonds (the "Competitive Sale Requirements") because: (1) the Township shall disseminate this Notice of Sale to potential underwriters in a manner that is reasonably designed to reach potential underwriters; (2) all Bidders shall have an equal opportunity to bid; (3) the Township may receive bids from at least three underwriters of municipal bonds who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds; and (4) the Township anticipates awarding the sale of the Bonds to the Bidder

who submits a firm offer to purchase the Bonds at the highest price (or lowest interest cost), as set forth in this Notice of Sale.

Any bid submitted pursuant to this Notice of Sale shall be considered a firm offer for the purchase of the Bonds, as specified in the bid. By submitting a bid, bidders are deemed to have certified that they have an established industry reputation as a regular purchaser or underwriter of tax-exempt obligations such as the Bonds.

In the event that the Competitive Sale Requirements are not satisfied, the Township shall so advise the Successful Bidder. The Township shall treat the first price at which 10% of a Maturity of the Bonds (the “10% Test”) is sold to the Public as the issue price of that Maturity, applied on a Maturity-by-Maturity basis (and if different interest rates apply within a Maturity, to each separate CUSIP number within that Maturity). The Successful Bidder shall advise the Township if any maturity of the Bonds satisfies the 10% Test as of the date and time of the award of the Bonds. The Township will not require Bidders to comply with the “hold-the-offering-price rule” and therefore does not intend to use the initial offering price to the Public as of the sale date of any Maturity of the Bonds as the issue price of that Maturity. Bids will not be subject to cancellation in the event that the Competitive Sale Requirements are not satisfied. Bidders should prepare their bids on the assumption that all of the maturities of the Bonds will be subject to the 10% Test in order to establish the issue price of the Bonds.

If Competitive Sale Requirements are not satisfied, then until the 10% Test has been satisfied as to each Maturity of the Bonds, the Successful Bidder agrees to promptly report to the Township the prices at which the unsold Bonds of that Maturity have been sold to the Public. That reporting obligation shall continue, whether or not the Closing Date has occurred, until either (i) all Bonds of that Maturity have been sold or (ii) the 10% Test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that Maturity, provided that, the Successful Bidder’s reporting obligation after the Closing Date may be at reasonable periodic intervals or otherwise upon request of the Township or Bond Counsel, and evidenced by a Supplemental Issue Price Certificate.

By submitting a bid, each Bidder confirms that: (i) any agreement among underwriters, any selling group agreement and each third-party distribution agreement (to which the Bidder is a party) relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement, as applicable,

(A) to report the prices at which it sells to the Public the unsold Bonds of each maturity allocated to it, whether or not the Closing Date has occurred, until either all Bonds of that Maturity allocated to it have been sold or it is notified by the Successful Bidder that the 10% Test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that Maturity, provided that, the reporting obligation after the Closing Date may be at reasonable periodic intervals or otherwise upon request of the Successful Bidder,

(B) to promptly notify the Successful Bidder of any sales of Bonds that, to its knowledge, are made to a purchaser who is a related party to an underwriter participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and

(C) to acknowledge that, unless otherwise advised by the underwriter, dealer or broker-dealer, the Successful Bidder shall assume that each order submitted by the underwriter, dealer or broker-dealer is a sale to the Public.

(ii) any agreement among underwriters or selling group agreement, relating to the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each underwriter or dealer that is a party to a third-party distribution agreement to be employed in connection with the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public to require each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement to report the prices at which it sells to the public the unsold Bonds of each Maturity allocated to it, whether or not the Closing Date has occurred, until either all Bonds of that maturity allocated to it have been sold or it is notified by the Successful Bidder or such underwriter that the 10% Test has been satisfied as to the Bonds of that Maturity, provided that of that the reporting obligation after the Closing Date may be at reasonable periodic intervals or otherwise upon request of the Successful Bidder or such underwriter.

Sales of any Bonds to any person that is a related party to an Underwriter participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public shall not constitute sales to the Public for purposes of this Notice of Sale. Further, for purposes of this Notice of Sale: (a) *Maturity* means Bonds with the same credit and payment terms. Bonds with different Maturity dates, or Bonds with the same Maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate Maturities; (b) *Public* means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a related party to an Underwriter. The term “related party” for purposes of this certificate generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50 percent common ownership, directly or indirectly; (c) *Sale Date* means the first day on which the Bonds are awarded by the Township to the Successful Bidder; (d) *Underwriter* means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Township (or with the lead Underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this paragraph to participate in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Bonds to the Public).

Legal Opinions

The obligations hereunder to pay for and to accept delivery of the Bonds shall be conditioned on the availability and the delivery at the time of delivery of the Bonds of the approving opinion of the law firm of FBT Gibbons LLP, Newark, New Jersey, bond counsel to the Township, which will be furnished without cost to the Successful Bidder, substantially in the form set forth in the Official Statement distributed in preliminary form in connection with the sale of the Bonds. Such opinion shall state to the effect that the Bonds are valid and legally binding obligations of the Township, and that all the taxable property therein will be subject to the levy of ad valorem taxes, without limitation as to rate or amount, to pay the principal of the Bonds and the interest thereon; and will also state that under existing law, interest on the Bonds is excluded from gross income for purposes of Federal income taxation, however, interest on the Bonds is included in the “adjusted financial statement income” of certain corporations that are subject to the alternative minimum tax under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended

(the “Code”). The obligations hereunder to pay for and to accept delivery of the Bonds shall be further conditioned on the availability and delivery to the Successful Bidder, at the time of delivery of the Bonds, of (i) certificates from the Township Chief Financial Officer in form satisfactory to Bond Counsel evidencing the proper execution and delivery of the Bonds, the receipt of payment therefor and the fact the Bonds will not be arbitrage obligations within the meaning of the Code; (ii) a certificate from the Township Attorney, in form and tenor satisfactory to Bond Counsel and dated as of the date of such delivery, to the effect that there is no litigation pending or (to the knowledge of the signer or signers thereof) threatened affecting the validity of the Bonds; and (iii) a certificate from the Township Chief Financial Officer, in form and tenor satisfactory to Bond Counsel and dated as of the date of such delivery, to the effect that to the best of his knowledge of such and belief, and after reasonable investigation: (1) neither the Official Statement relating to the Bonds nor any amendment, or supplement thereto contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading; (2) since the date of the Official Statement (or the date of the most recent amendment or supplement thereto) no event has occurred which would make the statements therein untrue or, in the light of the circumstances in which they were made, misleading, and (3) there has not been any material adverse change in the operation or financial affairs of the Township since the date of such Official Statement.

Concerning The Preliminary Official Statement

The Township has issued an Official Statement with respect to the sale of the Bonds in preliminary form (the “Preliminary Official Statement”) which the Township has deemed final as of its date for purposes of paragraph (b)(1) of Rule 15c2-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Rule 15c2-12”), except for certain omissions permitted thereunder and except for changes permitted by other applicable law.

The Preliminary Official Statement may be accessed via the Internet at www.i-dealprospectus.com. A printed version is also available upon request made to the Chief Financial Officer of the Township at the Township Hall, One Municipal Plaza, Freehold, New Jersey 07728 (telephone (732) 294-2016) or to the Township’s municipal advisor, Acacia Financial Group, Inc., 6000 Midlantic Drive, Suite 410 North, Mt. Laurel, New Jersey 08054 (telephone (856) 234-2266).

Official Statement

The Township agrees to provide the Successful Bidder with up to fifty (50) copies of the final Official Statement adopted by the Township in relation to the sale by the Township of the Bonds within the period of time allowed under Rule 15c2-12, at the sole cost and expense of the Township, with any additional copies which the Successful Bidder shall reasonably request to be provided at the sole cost and expense of the Successful Bidder.

Continuing Disclosure

In order to assist the Successful Bidder in complying with Rule 15c2-12, the Township agrees to deliver on the Closing Date a Continuing Disclosure Certificate to be dated as of the

Closing Date pursuant to which the Township shall agree to provide at the times and to the information repositories and other persons described in Rule 15c2-12 the financial or operating data required to be disclosed on a continuing basis pursuant to Rule 15c2-12.

Jeffrey Elsasser
Chief Financial Officer

Dated: September 25, 2026