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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dunellen Earns Prestigious Awards and Acknowledgements for Smart Growth, Downtown Excellence, and Innovation

Dunellen, NJ – January 9, 2025 - The Borough of Dunellen has recently received a series of recognitions for its commitment to sustainable growth, community development, and infrastructure improvement. These awards reflect Dunellen’s commitment to fostering responsible, community-centered advancements while providing new opportunities for housing, diverse businesses, and public improvements that will benefit our Borough.

First, in October 2024, Dunellen was featured in Business View Magazine. This leading North American publication reports on the latest advances in municipal public works, green initiatives, and college sustainability programs. The feature highlights Dunellen’s small-town charm and proactive approach to growth while preserving our rich history and community values.

On October 22, The Nell at Dunellen Station received the prestigious 2024 Smart Growth Award from New Jersey Future. Mayor Jason F. Cilento and Business Administrator Alex Miller joined representatives from Prism Capital Partners and Spiezle Architectural Group at the New Brunswick Performing Arts Center to accept the award on behalf of the Borough. This honor recognizes the transformative vision of the Nell at Dunellen Station, a development that has revitalized a former industrial site into a thriving mixed-use community.

In November 2024, Downtown Dunellen was awarded the “Great Downtown” designation by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association (NJ APA). This annual award celebrates outstanding places that demonstrate the transformative power of great planning to create vibrant, healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities. The official awards ceremony was held on December 12 at the South Orange Performing Arts Center. Dunellen’s downtown has become a model of community spirit and innovation, featuring diverse businesses, new housing opportunities, and a welcoming atmosphere for residents and visitors alike.

“Dunellen’s recent recognitions highlight how far we’ve come with balancing growth and our community’s identity. Our efforts aren’t just about new buildings, but about ensuring that every step we take benefits our residents and future generations to come. It is encouraging to see our years of planning, hard work, and community input being recognized by so many organizations and

publications,” said 2024 Dunellen Borough Council President Teresa Albertson.

Finally, Dunellen will be starting 2025 with a feature in the January edition of Real Estate New Jersey’s monthly issue, which will be available in both digital and print formats. Mayor Cilento sat down with the publication to discuss new construction projects in the Borough as well as our larger efforts to revitalize our downtown. The January issue of Real Estate New Jersey is expected to be published online a week or so into the month with physical copies to be released the following week.

Mayor Jason F. Cilento expressed his gratitude for these recognitions and for the efforts that made them possible, “These awards are a testament to the incredible teamwork and dedication of everyone involved in shaping the future of Dunellen. We are incredibly fortunate to work with such knowledgeable and dedicated individuals from our municipal team and project partners to our local businesses, residents, and volunteers. None of this would be possible without you, and I look forward to our continued collaboration here in our Miracle Mile.”

The Borough of Dunellen extends its thanks to DMR Architects, NW Financial Group, LLC, McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, CME Associates, Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, King, Moench & Collins LLP, Gabe Bailer, Mayor Robert J. Seader, former and current members of the Dunellen Borough Council, the Dunellen Planning Board, Business Administrator Alex Miller, Director of Community Development Derryck C. White, the Dunellen Downtown Management Organization, the Dunellen Arts & Culture Commission, the Dunellen Parking Authority, our Borough employees, volunteers, residents, and business owners, and all who have had a hand in the incredible progress our Miracle Mile has made.

“The Dunellen Team has done an amazing job, recreating the downtown and overall Borough appeal, all without sacrificing the rich history and traditions that make the Borough unique. I am excited as we look to the future and continue to collectively work towards the mayor and council’s vision of a sustainable hometown feel with destination locations woven into the fabric of the Borough,” said Director of Community Development Derryck White.

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