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Plaintiff's Interrogatories for the Borough of Helmetta
✓/ answers

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SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY
CHANCERY DIVISION - MIDDLESEX COUNTY
DOCKET No. C-4122-73

URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER
NEW BRUNSWICK, et al.

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF
THE BOROUGH OF CARTERET,
et al.

Defendants

Civil Action

INTERROGATORIES

To:

RICHARD F. PLECHNER, Esq.
351 Main Street
Metuchen, New Jersey 08840

DEMAND is hereby made of the defendant MAYOR AND
COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF HELMETTA for Certified
Answers to the following interrogatories within the time
prescribed by the Rules of this Court.

1. Please provide the most current statistics
available on the population of the municipality, by
income level and race (categorized as white, black,

spanish-speaking, other), citing source.

1970 Census shows 955 residents.
Refer to Census figures for other information.

2. Provide for each public school within the municipality, the number of pupils enrolled, with sub-totals for whites, blacks, spanish-speaking and other, giving school name, location, grades served and area.

Helmetta Public School, Main Street, Helmetta, NJ, 98 pupils enrolled from Kindergarten to the Fifth Grade. The resident racial and ethnic enrollment is all white, one Spanish surname, no American Indians and no Orientals.

3. Provide the number of dwellings presently within the municipality in each of the following value categories, as determined from the property tax rolls.

(a) Single family homes under \$15,000

2

(b) \$15,000 to \$25,000

115

(c) \$25,000 to \$35,000

119

(d) Over \$35,000

53

4. Provide the number of multi-family units in each of the following rental categories and ranges.

None above 3 units

Rental Range

Type	Under \$100	\$100 - \$149	\$150 - \$199	\$200 - \$249	\$250 & Over
Efficiency					
One-Bedroom					
Two-Bedroom					
Three or more Bedrooms					

5. Provide the total number of mobile homes in municipality that exist as conforming uses under current zoning ordinance.

None

6. Provide the number of housing units within the municipality that are below the standards required for new construction or rehabilitation in local building codes and housing standards ordinance. Indicate how many are currently occupied and how many vacant.

1970 - 48 units sub-standard of which 5 were vacant according to County data. Not necessarily violative of Municipal Ordinances.

7. Provide for each department in the municipality the number of municipal employees by job category, race, and annual salary or hourly wage.

Police Department - Chief \$14,700
 Patrolman \$10,100

See attached salary ordinance

8. Provide the number of county and state employees working or employed in the municipality by job category, race, and annual salary or hourly wage.
Police - Patrolman \$8800 approximately

9. For each zoning use category (and subcategory, if necessary, in the municipality) state the total number of acres contained therein and state how many acres are vacant. (For example, R-1 residential; 130 acres; 23 vacant).

Zoning Map is available through Borough Clerk

10. List the proposals or requests for amendment to the zoning ordinance to authorize or facilitate residential construction of the types listed below, from January 1, 1970 to the present, setting forth the date of the proposal or request, name of requesting party, and ultimate disposition. If units were to be subsidized under state or federal programs, state what program was involved.

(a) Single-family detached or attached home construction (involving 10 or more contiguous lots).

None

(b) Multi-family structures.

Proposal made by Helme-Whitehall, but never formalized. 1972-1973

(c) Planned unit or other cluster developments.

Same as B above

(d) Mobile home sites.

none

11. List for the following four categories, the applications for, use variances, special permits or exceptions that have been filed from January 1, 1970 to the present, setting forth the date of initial application, name of the requesting party, and ultimate disposition of application. If units were to be subsidized under state or federal programs, state what program was involved.

(a) Detached or attached single-family home construction (involving 10 or more contiguous lots).

none

(b) Multi-family structures.

none

(c) Planned unit or other cluster developments.

none

(d) Mobile home sites.

none

12. List the name, address, race and duties of each municipal official, employee, and consultant involved in the municipal zoning and planning process: State the

source of their authority.	Planning Board:	Race:
Walter Maslanka, 49 W. Railroad Avenue, Helmetta, NJ		Caucasian
Larry Boyles, 42 Main Street, Helmetta, NJ		"
Roger Jolley, 19 Borghaus Road, Helmetta, NJ		"
John Bielat, 48 Main Street, Helmetta, NJ		"

12. (Continued)

	Race
Kathleen Thorpe, 12 Borghaus Road, Helmetta, NJ	Caucasian
-John Verb, 7 Lake Avenue, Helmetta, NJ	"
Ray Swiderski, 741 Highway 18, East Brunswick, NJ	"
Planning Consultant - H. Thomas Carr, Market St., Perth Amboy, NJ	"

13. State whether there are any state or federal subsidized housing units now within or planned for the municipality. If so, list the location, number, size and type of units, project racial occupancy percentages, source of the subsidy and date of initial occupancy.

None

(a) State whether the municipality ever affirmatively encouraged or assisted in the provision of subsidized housing.

No

(b) State whether any official body of the municipality has ever discussed providing subsidized housing. If so, list the name of the deliberating body, the date and time of the meeting and provide a copy of the minutes or any report resulting from such meetings.

None

(b) (Continued)

14. State whether there has been any correspondence, contact, or meetings since January 1, 1970 between any municipal officials, employees, or consultants and any county or regional planning body regarding your municipality's housing needs. If so, please attach copies of such correspondence and provide the dates and times of such meetings or contacts indicating whether a written record of such meetings or contacts was ever made.

A resolution was passed by the Borough Council of the Borough of Helmetta some time ago and forwarded to the County Planning Board suggesting a meeting of all municipalities within the County to discuss regional housing needs. A copy of this might be obtained from the Borough records. Any other Council action would also be set forth in the Borough Council Minutes. Conversations were held in 1972-73 with the Middlesex County Planning Board and Board of Chosen Freeholders by representatives of the Borough of Helmetta. Content of these conferences would be set forth in the Minutes of those bodies for those years.

15. State whether the municipality has a rent control ordinance. If so, specify when such an ordinance was first considered and the date of adoption. Attach a copy of the ordinance and the minutes of council meetings at which such an ordinance was considered, and any documented statistics on housing conditions presented at such meetings.

No

15. (Continued)

16. State whether at any time from January 1, 1970 to the present there has been in effect a sewer, building permit, or other moratorium relating to housing. If so, state the effective date, who imposed it, and the terms and conditions thereof.

No

17. State whether as a condition of employment any municipal employee is required to live within the boundaries of the municipality or the county. If so, indicate how long such requirement has been in effect, its scope and who imposed it.

Police - within a radius of 5 miles of Borough

18. For each commercial, industrial, or other business establishment within the municipality having 15 or more employees, list its name, address, number of employees, and the year it first opened for business.

Helme-Whitehall, Main Street, Helmetta, NJ
Approximately 150 Circa 1875

Verb Flooring, Lake Avenue, Helmetta, NJ
Approximately 20 (1/3 to 1/2 employed within Borough)
1947

19. State whether the municipality has a fair housing or anti-blockbusting ordinance. If so, attach a copy.

No

20. State whether your municipality has ever taken steps to encourage industry to locate in the municipality. If so, please indicate what steps have been taken.

Yes. Zoned land for industry. Spoken to realtors in an attempt to attract industry.

21. Attach a copy of the current zoning ordinance and any and all amendments in force; and a copy of any proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance that are currently pending before the governing body.

22. Identify the location of the official zoning maps, the coverage, and date of preparation. State whether zoning maps incorporating the most recent amendments are available. If so, state where they can be obtained and the price thereof.

Borough Hall - 1960. They incorporate latest amendments

23. State whether your municipality has proposed and adopted a master plan. If so, please identify a copy indicating the coverage, date of preparation, and number of pages. Also identify by location and content all amendments and background reports prepared in conjunction with such master plan amendment.

Yes, available through Borough Clerk. Jan. 1975 19 Pages plus exhibits

No amendments

24. State whether the municipality has had prepared or is preparing studies, planning papers, research reports or other similar documents in the areas listed below. Identify each item by author or title, subject, date, number of pages, location of copies and indicate whether a summary is available:

(a) The need for housing within the municipality;

See Master Plan

(b) The condition and amount of existing housing stock;

See Master Plan

(c) The inception of programs relating to code enforcement;

No

(d) The requirement for residential densities, floor space, bedroom ratios, and mobile homes within the municipality;

See Master Plan

(e) The need for providing low and moderate income subsidized or unsubsidized housing within the municipality;

See Federal Revenue Sharing application. However, the County Planning Board is preparing such studies.

(f) The utilization of land for commercial and residential or industrial purposes; and

See Master Plan

(g) The wage and salary scales of employees within the private sector of the municipality.

No

25. State whether your municipality has ever been studied by, advised by, or received assistance from agencies of federal, state or county government, in preparing studies or other information concerning the areas listed below. Identify each item by author or title, subject, date, number of pages, location of copies, and indicate whether a summary is available.

(a) Need for housing within the municipality and surrounding areas;

Middlesex County Planning Board has made various studies of housing within Helmetta and surrounding areas.

(b) Attitudes toward housing within the municipality and surrounding area;

No

(c) Housing costs within the municipality and surrounding area;

No

(d) The amount and percentage of vacant acreage zoned for industrial use.

See A

26. State whether you have ever received any federal or state assistance for any purpose since 1960, setting forth the date and size of the grant, the use to which such funds were put, the location of use, and whether any funds remain to be expended.

Federal Revenue Sharing grants had been received by the Borough in varying amounts since 1972. All have been used for public safety. Amounts prior to this program if received could be ascertained through study of past budgets and minutes of Borough Council in the custody of the Borough Clerk. All funds received have been expended except for funds currently being received and applied toward public safety. Funds under this project amount to less than \$20,000.