

The Star-Ledger

OPINION

Highlands Council: Derailing its work

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Your May 25 article, "New appointees in N.J. Highlands Council plan to balance property rights" quotes the recently appointed Highlands Council member and former Hampton Borough mayor Robert Walton as saying "the municipality is now being sued by a developer who sought unsuccessfully to build affordable housing. He said he intends to let municipalities know they may face the risk of litigation if they conform to the Act."

The suite Walton refers to has been ongoing since the mid-1980s. Any attempt to associate it with Hampton's recent decision to conform to the Highlands Regional Master Plan is grossly misleading.

Even before he has taken his seat on the Highlands Council, Walton is already distorting facts in order to derail the work of the Highlands Council and its mandate to balance development and the preservation of our essential water resources.

Far more troubling than the bad advice Walton offers to other municipalities is the risk to our supply of clean water that all of us now face with Walton's appointment to the Highlands Council.

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