

nj municipalities

Official Publication of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities

October 2014

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99th New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference
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Conference Preview

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New Jersey Municipalities Magazine

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EDITOR
William G. Dressel, Jr.

MANAGING EDITOR
Kyra Z. Duran

ADVERTISING MANAGER
Taran B. Samhammer

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
Lori Buckelew
Michael F. Cerra
Jon R. Moran
Edward Purcell, Esq.
Taran B. Samhammer

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Dawn Becan
White Eagle Printing Company

SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER
Thomas Fratticcioli

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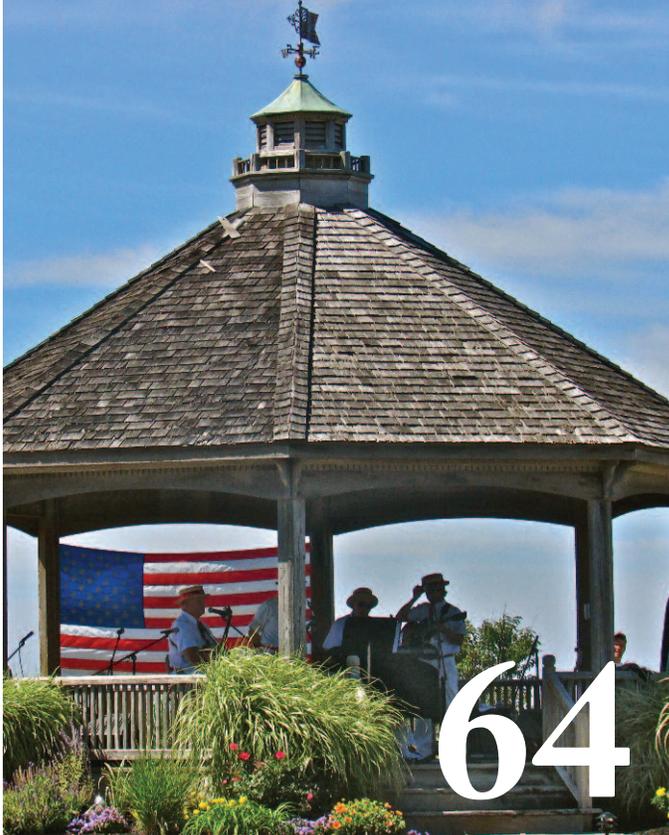
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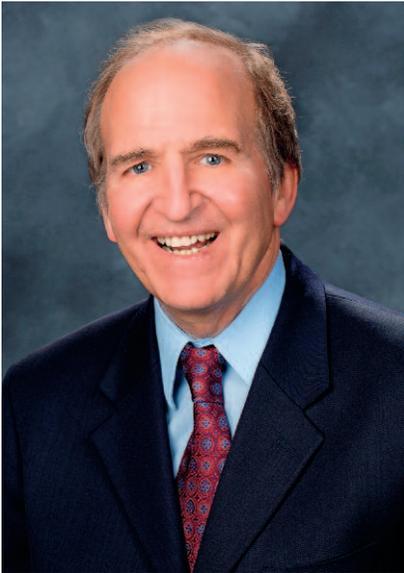


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The Big Ten

When folks here in New Jersey (where Rutgers is our State University) hear the word “Conference,” these days, they’re likely to think of the Big Ten. With that thought in mind, I thought I’d use this space this month to post my “Big 10” reasons for attending the League’s annual Conference next month in Atlantic City.

1. Stop by the Consulting Period, which is your chance to sit across the table from professionals in any one of roughly 100 fields of expertise.
2. Peruse the Exhibit Hall, which will help you to know your options when it comes to products or services. You will not find a better place, nor have a better opportunity, to compare price and quality.
3. Earn CEUs. Certified and licensed municipal professionals need to improve, refresh and expand their knowledge and skills. Our three-day Conference is a great place to meet—and exceed—your continuing education requirements.
4. Sit down and break bread with colleagues from all around the state at the Mayors’ Box Lunch. It’s also a great opportunity to honor long-serving Mayors and to get updates from key state Cabinet Officers.

5. Attend some of the over 100 educational sessions and Affiliate sessions on the most pressing issues in local government.
6. Weigh in on state policies. Many sessions feature current and former policy-makers, who will share their perspectives and predictions on state policies.
7. Observe the deliberations of the Resolutions Committee, which guides the League’s advocacy efforts at the state and federal levels.
8. Reserve your spot at the League Luncheon which will be keynoted by Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno.
9. Make your voice heard at the Annual Business meeting, where League Officers and Executive Board Members will be elected and reports are discussed and finalized.
10. It’s a real value for an invaluable experience. You can still attend the nation’s largest annual gathering of local officials at the nation’s lowest registration fee: Members can pre-register for \$55.00 rate, or pay \$65.00 on site.

Either way, I’m looking forward to seeing you there. (And Go Knights!) 🍷

Bill Dressel

“ See my ‘Big 10’ reasons for attending the League’s annual Conference. ”



Winning essayist Sohum Shaw poses with East Windsor Mayor and NJLM Immediate Past President Janice S. Mironov.

Louis Bay II Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition League Announces Winning Essayists

The three winners of the 20th Annual Louis Bay II Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition were Sohum Shah of East Windsor Township; Benjamin Metzger of Marlboro Township; and Jennifer Consiglio of Robbinsville Township.

The winners, who are either high school juniors or seniors from New Jersey, each received a \$1,000 scholarship check from their mayor, courtesy of the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

The theme for this essay competition was “What My Municipal Government Does Best.” To read the essays, visit NJSLOM.org.

The essays go through three rounds of judging at the local, state and winner levels. The final judges were League Past President and Mayor of Buena Vista Chuck Chiarello and League Executive Board Member and Deputy Mayor of Hampton Township Daniel Coranoto.

The competition is named in honor of Hawthorne Mayor Emeritus Louis Bay II who actively participated in local government and the League of Municipalities for more than 60 years. The purpose of the competition is to advance the virtues of elected municipal office while raising consciousness and encouraging our future municipal leaders.

The list of winners, finalists and semi-finalists for 2014 appears below.



Benjamin Metzger of Marlboro Township, one of three winners of the Louis Bay II Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition, poses with Mayor Jonathan L. Hornik.



Jennifer Consiglio, who received a \$1000 scholarship for her winning essay, poses with her parents and Robbinsville Mayor David Fried.

Winners

Sohum Shah, East Windsor Township
 Benjamin Metzger, Marlboro Township
 Jennifer Consiglio, Robbinsville Township

Finalists

Alexis Kane, Bordentown Township
 Caroline Newman, Brick Township
 Thomas Lee Philip, Cranford Township
 Michael Rozanski, Jr., Glassboro Borough
 Megan Keenan, Hasbrouck Heights Borough
 Michael Meyer, Hawthorne Borough
 Julianna Nienart, Hillsborough Township
 Victoria Rose Pizzulo, Lafayette Township
 Connor Lynch, Manchester Township
 Cara Haggerty, Middletown Township
 Hanna Balatero, Newton Town
 Sam Franchi, Pitman Borough
 Francis J. Bogan, Sea Girt Borough
 Robert Griffith, Upper Pittsgrove Township
 Dylan Flynn, Watchung Borough

Semi-finalists

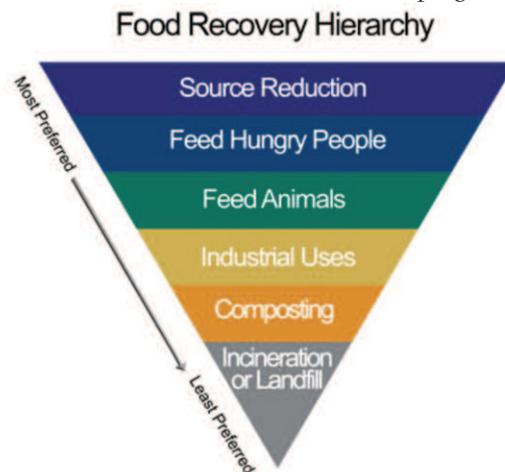
Brett Conrads, Andover Borough
 Alyson Lukacher, Collingswood Borough
 Dylan Mullin, East Brunswick Township
 Carly Friedman, Egg Harbor Township
 Eric Demeraski, Fair Lawn Borough
 Bryce Berman, Franklin Lakes Borough
 Alyssa Cronin, Green Township
 Christopher F. Scales, Hamilton Township (Mercer)
 Thomas Lamorte, Haworth Borough
 Lindsey Conlan, Holmdel Township
 Hannah Lucas, Hope Township
 William Yago, Kinnelon Borough
 Victoria Finnegan, Long Hill Township
 Taylor Mahon, Lower Township
 Kristi Petersen, Manalapan Township
 Indira Dior Cole, Maplewood Township
 Alexis Pignataro, Mount Olive Township
 Jessica Pierson, Mullica Township
 Amanda Cabrera, North Bergen Township
 Brian Rodger, Old Bridge Township
 Christian Ali, Park Ridge Borough
 Deblina Mukherjee, Plainsboro Township
 Matthew Knigge, Plumsted Township
 Joseph Waldrop, South Plainfield Borough
 Alyn Fuchs, Stillwater Township
 Kyle Jacobson, West Windsor Township 🍷

New EPA Program

Managing Food Waste

The volume and tonnage of food waste produced each year is staggering, creating unnecessary logistical and financial burdens for our communities. The Association of New Jersey Recyclers has estimated (2014 White Paper) food waste production in New Jersey to be 1.44 million tons per year.

In response, the EPA has created the Food Recovery Challenge (FRC). The FRC is a free, voluntary partnership program that guides participants, including schools, businesses and nonprofit organizations, to rethink food waste. Municipalities and states, as well as others, are encouraged to become ‘Endorsers’ of the program, meaning they do not undertake food waste reduction activities themselves, but rather educate those around them about the program.



The EPA’s FRC uses a food waste reduction hierarchy to guide the program. The first priority is to reduce waste at the source. This might mean more strategic, informed purchasing, or better storage. It always involves a waste audit, which can be performed in-house or by a hired consultant. Next on the hierarchy is donation of food to the needy. Third, donation to feed animals, when possible. Next, there are a variety of industrial applications that can put wasted food to good use, and finally—only just above landfilling—is composting. Composting is a valuable and essential strategy for dealing with food waste. It is a familiar strategy, but should not be given priority over strategies higher on the hierarchy. The FRC strives to make sure partners consider the highest strategies first.

The FRC offers technical support and guidance for partners to assist the process every step of the way. The only obligation of the program is annual reporting—each year participants go into the program database to report their annual progress and set goals for the following year. Endorsers also have some very minimal annual reporting requirements.

As municipal leaders, please consider becoming Endorsers of the Food Recovery Challenge. The EPA has tools that will help you transform your municipality into a lean, mean, food-conserving machine. Your municipality will thank you for your progressive thinking. For more information about joining the Food Recovery Challenge, please see epa.gov/foodrecoverychallenge, or contact Rachel Chaput at chaput.rachel@epa.gov, or call her at (212) 637-4116. 🍷

**Vinny Buttiglieri
and Drew Pavlica**

NJ Clerks to Lead International Organization

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) recently recognized two New Jerseyans for professional leadership excellence. At the May 22, 2014 IIMC Annual Business Meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Ocean Township Municipal Clerk Vincent ‘Vinny’ Buttiglieri was sworn-in as Vice President of IIMC, and Garfield City Clerk Andrew J. ‘Drew’ Pavlica was sworn-in as a Region Director of IIMC.

Founded in 1947, IIMC is the leading professional association serving the needs of municipal clerks, secretaries, recorders and other allied associations from cities and towns worldwide.

Vinny Buttiglieri is a Past President (2010) of the Municipal Clerks’ Association of New Jersey. He has also participated on many panels for county and state associations, IIMC and New Jersey State League of Municipalities. Prior to assuming his current leadership position for IIMC, Vinny served as a Region II Director.

Drew Pavlica is a Past President (2012) of the Municipal Clerks’ Association of New Jersey. He chaired the Education Committee which oversaw the New Jersey IIMC Institute at Rutgers University. 📌



IIMC Vice President Vinny Buttiglieri of Ocean Township, New Jersey addresses the Delegates of the 68th Annual IIMC Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin after being sworn into office during the Annual IIMC Business Meeting on Thursday, May 22, 2014.



IIMC Region II Director Drew Pavlica of Garfield, New Jersey and MCANJ President John Mitch of Woodbridge, New Jersey share the dais during the Annual Banquet of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks during the 68th Annual IIMC Conference in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Thursday, May 22, 2014.

Greenway Trails

Camden Taps Crowdfunding

Camden was recently able to raise the money for its GreenWay project through civic crowdfunding. The Camden GreenWay is part of 750 miles of bicycle and pedestrian trails included in “The Circuit,” a regional trail network for bicyclists and pedestrians.

The city appealed to residents, neighborhoods and businesses to donate to the project. The money will be used to finish a series of trails on the proposed route in Camden County. The Camden GreenWay provides a convenient and safe green space, reduces traffic congestion and promotes public health. Donors contributing \$15 or more received an “I bike Camden” shirt.

@ Information on The Circuit can be found at connectthecircuit.org, and information on the Camden GreenWay at camdenwaterfront.com/attractions/camden-greenway-regional-trail-network

Longport

Lifesaving Info in a Lunch Bag



Fire Department and Beach Patrol members in Longport went door to door this summer distributing insulated lunch bags and promoting safety. They gave out insulated bags, which can be used to store drinks on hot summer days, filled with pamphlets. The information included an emergency supply list and a list of emergency evacuation routes. Information also included tips on protecting a home from flooding and how to clean up a flood damaged home. 📌

Leadership Hunterdon Graduates Eight

The Board of Trustees of Leadership Hunterdon and the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce are proud to announce that eight people completed the nine month program. They are encouraged to take on leadership roles throughout the county, serving on boards of directors for nonprofit organizations or committees.

Once a month from September through June, participants attended sessions targeted to specific aspects of the county such as business, education, tourism, environment, agriculture, real-estate, health care, and government. Participants met with county leaders to gain an in-depth knowledge of these key community areas, as well as to develop their own leadership skills.

“We have watched the class grow into leaders over the past year,” said Freeholder Suzanne Lagay, facilitator of this year’s program. “Companies that sponsor Leadership Hunterdon and have employees participate stand to benefit from the program by investing in the future of Hunterdon County.”

“Leadership Hunterdon’s vision is to have long lasting impact on our County; Hunterdon is such a great place and it did not become this way by accident,” added Chris Phelan, President of The Hunterdon County

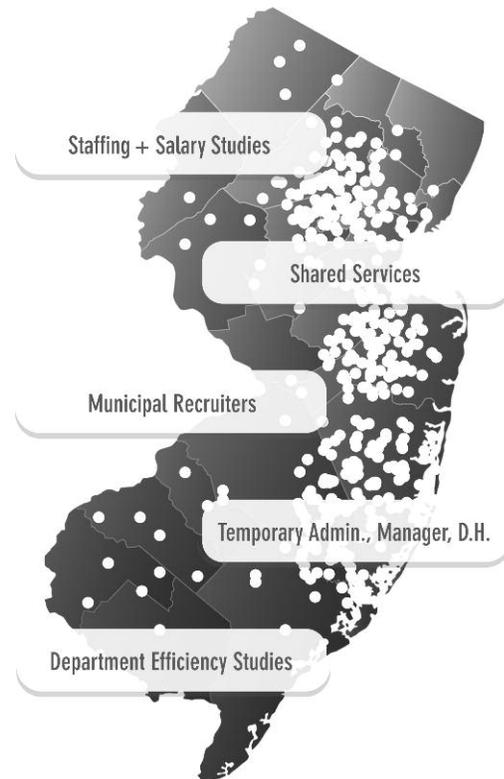
Chamber of Commerce. The program, started in 2011, now has 30 members in its alumni group.

Applications are currently being accepted for Leadership Hunterdon

Class of 2015. Any organizations interested in having an employee participate in the program; please contact Chris Phelan at the Chamber by calling 908-782-7115. 📞

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Correction:

The abbreviation for the New Jersey Sustainable Energy Joint Meeting, NJSEM, was incorrectly listed as NJSTEM in the June 2014 issue of NJM. We regret the error. 📞

Stratford's New Clock

A Timeless Monument to Veterans

Stratford dedicated a new clock in honor of veterans on Memorial Day, May 26th, 2014. The Stratford Clock Committee, an all-volunteer organization of Stratford residents, had long desired to create a landmark that would help promote the small-town flavor of Stratford and achieve maximum impact at minimal cost.

The \$30,000 cost of the project was raised through private sponsorships; no tax dollars were spent.

The 16-foot, six-inch tall clock's four faces are visible from every direction. The surrounding landscaping and architectural



enhancements create a park-like setting, which blends beautifully with the streetscape.

The \$30,000 cost of the project was raised through private sponsorships; no tax dollars were spent.

The town residents have left a gift to their children that will last for generations. ♣

New Brunswick Police

Practice School Shooting Response Training

This past June, the New Brunswick police held an exercise that simulated a situation where a gunman was present in a middle school. The exercise was executed as if the event was actually happening, but without live ammunition.

School administrators were invited to observe the exercise from inside the school. Having this knowledge will enable school administration to use this information when designing their own emergency management plan. During the exercise the school was placed on lockdown, meaning that civilians were not able to enter or exit the building. New Brunswick's Police Department hopes to conduct similar drills at all area elementary schools.

After the session, the officers discussed the experience, including whether or not they had adequate gear and procedures in place to best respond. ♣



Pictured left to right, NJ Director of Employer Outreach, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, Donna Clementoni; Air National Guard Senior Airman Shaun Ferguson; and Borough of Barrington Mayor Robert Klaus pose following the presentation of the "Seven Seals Award."

Mayor Klaus Accepts Seven Seals Award

Barrington Recognized for Patriotism

The Borough of Barrington was recognized for enduring patriotic support of America's military members and our nation's veterans by the New Jersey Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) during the Borough's Memorial Day Ceremonies.

Mayor Robert Klaus accepted the "Seven Seals Award" on behalf of the community. ESGR is a Department of Defense, mostly volunteer organization that seeks to create a culture where all American employers value and support the military service and sacrifice of their employees.

The Borough of Barrington benefits from Citizen Warriors, such as Senior Airman Ferguson, who receive the world's most advanced training as part of America's military. Those learned skillsets can be vital in response to an emergency situation in the civilian sector. ♣

@ For more information, visit www.esgr.mil

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Hamilton Recognizes Special Olympians

Over 3,500 athletes from around the United States participated in 16 sports during the 2014 National Special Olympics, which was hosted by the Mercer County region. Hamilton (Mercer) Mayor Kelly Yaede recently held a private ceremony for the 15 Hamiltonian athletes, two coaches and one partner and their families, who participated in the 2014 Special Olympics this past June. The reception recognized their hard work during the event and during the preparation and training. Honorees received special proclamations from the Mayor and Council, gift bags and were treated to pizza and ice cream. 🍕



The reception recognized their hard work during the event and during the preparation and training. Honorees received special proclamations from the Mayor and Council, gift bags and were treated to pizza and ice cream. 🍕

Recovery Funding for Underserved Groups

Microlenders Extend EDA's Reach

\$2.5 Million Awarded to Community Development Financial Institutions to Fund Ongoing Recovery

Supporting Governor Christie's commitment to the recovery of businesses and communities in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy, the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA) announced the closing of grants to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) under the Stronger NJ Neighborhood and Community Revitalization (NCR) Program. These microlenders will use the funds to expand their existing programs supporting recovery, extending the EDA's reach to small businesses in communities across New Jersey.

"CDFIs are playing a critical role in restoring the vitality of small businesses in New Jersey post-Sandy. The grants awarded to these organizations will help to broaden the scope of the EDA's support to include even more small businesses and microenterprises," said Michele Brown, EDA Chief Executive Officer. "Our partnership with CDFIs allows us to leverage dollars and ensure we are

effective in reaching underserved businesses and communities."

Through the NCR Program, a total of \$2.5 million was allocated to provide CDFIs with grants to fund small business loans in the nine most impacted counties. The five microlenders, which were each approved for a \$500,000 grant, include The Intersect Fund Corporation, Cooperative Business Assistance Corporation (CBAC), New Jersey Community Capital (NJCC), Greater Newark Enterprises Corporation (GNEC) and UCEDC. To date, they have provided a total of over 250 loans to impacted businesses in excess of \$6 million. Businesses include DJ's Delights, an Asbury Park deli and catering service that received a loan from NJCC; and Keyport-based Planet Food, which took advantage of UCEDC's recovery loan program.

The NCR grants build on the EDA's previous investment of \$1 million in loans to NJCC and CBAC immediately following Superstorm Sandy. Additionally, through



New Brunswick Parking

Introducing Pre-pay and Reserve Parking

Residents and visitors to New Brunswick can now use the online service "ParkMe" to pre-pay and reserve parking at the Civic Square Deck after 5:00 pm and at select valet locations. The app ParkMe can be used to make reservations on smart phones and tablets.

The New Brunswick Parking Authority is consistently looking for ways to make parking in the city more convenient. Online reservations enable customers to avoid cashier lines by presenting proof of a prepaid reservation to the parking attendant or valet driver.

The NBPA has developed partnerships within the industry in order to offer the latest parking technology to our customers, including alternative methods of payments, such as pay-by-cell for on and off street meter parking. 📱

the Loans to Lenders component of its Fund for Community Economic Development, the EDA makes capital available to financial intermediary organizations that can effectively reach small businesses in local markets, microlenders including CDFIs. These organizations have the ability to offer term loans and lines of credit to microenterprises and small businesses not qualified for traditional bank financing.

CBAC has closed 16 loans totaling over \$600,000 to Superstorm Sandy affected businesses since November of 2012. The additional funding from the NJEDA will enable CBAC to assist more businesses in Atlantic and Cape May Counties.

For more information on the Stronger NJ Business programs, visit njeda.com/strongernjbusiness or call the EDA's Sandy hotline at 1-855-SANDY-BZ (1-855-726-3929). To learn more about opportunities for business growth throughout New Jersey, visit the state's business portal at www.NewJerseyBusiness.gov. 📱



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IN REMEMBRANCE
West Caldwell Mayor,
NJLM Past President and
Conference Volunteer

Robert L. Reiher Will Be Missed



League Past President and former West Caldwell Mayor Robert L. Reiher passed away on September 4.

"It has been my pleasure and my privilege to know Bob for over 30 years," said League Executive Director Bill Dressel. "He first took office as a West Caldwell Councilman in 1974, the same year I joined the League staff. And he ascended to the League's Presidency in 1995, the same year that the Executive Board made me Executive Director.

"Mayor Reiher was consistently generous in sharing his time, his experience and his knowledge of municipal government with newly elected and appointed colleagues, with League staff and with his successors in West Caldwell and the League's leadership. He was a mentor to many and a friend to even more," noted Dressel.

In 1981, the people of West Caldwell made him their Mayor. He won re-election again and again, and remains the longest-serving Mayor in the township's history.

Mayor Reiher was particularly committed to the success of the League's Annual Conference. He served (at various times) as a member of the Resolutions Committee, a member and the chairman of the Nominating Committee and as a member and chairman of the Conference Planning Committee. In April, 1995, he was asked by the Executive Board to become League President following the resignation of Moonachie Mayor Fred Dressel. The following November, he was unanimously elected to serve a full term.

Even after they retired to Florida, he and Mrs. Reiher continued to assist the League. As a member of the 222 West State Street Corporation, he was instrumental in the renovation of the Roebing Mansion, League's current headquarters. And, for the past several years, the couple has hosted and coordinated the Mayors' Information Center.

Mayor Reiher was the head of his own insurance agency and served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War. He was also an active member and Past Scout Master of Troop 9 the Boy Scouts of America; Vice Chairman of the Essex County Mayors' Association; Advisory Board Member of Essex County College; and an active supporter of the March of Dimes, the Essex County Junior Football League and the Ocean Beach and Bay Club, among other organizations.

He is survived by his wife Olga; children Jim and Nancy; and grandsons T.J., Robert and Hunter. 📌

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When Blake Shelton took the stage at 6 p.m. on Thursday, July 31 for his free concert on the free beach in Atlantic City, he was greeted by a packed house of 65,000 adoring fans.

Atlantic City—Beyond Gaming

How this landmark destination is reinventing itself for visitors and residents

By Don Guardian,
Mayor, Atlantic City



But what exactly does that mean? To begin with, it means that Atlantic City is more than just casino gaming.

A Successful Transition For too long, Atlantic City has been judged by a single set of monthly figures that fail to measure the destination's overall economic health, the adjustments it is making to changing market conditions or its potential for future growth and investment. Each month, media outlets report the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement's casino revenue numbers as though they reflect the sum of Atlantic City's parts.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

The reality is this: Atlantic City is in the midst of a successful transition from a destination overly reliant on casinos to one in which a dynamic mix of amenities attracts more than 27 million visitors each year. As gaming supply continues to outstrip demand nationwide, mature casino markets throughout the country must look to additional sources of revenue to thrive. Stagnant or declining casino revenue should serve as a wakeup call to jurisdictions that look to legalized gaming as a cure for their economic woes.

Atlantic City's non-gaming revenues have increased by more than \$160 million in just the last two years and are now approaching \$1 billion annually.

Fortunately, the changing nature of the casino industry didn't catch Atlantic City by surprise. Like Las Vegas before it, Atlantic City is aggressively working to broaden its appeal by focusing on attractions beyond the casino floor. This evolution, which is well underway, is essential to replacing the local jobs that have been lost in the casino industry and to writing the next great chapter in Atlantic City's story.

In Atlantic County, non-gaming revenues have increased by \$240 million—from \$4.72 billion in 2010 to \$4.96 billion in 2013. Atlantic City's non-gaming revenues have increased by more than \$160 million in just the last two years and are now approaching \$1 billion annually.

Another critical indicator of non-gaming growth is luxury tax receipts, which are attached to the purchase of alcoholic beverages, tickets and other amusement attractions. In the first quarters of 2011, 2012 and 2013, the three-year average of luxury tax receipts was 20.7 percent higher than in the same quarter of the prior four years, growing from \$5.6 million quarterly to \$6.8 million quarterly. On the same basis, second quarter receipts were 33.1 percent higher, third quarter receipts were 20.8 percent higher and fourth quarter receipts were 20.2 percent higher.

Economic Development Initiatives The CRDA, tasked with overseeing the state-legislated Atlantic City Tourism District, has developed a robust agenda to improve the region. Its goals are to

Atlantic City is ready for a new beginning. The city has been reinventing itself for over 160 years, and today is no different. We are currently in the midst of writing the next great chapter in our illustrious history.

Change is in the air, and the Chris Christie Administration along with elected officials and private and public agencies like the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) are working together to usher in this new reality.

Beyond Gaming

diversify the city's offerings for both residents and visitors, enhance cleanliness and safety, and provide a variety of new entertainment options. The Authority has attracted more than \$700 million in capital investment to the destination, with more than \$290 million presently being spent on the development of non-gaming amenities. Major independent private sector investments—such as an \$18 million Bass Pro Shops store—are underway in the heart of Atlantic City's tourism district.

The CRDA's Ambassador Program has proven successful in enhancing the visitor experience—by assisting visitors and alerting the appropriate Atlantic City departments to code enforcement issues.

CRDA's Special Improvement Division creates pocket parks on vacant land and ensures cleanliness throughout Atlantic City. A joint program with city government has been successful in removing dilapidated structures and motivating landlords to make needed improvements.

A façade improvement program that also focuses on second-floor housing improvements is creating new interest in Atlantic City's downtown.

Supporting Tourism Finding new ways to bring visitors to Atlantic City is also a priority for the CRDA. A \$2 million contribution from CRDA helped bring new United Airways service to the Atlantic City International Airport. Funding and marketing support also helped attract major events such as the Garden State Film Festival, the Challenge Triathlon and other events, which draw millions of visitors. While free, CRDA-supported entertainment every night throughout the summer gave visitors a reason to stay in town.

The overwhelming success of the back-to-back beach concerts this summer featuring headliners Blake Shelton and Lady Antebellum portrayed Atlantic City at its best. Over 120,000 visitors flocked to the beaches to soak up the sun, sand, and lis-

ten to music. The breathtaking aerial photos say it all. Atlantic City is still a place that can draw crowds of hundreds of thousands of people.

As the city continues to evolve, CRDA will enact a solid development plan designed to keep pace with market changes.

Looking Ahead Atlantic City's mission is clear: diversify. Atlantic City will always welcome gamblers, but we must do more to attract a wider array of visitors, particularly as legal gambling options proliferate.

As the newly elected mayor of Atlantic City, I remain optimistic about what America's Playground will look like many years from today. We will be a city with many more attractions than one can enjoy in a single day. Atlantic City will continue to be a thriving tourist destination and hometown where casino gaming complements non-gaming attractions. This is the next chapter in Atlantic City's long history. It is a new beginning. 🍀



A façade improvement program, that includes the properties pictured above, is creating new interest in Atlantic City's downtown.



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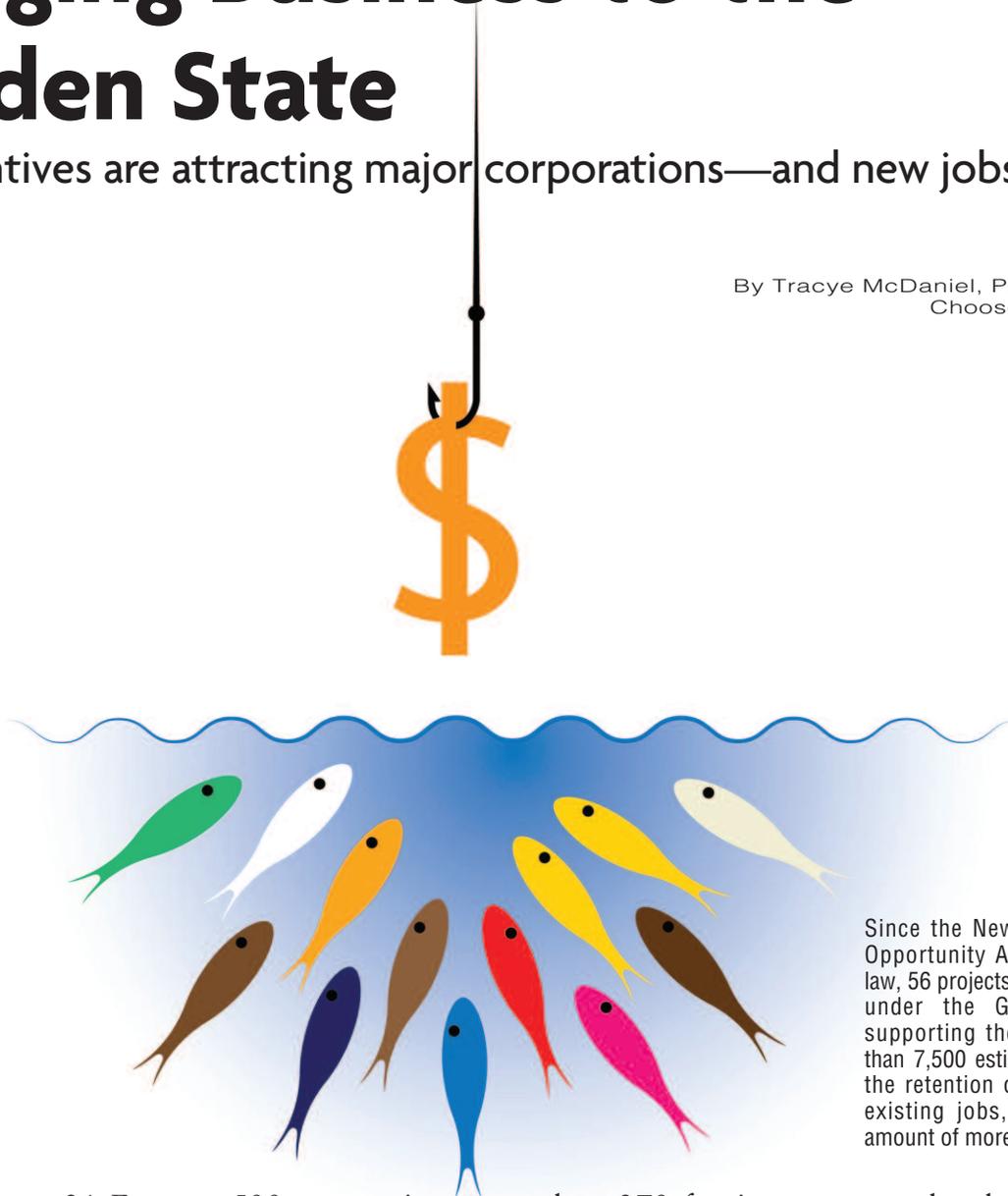
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Bringing Business to the Garden State

Tax incentives are attracting major corporations—and new jobs

By Tracye McDaniel, President and CEO,
Choose New Jersey, Inc.



Since the New Jersey Economic Opportunity Act was signed into law, 56 projects have been approved under the Grow NJ program supporting the creation of more than 7,500 estimated new jobs and the retention of more than 8,900 existing jobs, for a total award amount of more than \$1.2 billion.

Home to 21 Fortune 500 companies, more than 270 foreign company headquarters and five foreign trade zones, it's clear that the Garden State is a global destination for business—and the worldwide business community is taking notice.

After attracting investments from major companies such as Forbes Media, Panasonic, Prudential, Amazon and more within the past year, New Jersey is “red hot” for economic growth. New Jersey's success is due to the collaboration taking place across public and private sectors throughout the state to market the state as a premier location for business.

As the state's lead marketing and business attraction organization, Choose New Jersey, Inc. has made it its mission since 2010 to spread the message both domestically and abroad that

the state offers an unmatched business proposition—aggressive incentives, a highly educated workforce and a perfect location along the East Coast.

How the Game is Changing In September 2013, historic, game-changing incentives were signed into law to encourage new development, attract jobs and increase investment throughout the state. Known as the New Jersey Economic Opportunity Act, these incentive programs are designed to help New Jersey win fiercely competitive battles for business.

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To spread the word of the state's powerful new tax incentives, Choose New Jersey launched a tri-state business attraction advertising campaign. The above ad was displayed on Metro-North, Long Island Railroad, SEPTA

The number of CEOs who rated New Jersey a good-to-excellent place to do business has jumped 12 percent.

The act consolidated the state's five biggest tax incentive programs into just two: the Grow New Jersey Assistance Program (Grow NJ) and the Economic Redevelopment and Growth Program (ERG).

The new legislation reduced the number of jobs a company needs to create to qualify for tax breaks from 100 full-time jobs to as low as 10 for technology start-ups, and just 25 jobs in targeted industries, such as transportation, manufacturing, defense, energy, logistics, life sciences, technology, health and finance.

Since the New Jersey Economic Opportunity Act was signed into law, 56 projects have been approved under the Grow NJ program supporting the creation of more than 7,500 estimated new jobs and the retention of more than

8,900 existing jobs, for a total award amount of more than \$1.2 billion.

Most recently, the Grow NJ incentives helped to attract Forbes Media LLC to New Jersey. Thanks to a Grow NJ award of \$27.1 million over ten years, the company announced its decision to move its headquarters and 350 jobs from New York City to Jersey City.

Canadian-based Valeant Pharmaceuticals, whose holdings include Bausch & Lomb, announced last December its intent to expand into Bridgewater, New Jersey and create up 550 new jobs with support from a \$39.5 million Grow NJ grant.

Also lured by New Jersey's new incentives, Destination Maternity Corporation, the world's largest designer and

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retailer of maternity apparel, announced plans to relocate from Pennsylvania to New Jersey. The company was awarded a \$40 million Grow NJ package to relocate its distribution center and establish a new headquarters in New Jersey.

Last September, game-changing incentives were signed into law to encourage new development, attract jobs and increase investment throughout the state.

Marketing New Jersey To spread the word of the state's powerful new tax incentives, Choose New Jersey launched a tri-state business attraction advertising campaign. The campaign highlighted the state's key business advantages through radio commercials airing on local New York, Philadelphia and Hartford business talk stations and through print advertisements featured on Metro-North, Long Island Railroad, SEPTA and PATCO trains.

Choose New Jersey also launched an

aggressive Super Bowl ad campaign in 2014 that targeted the C-suite audience that flocked to the state for the big game in February. The ads, positioned in high traffic locations such as the Lincoln Tunnel and Newark Liberty International Airport, were made possible by six corporate and organizational sponsors, including Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers 102 (IBEW), International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 825, Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), New Jersey Natural Gas and ShopRite. A mobile billboard also travelled to high traffic locations during Super Bowl week, circling the Prudential Center on Media Day and the area around Super Bowl Boulevard in Times Square.

Choose New Jersey is also aggressively promoting the new incentives with corporate decision makers and key media in both domestic and global target markets like New York, Pennsylvania, Germany, Mexico, India, Italy, S. Korea, and Taiwan.

Optimism Going Forward Choose New Jersey is optimistic about the state's future economic growth because the state's business community has voiced its support. According to the New Jersey Economic Policy Summit's 2013 C-Suite Survey of Garden State

CEOs, the number of CEOs who rated New Jersey a good-to-excellent place to do business has jumped 12 percent, compared to those surveyed in 2010.

Whether it's on the road through business missions, meeting face-to-face with industry leaders at trade shows or executing strategic marketing and media relations, our organization wants the world to know that New Jersey is a thriving, international hub for business. On a daily basis, Choose New Jersey is aggressively and proactively spreading New Jersey's business message in the top 50 U.S. metro markets and more than 20 countries worldwide. **\$**

Founded in 2010, Choose New Jersey, Inc. is a privately funded 501(c)(3) corporation charged with encouraging and nurturing economic growth throughout New Jersey. As a key member of the Partnership for Action (which also includes the New Jersey Business Action Center, the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, and the Office of the Secretary of Higher Education, Choose New Jersey helps interested prospect companies understand available economic incentives, appreciate the benefits of locating or expanding in New Jersey, and access support to effectively interact with state government.



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Capitalizing on Commuters

Plainfield is setting the standard for urban rebirth

By Adrian O. Mapp, Mayor, Plainfield



The view of downtown Plainfield from the Transit Village. Plainfield has capitalized on its commuter-friendly location for years to attract and retain residents.

Like many of New Jersey's historic cities, Plainfield saw a change in its fortunes in recent decades. The decline in manufacturing, combined with New Jersey's embrace of the traditional suburban lifestyle, set the tone. Racial disturbances in the 1960s led to the loss of much of Plainfield's professional population, rising poverty and economic decline.

Happily, those days are behind us. Plainfield has begun its climb back to economic stability, and two recent developments—the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) designation and the one-seat ride to New York City on the Raritan Valley Line—have played a major role in our rebirth.

Transit Oriented Development The TOD designation was awarded to Plainfield in March by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). The city has worked diligently

with the Transit Village task force, a group of 10 state agencies, since 2011 to earn the designation. The process actually began in 2010 when Plainfield worked with the New Jersey Institute of Technology to produce a report that outlined specific recommendations for mixed-use development near the train stations.

The one-seat ride to NYC began in March on a trial basis with off-peak hours, and thanks to strong advocacy from the

Raritan Valley Rail Coalition, the trial will be extended to weekday service after 8 pm in November. Plainfield is the only city on the Raritan Valley Line with two train stations, and we have already begun to see an increase in both residential and commercial real estate values. One commercial property increased (and received) 25 percent more than their asking price within days of the TOD announcement. This strong of an increase may be exceptional, but as a rule, we know that property values increase in direct proportion to time saved on the NYC commute.

As more New Jerseyans—both first-time homebuyers and empty nesters—look beyond the traditional suburban communities, Plainfield is emerging as an attractive alternative.

Plainfield has capitalized on its commuter-friendly location for years to attract and retain residents. Our train station parking lots provide ample parking, although many commuters walk from their homes to the stations. Thanks to numerous buses stop throughout the city, many commuters simply step out of their homes to board a bus. All of this has helped Plainfield attract and retain residents who work in New York City's corporate, finance and arts professions.

These two NJDOT decisions have helped to further fuel Plainfield's already-hot commercial redevelopment. There are currently 13 transit-supportive projects being built, planned or contemplated within the Transit Village District. The projects include mixed-use (commercial and residential), straight commercial, and straight residential, including 218 apartments and 32,000



We know that property values increase in direct proportion to time saved on the NYC commute.

square feet of retail. The proposed redevelopment is a mixture of new and rehabbed construction.

We are seeing other positive changes in Plainfield as well. In April, we announced a 26 percent decrease in the crime rate



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over the previous year. New businesses are opening in town, and we have revised our municipal code requirements to offer quicker, friendlier service to both businesses and residents.

We've also begun to highlight our cultural and educational advantages. The Plainfield Symphony Orchestra, New Jersey's oldest community symphony, has just announced its 95th season. Plainfield is home to four state-approved charter schools, including New Jersey's first high school focused on sustainability, the Barack Obama Green Charter High School. Recently Union County College announced

an expansion of its Plainfield campus.

As more New Jerseyans—both first-time homebuyers and empty nesters—look beyond the traditional suburban communities, Plainfield is emerging as an attractive alternative. Many people have dedicated a great deal of energy to developing a renewed vision for Plainfield, and these recent NJDOT decisions are playing a major role in helping us make our vision a reality.

Word about Plainfield is getting out. We recently placed #40 on the list of America's Top 50 small cities, a first for Plainfield. The choice was based on the

number of restaurants, opportunities for outdoor activities, and the number of live music venues, as well as a large population under age 40.

In transforming our business culture to one that is warm and inviting, we are assuring developers and investors that both city government and residents actively encourage and support our commercial community at all levels—from start-ups to mature businesses. This new business environment supports the rich residential community. We invite you to visit Plainfield and join the renaissance taking place in our city. 📍

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A Vote for Preservation is a Vote for Our Future

By Suzanne Walters, NJLM President;
Mayor, Stone Harbor

There is no stronger testament to preservation than that residents consistently vote “yes” on ballot initiatives to continue its funding. Likewise, preservation initiatives have generally garnered bi-partisan support from local officials, legislators and governors.

New Jersey is expected to be the first state in the nation to be ‘built out.’ Despite widespread support for conservation, the clock is ticking. The Garden State has run out of funds to continue to preserve open space, parks, farms and historic properties.

Financial Value Preserved land is a huge contributor to the state’s economy. According to the latest study of The Outdoor Recreation Industry Association, outdoor recreation in New Jersey generates \$17.8 billion in consumer spending, 158,000 jobs, and \$6.1 billion in salaries. This segment of the economy also generates \$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue. Tourism spending, which relies on open land and vistas, was nearly \$40 billion in 2012 and supported 318,560 jobs. And, at an even more essential level, our businesses and wellbeing rely on a plentiful, inexpensive supply of clean water that is created by preserved watershed lands.

Every municipality has benefited from preservation, and residents of 236 of our 565 municipalities contribute additional tax funds to the county and state funds. However, in spite of our best efforts, the need for preservation is growing and the opportunities are diminishing. According to the draft New Jersey Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), two factors drive the demand and the need.

Preserve Now, Before It’s Gone One is population growth and the other is urbanization. Municipal requests for funding open space have never been fully funded; in fact, between 2008 and 2012 Green Acres funded only about 23 percent of the amount requested. If we do not secure a stable state funding source, we will not even keep up with a quarter of future requests from municipal governments. And once this land is gone; it’s not coming back.

Municipalities of all sizes and densities appreciate the value of open space. Millions of dollars have been leveraged and invested in New Jersey’s urban, suburban, and rural communities to create parks, protect wetlands and wildlife habitat, preserve farmland and protect our historic treasures. These investments make our communities places where people want to live, work and raise families.

They bolster our local economies, protect our drinking water supply, mitigate flooding, and control the cost of municipal services.

Quality of Life Is Priceless Studies show that property values increase by up to 16 percent when located within 1,500 feet of natural areas and up to 20 percent in urban areas close to parks. Access to parks leads to a 25 percent increase in people exercising three or more times a week, which, in turn, supports our health and lowers healthcare costs. In urban areas all residents should have access to parks, and yet New Jersey’s cities lag behind others nationwide. We need to do more.

Business Growth Before companies choose to relocate, they consider the quality of life attributes of an area. Quality of life is particularly important for businesses that employ highly-skilled workers in information-based companies.

Farms Agricultural preservation generates millions in income from farm products and keeps New Jersey green. Many municipalities seek to retain their rural character and encourage farmers to stay on the land. The State Agriculture Development Committee (SADC) has preserved more than 2,200 farms totaling more than 205,000 acres but at least 400,000 acres of farmland need to be preserved to reach the 600,000 acres recommended to sustain agriculture as a viable New Jersey industry.

Preserved Wetlands Additionally, in the wake of Sandy, we are more aware of the services provided by natural landscapes. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers a municipal program, the Community Rating System, which can lower flood insurance premiums up to 45 percent. Last year they updated the program to award more points to municipalities who preserve flood-prone lands to protect lives and property.

Now, as New Jersey’s population grows and available land declines, we need to preserve our quality of life, protect past investments and continue to fund preservation. Municipalities have shown their commitment, and the state needs to respect the wishes of residents.

State leaders must act this year and reach agreement to ensure that voters on the November ballot have an opportunity to once again vote to support a sustainable source of preservation funding.

@ To learn more visit outdoorindustry.org/pdf/OIA_OutdoorRecEconomyReport2012.pdf;
glocallynewark.com/campaign-begins-to-support-newark-open-space-referendum.

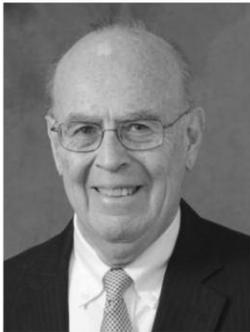
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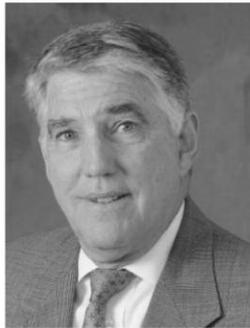
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New Legal Tools for Redevelopment

A NJLM Educational Foundation white paper provides practical advice

By Joseph Maraziti, Principal,
Maraziti Falcon, LLP



Redevelopment is essential to New Jersey’s social, economic and environmental welfare. Redevelopment must be available to achieve the revitalization of New Jersey’s cities and towns. Without the prompt and effective redevelopment of these vital areas of the state, New Jersey will face significant social, economic and environmental challenges in years to come.

Redevelopment Projects Delayed or Lost One major inhibitor of local initiatives to undertake the formal redevelopment process under the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et. seq.) is often the baggage that, until months ago, was an inescapable legal component of that statutory process—condemnation/eminent domain. The condemnation power had been legally imbedded in the statutory redevelopment process, and even in situations where local redevelopment entities had no plan or desire to use the con-

demnation process, their legal hands were tied. A stigma had encumbered redevelopment, because the redevelopment designation set the stage for condemnation powers.

This stigma has understandably caused local officials to hesitate to embark upon the redevelopment process. In certain cases, it has led to protracted litigation by fearful property owners. As a result, various redevelopment opportunities to foster economic development and revitalization have been delayed or totally lost.

The Local Redevelopment and Housing Law (LRHL) was amended in early January 2014.

Non-Condemnation Redevelopment

One of the most significant aspects of the Amendment is that public entities can now pursue a redevelopment process which prevents the use of condemnation, even though an area has been determined to be “in need of redevelopment.” Now a municipality has a choice: it can decide to use the new option and undertake non-condemnation redevelopment or proceed with the option that preserves the possibility of condemnation. This decision must be made at the very outset of the process. The resolution of the governing body requesting the planning board to undertake the redevelopment designation

area must once again go through the exacting designation process from the beginning may cause some serious legal and practical complications. For example, the conditions on the ground that led to a valid redevelopment determination years before may no longer exist.

Moreover, the notices that must be sent at that point to all property owners

must state that the analysis will be conducted as a “condemnation redevelopment area”—an obvious red flag that understandably may engender intense opposition. In addition, the change can only be made if the municipality is “unable to acquire property that is necessary for the redevelopment project.” Resourceful opponents to condemnation



Considering the significance of these Amendments, there is the expectation that new vitality will be injected into the effort to redevelop New Jersey’s cities and towns.

study must specify which path it chooses to travel. Importantly, all the notices to the affected property owners must also clearly identify that choice.

Coming as it must at the earliest stage in the redevelopment process, this decision must be made while the prospects of the redevelopment effort typically are only dimly understood and knowledge of site acquisition issues is scant. The default position in many situations is likely to favor the non-condemnation alternative.

Although the initial decision can later be reversed, the law requires that the entire redevelopment designation process start anew. The fact that the

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Redevelopment

will have an opportunity to litigate the existence and validity of these two new factual conditions.

Practice Tip: Careful consideration should be given early in the process before the non-condemnation redevelopment approach is chosen in order to avoid costly and time consuming disputes later on.

Key rulings of two redevelopment cases which have had a profound impact on redevelopment law and practice in New Jersey, *Gallenthin v. Paulsboro*, 191 N.J. 344 (2007) and *Harrison v. DeRose*, 398 N.J. Super. 361 (2008), have been codified by the Amendment.

Underutilization Must Now Be Based on a Condition of Title to the Property

Generally, prior to *Gallenthin*, N.J.S.A 40A:12A-5(e) was utilized as the primary criterion for designating an area in need of redevelopment on the basis that it was not “fully productive” for a wide variety of reasons. The court sharply narrowed the basis to use this criterion, known as the “e” criterion, and held that the unproductive use must in some way be based upon a condition of title i.e. an issue related to ownership of the property.

In *Harrison*, property owners challenged the redevelopment designation

years after it was made. The court reasoned that the due process rights of the property owners required that they be permitted to contest the designation years later because they had not been notified that the redevelopment designation could result in the condemnation of their property. This decision resulted in great uncertainty as to when a designation is “final” and therefore no longer subject to legal challenge. In order to remedy the uncertainty as to the finality of a redevelopment determination and to remove the cloud hanging over such designations, so that planning, financing and construction activities could all proceed with confidence that the legal rug would not be pulled out from under the project, the legislation codified the notice process set forth by the *Harrison* court.

The new exacting notice requirements, if precisely followed, will establish a point in time when challenges can no longer be brought. If the condemnation option is chosen, the notice must explain that the redevelopment designation will enable the redevelopment entity to condemn property in the designated area and must also explain that a legal challenge must be filed within 45 days or the

opportunity to challenge the designation will be lost.

Practice Tip: Rigorous and precise attention to all the new notice requirements must be paid at every step in the process.

Rehabilitation Designation Based on Environmental Conditions

The Amendment also adds a new criteria for designating an area in need of rehabilitation. An area may now also be designated in need of rehabilitation if environmental contamination is discouraging improvements and investment in properties in the area.

The additional criterion requires documentation of both the environmental contamination and the causal link between the contamination and discouraged improvement or investment in the area. This will require planners and other consultants not only to identify the nature of the contamination, but also to provide clear and objective evidence that the environmental contamination has resulted in the lack of improvement and investment.

This new rehabilitation criterion may be of limited practical application. Other rehabilitation criterion lend themselves to clear and objective evidence, (i.e. as to the age of infrastructure and housing) as contrasted with the murky area of opinion testimony to establish that the contamination—and not other factors—has caused the lack of improvement and investment.

More often than not, decision makers will choose to ground their decisions on the easier to defend criteria.

Practice Tip: Before embarking on an effort to ground a rehabilitation designation on the newly available basis of “environmental contamination,” confirm that an alternate basis for the designation is not factually available.

The Promise of the Amendments

Considering the significance of these Amendments, there is the expectation that new vitality will be injected into the effort to redevelop New Jersey’s cities and towns in order to stimulate improvements to the economy, the environment, and the quality of life in our communities. 📌



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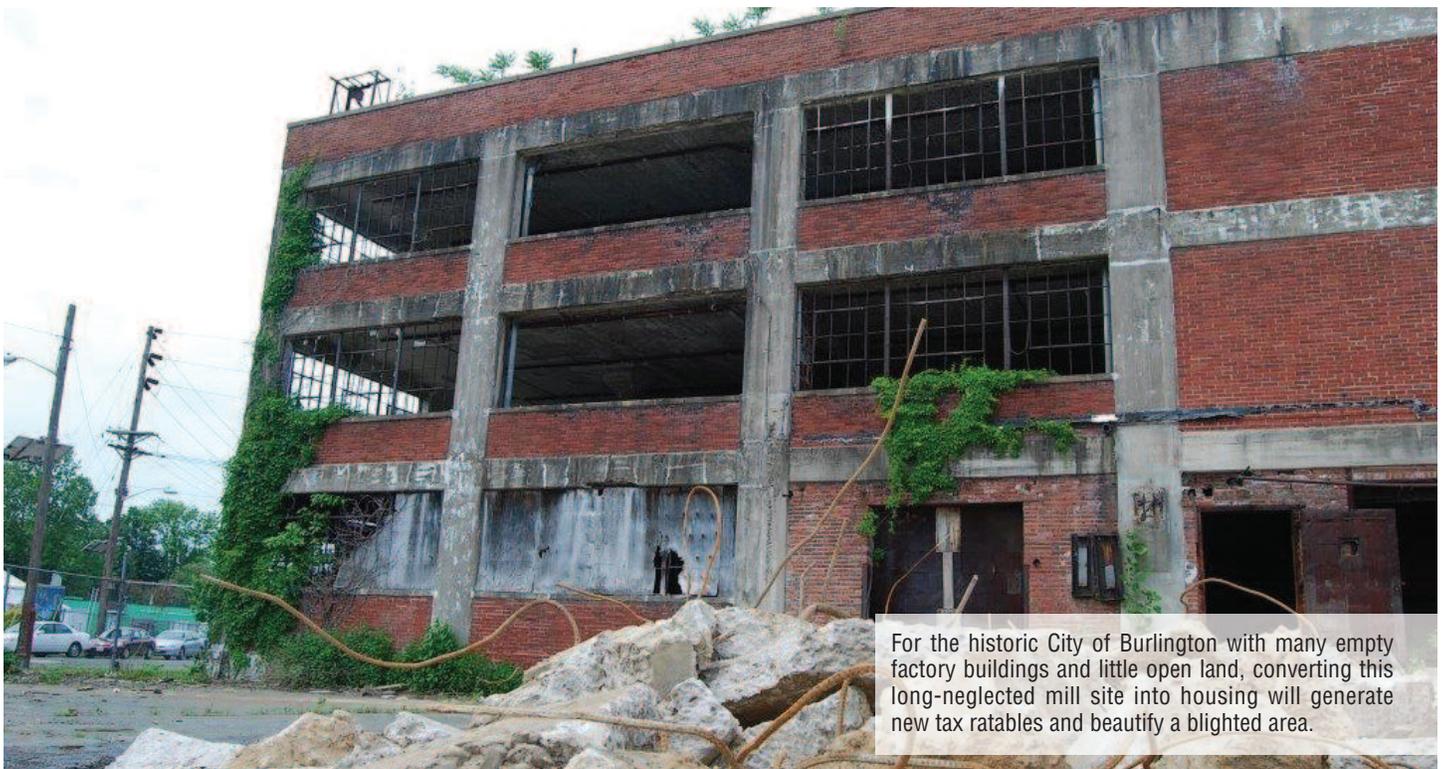


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Breathing New Life into Old Factories

Low Income Housing Tax Credits are creating jobs, ratables, and housing for working families in Burlington City

By Anthony L. Marchetta, Executive Director,
New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency



For the historic City of Burlington with many empty factory buildings and little open land, converting this long-neglected mill site into housing will generate new tax ratables and beautify a blighted area.

Once a place of busy industrial activity, later a blighted eyesore, a 2.4-acre former knitting mill site in Burlington City is about to be transformed into a beautiful residential community and a more appealing entryway into this historic city.

The project known as the “Apartments at the Mill” involves the adaptive reuse of a former mill site into a residential community consisting of 65 one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartment units. The project includes the new construction of five high-quality apartment buildings, and the rehabilitation of a three-story, concrete and steel mill structure. After renovation, this structure will also feature a community center and full-time management office.

For the historic City of Burlington with many empty factory buildings and little open land, converting this long-neglected mill site into housing will address two daunting local issues.

Not only will it generate new tax ratables, but it will also beautify a blighted area of the city.

Location, Location, Location, and Affordability The site is ideally situated to serve as much needed housing for working families in the area. Located at 505 Mitchell Street, directly off of Route 130, the former mill site is within walking distance to an NJ Transit bus stop, shops and restaurants along Broad Street, and adjacent to a park.

In addition to its great location, the Apartments at the Mill will bring income diversity to Burlington City. All of the project units will be affordable to households earning less than



seeing the value of making their communities good places to live, work, play, and learn. The Apartments at the Mill is a great example of an urban renewal project that will improve the quality of life in Burlington City for all residents by tackling these issues.



In addition to its great location, the Apartments at the Mill will bring income diversity to Burlington City. All of the project units will be affordable to households earning less than 60 percent of the area median income.

60 percent of the area median income. Five of the units will be set-aside for residents with special needs.

Tenants will also enjoy energy savings from the building's sustainable design, which is in compliance with the EPA ENERGY STAR Tier 1 requirements, and the State of New Jersey's own green building program Green Future.

Housing Needs in New Jersey

According to the National Association of Realtors, communities across the country are recognizing the link between housing opportunities for working families and the economic and social well-being of their neighborhoods. A dearth of affordable housing near where families work can lead to longer commutes, sprawl, and traffic congestion that degrade the quality of life for all residents.

Municipal governments are increasingly



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Burlington County

HMFA Financing The Apartments at the Mill, which is being developed by the Ingerman Group, was financed by the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA), an independent state agency under the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA). HMFA provides financing for the construction of affordable housing throughout the state. Additionally, the agency administers the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Program for New Jersey. HMFA provided the redevelopment project \$1.7 million in permanent mortgage financing in addition to an award of LIHTCs which will generate approximately \$12.1 million in private equity, syndicated by Wells Fargo.

“The Apartments at the Mill, which recently broke ground, will provide much needed housing opportunities for hard-working families in Burlington County,” said DCA Commissioner

APARTMENTS AT THE MILL BY THE NUMBERS

Number of Units	65
Total:	
HMFA Mortgage	\$1.7 million
LIHTC Equity	\$12.1 million
Burlington County HOME	\$500,000
Deferred Developer Fee	\$533,063
Development Cost	\$14.9 million
One-Time:	
Estimated Jobs Created	141.2
Economic Output	\$23.6 million
State and Local Taxes	\$861,996
Ongoing:	
Estimated Jobs Created	14.9
Economic Output	\$2.6 million
State and Local Taxes	\$148,620

Source: HMFA

Richard E. Constable, III, who also serves as Chairman of the HMFA. “The federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program that HMFA administers for New Jersey is one of the most successful

and efficient housing programs that developers can utilize to build quality affordable housing.”

Other funding sources for the development of the Apartments at the Mill

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include Burlington County HOME funds.

Boosting Burlington County's Economy

The project is estimated to cost a total of approximately \$14.9 million, and will not only provide affordable housing opportunities for New Jersey

HMFA estimates that the project will generate approximately \$23.6 million in one-time economic output, 141 full-time jobs, and \$861,996 in state and local taxes during construction. Upon completion, the project will continue to add value to the community by providing more than approximately \$2.6 million in ongoing economic output, 15 full-time jobs, and \$148,620 in state and local taxes annually.

Low Income Housing Tax Credits

Redevelopment projects like the Apartments at the Mill would not be possible without the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, which has helped produce more than 40,000 housing opportunities for New Jersey's working class since its inception in 1986. The LIHTC program is one of the most successful and efficient federal housing programs ever created to provide the private market an incentive to invest in the creation or rehabili-

tation of quality affordable rental housing that enhances the character of our neighborhoods.

Annually, the federal government allocates LIHTCs to each state on a per-capita basis. Those tax credits are then distributed to developers of qualified projects through an application process for both the 9% and 4% tax credits. Developers then sell the credits to corporate investors, typically Community Reinvestment Act-driven banks, large corporations or equity funds, to raise capital or equity for their projects.

The investors, in return, receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit against their federal tax liability each year over a period of 10 years, provided the invested property maintains compliance with the program requirements. This transaction allows developers to take out a smaller mortgage to build their projects, and thereby enable them to charge tenants lower, more affordable rents. 

The federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program has helped produce more than 40,000 housing opportunities for New Jersey's working class.

families, but also have a positive economic impact on the greater Burlington County community.

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Protecting America; Strengthening New Jersey

By Rodney P. Frelinghuysen,
Congressman, Eleventh District

In my work as chair of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee (HAC-D), people are often surprised when I tell them that New Jersey is home to seven military and Coast Guard installations. They include Picatinny Arsenal, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, Naval Weapons Station Earle, Air National Guard Atlantic City, Army National Guard, Coast Guard Air Station Atlantic City, and Coast Guard Training Center Cape May.

Since the American Revolution, New Jersey has played an indispensable role in America's national defense. Our state is often referred to as the "Crossroads of the American Revolution." More battles of that war were fought in New Jersey than any other state. Washington's Army won many of its most important victories right here.

New Jersey's military facilities continue to play a vital role in keeping America safe and free. Each base makes crucial contributions to the strength of our national defense. But that's not the only reason they are important to our state. They also provide tens of thousands of jobs and contribute billions to New Jersey's Gross Domestic Product.

According to a study released last year by the New Jersey Council on Armed Forces and Veterans' Affairs, New Jersey's "Military Installations generate employment for 73,168 people (direct and indirect) with a total output of \$9.6 billion and a GDP of \$6.5 billion."

I am pleased that Governor Christie recently created the New Jersey Military Installation Growth and Development Task Force. He charged it with "forging a blueprint for the long-term growth and viability of the state's military bases and U.S. Coast Guard installations." Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno is chairing this task force, and she and I have met and discussed how we will work together on behalf of our military installations.

Of course, no one knows more directly the importance of these facilities than the municipal elected leaders in those towns they are located and those that surround them. The civilian and military jobs they provide, the economic activity they produce, and the contributions they make to the life of the community cannot be taken for granted. That is why I have always strongly encouraged local elected officials to forge close relationships with these installations.

A good place to start is by developing a productive working relationship with your local installation commander. Together, you will be able to find ways to enrich the life of your community. Local officials have had such a relationship for decades with Picatinny Arsenal.

Local officials should also become familiar with the missions of the military facilities in or near their communities and how they contribute to keeping our country strong and to the strength of their communities. Whether it's the research and development at Picatinny or the air mission at McGuire, be sure to learn about what your local base does. The more you and your constituents understand what goes on at your nearby installation, the better they will appreciate its importance.

I am pleased that Governor Christie recently created the New Jersey Military Installation Growth and Development Task Force.

Another way to strengthen these relationships is to support military families, who live on or off the base. Seventy percent of military families live in their local communities, not on military installations.

The Army's Community Covenant program [army.mil/community] suggests ways in which communities can support the military families in their midst. The other service branches have similar covenants. In my home county, the Morris County Chamber of Commerce has been a leader in establishing the covenant program. Welcoming military families into your community improves the morale of those who serve and of their families. It also encourages them to contribute to and participate in the many activities your town offers.

Mayors and other local officials have a key role to play in supporting New Jersey's military facilities. The strength of our country, and of our state, will benefit by your direct engagement with the facilities located in and near your municipalities. And you will be part of New Jersey's long history supporting our military and protecting our freedom and way of life. 🇺🇸

Congressman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen (NJ-11) serves on the House Appropriations Committee, where he is chair of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

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Why Pet Evacuation Makes Sense

Without a pet evacuation plan, you may have trouble relocating your residents



People perished in Louisiana during Hurricane Katrina because residents would not evacuate without their pets.

By Martin L. Pagliughi, Mayor, Avalon;
Emergency Management Director,
Cape May County

On February 6, 2006, a major blizzard dropped over two feet of snow on the beach community of Avalon. Four days later, another heavy storm dumped another foot of snow. During the widespread power outages, some of our seniors stayed at home with no heat instead of using our town shelter.

Why? Because they did not want to leave their most beloved companions—their pets—behind.

So we invited the pets along! The top floor of the firehouse housed a menagerie with dogs barking at the cats, cats eyeing up a large bird, and a snake who kept to himself. Even during the crisis we began discussions among our team and drew an important conclusion. There has to be a better, safer way.

Avalon chose to embrace, and not ignore, an essential fact: people will not get out of harm's way unless their pets are part of the plan. We developed an innovative solution that was in place before Hurricane Sandy hit—the Avalon Pet Evacuation Trailer. This trailer has now become the model for other successful pet trailers planned for other communities in New Jersey and other states. Trust me, it's very easy to do.

Figure Out Your Needs We first conducted a survey of our year 'round residents to see how many dogs and cats they have

living with them. We also asked them if they have the means and ability to evacuate and safely relocate their pets. Those who said "no," are the people whose pets we needed to accommodate. Avalon now had a baseline for the number of pets that will need housing when a big storm hits.

Outfitting a Trailer We obtained a used truck trailer that was in good shape and retrofitted the trailer to include climate control, pet cages, a veterinary work station, running water, lighting, and a bathroom. When an evacuation occurs, individuals and their pets are taken via an evacuation bus to Avalon's designated offshore shelter. When they arrive, the pet evacuation trailer is up and running on a generator. Residents check their pets into the pet evacuation trailer, and then themselves into the traditional shelter. Individuals and their pets ride out the storm together.

The pet evacuation trailer cost under \$30,000 to construct and was completely financed through donations. We asked

some of our community partners to lend a hand with the trailer, realizing it is a life saver. The outpouring of support from the community was completely overwhelming.

Expanding the Number of Trailers

Approximately 100 days before Hurricane Sandy, I was appointed the Director of Emergency Management for Cape May County. During and following the recovery from Sandy, one of our most important goals was to broaden the pet evacuation trailer concept on a larger, county-wide scale. In order to do that, we realized we need more than just a handful of volunteers.

72 hours and maintain shelter operations for at least five days with properly requested assistance.

The CART has monthly meetings where we share ideas and provide training to our volunteers. Once word spread throughout the county about the initiative, dozens of people from all walks of life cheerfully volunteered. Sandy taught everyone in Cape May County a large lesson. If you have a certain interest or skill that can help others during a storm, share it to improve the lives of your fellow citizens.

Sharing Equipment and Expertise

Under my direction, the county has acquired emergency evacuation trailers. We have partnered with the Cape May County Technical High School to install pet carriers inside a remodeled office trailer. This equipment, along with the Avalon trailer, are listed as assets for the entire state with the New Jersey State Police. We are able to share our equip-

ment and knowledge with other communities as needed.

Municipal officials and emergency management directors on the municipal, county, and state levels all understand after Sandy that it's not if, but when, the next emergency strikes. It will happen. People perished in Louisiana during Hurricane Katrina because residents would not evacuate without their pets. That's a dangerous and deadly scenario that we can clearly avoid.

I encourage all municipal offices of emergency management to seriously consider how they will address pet owners who do not have the means or ability to evacuate to a friend or family member's house during the next emergency. Lives will be saved if you have a plan.

Please contact the Cape May County Office of Emergency Management at (609) 463-6570 if I can assist in complementing your emergency management plan with these initiatives. ♣

The pet evacuation trailer cost under \$30,000 to construct and was completely financed through donations.

The Cape May County Office of Emergency Management created the County Animal Response Team, or CART on September 18, 2013. Our all-volunteer team includes emergency responders, animal care providers, animal control representatives, shelter personnel, and county residents who simply love and care for animals. The CART will assist pet owners in a disaster or weather emergency by teaming up with my office to provide shelter and care.

The CART is more than just a response team waiting for the next hurricane. Municipal and county officials need to understand evacuations of residents who have pets can occur any day, at any time. Unexpected events ranging from flooding to a terrorist attack or a chemical leak can require an immediate emergency response.

The goal of the CART is to have the basic capability of providing shelter for approximately 500 animals in the future. The CART is also prepared to independently operate these shelters for



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How to Use Closed-circuit TV

The cameras support crime enforcement and prosecution, emergency management and hometown security

By Steven M. Fulop, Mayor, Jersey City



Jersey City has a network of more than 300 fixed and mobile cameras which can be viewed and remotely operated from several locations.

Early this year, when the eyes of the world were on Superbowl XLVIII at Giant’s Stadium, the watchful eyes of law enforcement—from the Jersey City Police to the Federal Bureau of Investigation—were focused on our city’s advanced network of closed-circuit television cameras.

Live images from the hotels where the competing teams stayed were streamed not only to the city’s mobile and fixed police command posts, but to the giant multi-agency operations complex next to MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, to the state FBI headquarters in Newark, and to other locations deemed necessary to help protect the players and the public. With our cameras, hundreds of police officers and federal agencies had the invaluable help of watching the teams come and go by monitoring secure locations through Superbowl week.

National and International Cooperation But this is not the first time we have shared what is one of the most sophisticated closed-circuit television (CCTV) networks in New Jersey with our law enforcement partners across the Hudson River and around the world.

On January 15, 2009, when US Airways Flight 1549 ditched in the Hudson River with 155 people aboard, the camera-equipped mobile command post of the Jersey City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) was among the first to provide live images of the plane.

And a year ago, Brazilian officials visited Jersey City’s OEM state-of-the-art command post to consider video support for the World Cup games held this summer.

Equipment in Use Jersey City has a network of more than 300 fixed and mobile cameras which can be viewed and remotely operated from several locations, and whose videos can be shared with other cities and agencies via secure internet

and Wi-Fi systems. Adding to our video capabilities, we also employ some 30 Automatic License Plate Readers mounted on police radio cars, which can scan thousands of cars a day for motor-vehicle violations or cars wanted in specific investigations.

Our police also rely heavily on hundreds—maybe thousands—of video cameras privately owned by businesses and homeowners throughout the city.

crime scenes to find city or private cameras, just as they collect other evidence like fingerprints or shell casings.

Our law enforcement partners, including the Hudson County Prosecutor’s Office, also rely on video as a prosecutorial tool. It is one of the best resources available as video often is able to clearly depict a criminal act.

Community Oversight Committee

Though cameras are now placed all over our city and residents routinely request them in their neighborhoods; they weren’t entirely welcome when first deployed in 2001. The system—originally based on a system used in London—met with resistance from citizens who feared a potential invasion of their privacy. To

Hundreds of police officers and federal agencies were able to watch the teams come and go by monitoring secure locations through Superbowl week.

Force Multiplier Our OEM experts report that video is a force multiplier, as cameras can provide first responders and their commanders “situational awareness” before they even arrive to a scene.

The police CCTV cameras, in operation 24 hours, seven days a week, can pan, tilt and zoom, and are programmed to do “video tours” from their fixed locations atop buildings, utility poles and other perches. Operators can select any camera and zoom in on a location. The CCTV operators also monitor the police radio and can train a camera on the location of an incoming 911 call. Images can be fed to police dispatchers who can, in turn, relay what they see to the officers responding. We are currently working to acquiring technology to feed video directly to police cars.

All images recorded by CCTV are automatically kept for 90 days and can be preserved indefinitely. The city has two officers trained to retrieve and copy video from numerous non-compatible private cameras.

Video is also a key investigative tool used by our detectives in special units and in each of our police districts. Detectives are conduct “video canvassing” around

ACHIEVEMENT: LEAVES AN IMPRESSION



We know that achieving more in the community begins with the people who belong to it. That’s why we’re proud to support the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

*New Jersey Government
Banking Hotline - 877-861-6649*



Closed-circuit TV



Operators can select any camera and zoom in on a location. The CCTV operators also monitor the police radio and can train a camera on the location of an incoming 911 call.

help alleviate that concern, a citizens' community oversight committee was formed, that continues to meet quarterly with the Police CCTV manager.

License Plate Readers Make Sense

The second most widely used video tool for our law enforcement are license plate readers (ALPRs). The readers consist of three cameras mounted on a patrol car with a computer processing unit in the trunk. Trained officers can literally scan every car parked or vehicles passing them on a public street. For offenses like outstanding tickets or a suspended license, officers can do computer lookups and print a summons right in their patrol car. Also helpful is that past scans can be reviewed to determine if a particular vehicle was in the area of a crime.

CCTV has been a great tool for our police department and it is our goal to continue to expand the operation into as many neighborhoods as possible. For other cities looking develop or expand CCTV in their communities, Jersey City can serve as a model for how to balance public safety with privacy concerns. Jersey City has been a leader in developing its video monitoring capabilities for public safety and will continue to research and acquire the latest technology available to ensure the highest standard of safety for our residents.

CCTV has been a great tool for our police department and it is our goal to continue to expand the operation into as many neighborhoods as possible. For other cities looking develop or expand CCTV in their communities, Jersey City can serve as a model for how to balance public safety with privacy concerns. Jersey City has been a leader in developing its video monitoring capabilities for public safety and will continue to research and acquire the latest technology available to ensure the highest standard of safety for our residents.

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GOLD DOME

Spreading Its Chips Across the State

By Ben Dworkin, Assistant Professor of Political Science (Adjunct); Director of the Rebovich Institute for NJ Politics at Rider University

Like a gambler desperate to win at roulette, New Jersey is looking to spread its chips across the table by expanding casino gaming to new areas—such as Jersey City and the Meadowlands. According to some, placing all its chips on Atlantic City is no longer viable.

It has not been a good year for Atlantic City and New Jersey's gaming fortunes. Four casinos have closed, with a loss of 7,600 jobs. The shore resort once enjoyed a virtual monopoly on East Coast legal gambling and employed 48,000 people. Following the closures, just eight casinos remain, with less than 23,000 employees.

New Jersey also relies on its casino revenue tax, which is constitutionally dedicated to programs for the elderly and the handicapped. A decline in Atlantic City's fortunes means less revenue for the state, which—given our ongoing, significant economic challenges—it cannot afford.

Most observers cite the proliferation of new casinos across the country as a major reason for Atlantic City's fall. Between Indian reservations and new state-sanctioned casinos in Connecticut, New York, Delaware and especially Pennsylvania, New Jersey's casinos are facing unprecedented competition. Under Governor Chris Christie, several initiatives were launched to reinvigorate New Jersey gaming. First, the state created a "tourism district" within Atlantic City, and took over most responsibilities for promotion, maintenance and security. Second, New Jersey sanctioned online gaming, run by Atlantic City casinos. And third, the state's Economic Development Authority provided \$261 million to help complete construction of the Revel casino.

Unfortunately, these moves, despite support on both sides of the aisle, haven't done enough to mitigate the impact of larger economic conditions. For example, Revel has closed and online gaming only generated \$10 million through May, nowhere close to the \$160 million predicted.

The contraction of the gaming industry in Atlantic City may be exactly what it needs to survive. In June 2014 alone, the casinos that were closing generated more than \$29 million from table games and slots. The eight standing casinos should gain as that money gets spent elsewhere in Atlantic City.

However, they might not have much of a chance. A new movement, spurred on by the closures, would expand

gambling to North Jersey. Opponents, like former Assemblyman Steven Perskie—the author of the Atlantic City gaming legislation—argue that any move into the northern part of the state will push New York City to develop its own casino district, thereby dwarfing any potential for growth on the New Jersey side of the Hudson River.

Others, such as state Senators Raymond Lesniak and Paul Sarlo envision huge economic benefits from the new casinos. Lesniak recently cited the \$4.6 billion Jersey City project, by itself, as likely to create upwards of 26,000 jobs. Governor Chris Christie seems willing to discuss the proposals, as does Senate President Steve Sweeney (D-West Deptford), who, as the highest ranking South Jersey legislator, is particularly sensitive to the region's economic needs.

If casino expansion is to move forward, a political deal will need to be reached. Key to any agreement will be the tax rate imposed by the state on the new casinos. Pennsylvania currently imposes a 55 percent effective tax on its casinos. New York's effective casino tax rate begins at 60 percent. In contrast, the New Jersey effective casino tax rate is 9.25 percent (8 percent on general revenue and an additional 1.25 percent for the Casino Redevelopment Agency, the CRDA). Part of the reason for the low rate was that the casinos were expected to invest millions of dollars into building new hotel rooms in Atlantic City.

Opening a new casino or two in North Jersey would allow the state to impose a significantly higher tax rate, with a major portion of the money required to be invested back into Atlantic City, while still leaving a healthy percentage for state coffers. An additional way to secure support might be that only those companies with casinos currently in Atlantic City will be allowed to own, or share ownership in, any other New Jersey casino.

Accomplishing any of this will require a constitutional amendment that must be put before the voters, with the earliest date being the November 2015 ballot. The battle for public opinion is just beginning. In 1974, two years before the voters overwhelmingly approved casinos for Atlantic City only, New Jerseyans rejected a referendum to allow state-run casinos anywhere in the state. Forty years later, it remains to be seen if the voters are ready to finally expand gambling. Let the chips fall where they may. ♣

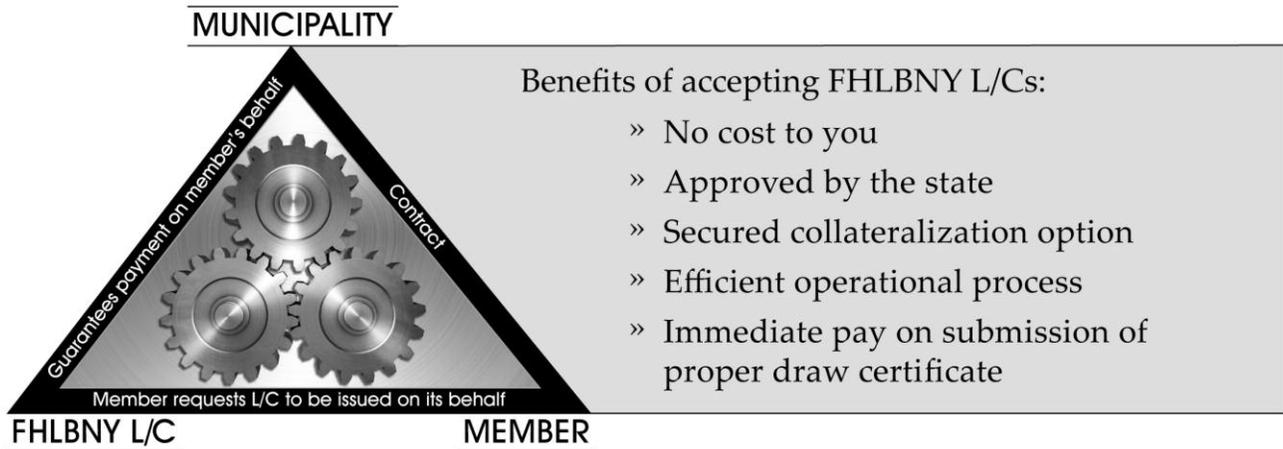
The views expressed in this column are those of the author and are not endorsed by the League.



FORM A STRATEGIC ALLIANCE WITH AN FHLB NY LETTER OF CREDIT

Now Insured Credit Unions are Eligible to Participate Under New Jersey Law

Are you familiar with the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York's (FHLB NY's) Letter of Credit (L/C) program? An FHLB NY L/C is a triple-A-rated credit instrument that offers local community banks and credit unions an attractive alternate way to secure your public deposits. The FHLB NY's L/C is accepted as eligible collateral under New Jersey law, providing a low-cost, more efficient way to collateralize municipal deposits.



Visit www.fhlbny.com/lc to learn all about L/Cs — view a sample L/C, the laws governing L/Cs, the issuance process, and related articles. Here you can also submit a request for a list of participating FHLB NY members in your area.



Advocating for the Municipal Agenda

The League Conference Resolutions Committee

By Michael F. Cerra,
Director of Government Affairs

Even with the 2 percent interest arbitration cap now reinstated and Trenton again engaged on proposed changes to the pension and health benefits, significant challenges remain for local officials. The need for our elected officials in Trenton to hear from local elected officials has never been so vital.

One such opportunity is through the League Resolutions Committee, which typically considers approximately 20 resolution submitted from across the Garden State on a wide range of issues of general interest to municipal governments. The Resolutions Committee offers our constituent municipalities the opportunity to shape League policy on issues in which we are not yet involved, or even unaware. For instance, at the League's 2013 conference, 17 resolutions were adopted as policy for the League.

As this article is published, the League is receiving new resolutions for consideration at the conference next month. Thus, this article's purpose is two-fold; one, we would like to take this opportunity to update you on the progress of past resolutions, and two, we strongly encourage your interest and participation in this process.

Let me provide you a brief overview of where we stand with some recent resolutions.

The Extension of the Cap on Arbitration Awards (Resolution 2012-08) "Resolution Urging the State Legislature to Extend the 2 percent Cap on Police and Fire Arbitration Contract Awards" was the League's top legislative priority for the first half of 2014. P.L. 2014, c. 11, signed by the Governor in June, reinstated the 2 percent cap on interest arbitration awards which provided needed relief for our taxpayers, into law.

Tax Exemption for Municipal Bonds (Resolutions 2012-06 and 2013-06) expressed support for the preservation of the Federal Income Tax exemption for interest earned on municipal bonds. That exemption has—so far—survived repeated threats throughout the past year. Elimination of the exemption has been touted as a means to increase federal revenues, reduce the debt and close the budget deficit. It gained in credibility when it was included among the recommendations of the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform—the Simpson-Bowles Commission.

We transmitted our resolution to our Congressional delegation and have followed up whenever the exemption issue emerged in either the House or the U.S. Senate. One recent proposal would "cap" the tax exemption at 28 percent of the total of interest earned. An investor would pay taxes on 62 percent of her or his interest earnings. It is estimated that, if this had been in place over the last 10 years, \$173 billion would have been added nationwide to local borrowing costs.

If proposals to eliminate or limit the tax exemption become law, local governments will pay more to finance projects, leading to less infrastructure investment, fewer jobs, and greater burdens on those who will have to pay higher taxes and fees. This would be bad for the economy and our communities. We will continue to monitor events in Washington and to contact our delegation, Congressional leadership and our members, as events unfold.

Expand Use of Snow Removal Trust Funds to Respond to Natural Disasters (Resolution 2012-19) Following Superstorm Sandy, Governor Christie signed Executive Order 111 permitting municipalities, by resolution, to use the reserves in their "Snow Removal Trust Funds" for storm recovery efforts. Essentially, this resolution sought to make the Governor's Executive Order permanent and provided needed flexibility for municipal emergency response.

The resolution resulted in a PL 2013, c. 271 sponsored by Senator Van Drew, and Assemblymen Ron Dancer and Upendra Chivukula, which permits counties and municipalities to use snow removal reserve funds to clear debris following a declaration of emergency by the President or Governor.

Deterring Scrap Metal Theft (Resolution 2013-4) Legislation to deter scrap metal theft, S-833, sponsored by Senators Norcross and Turner, proposes revisions to the laws concerning the purchase of scrap metal. It was approved by the Senate Commerce Committee and is now referenced to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee. Its Assembly companion, A-3558 is sponsored by Assemblyman Gusciora, and is referenced to the Assembly Regulated Professions Committee.

Regarding the Municipal Disposition of Vehicles (Resolution 2013-14) This resolution is addressed by a number of pending bills. S-186, sponsored by Senators Whelan and Hozapfel, was approved by the Senate Transportation Committee and stands at second reading in the Senate. The Assembly companion, A-3409, sponsored by Assemblyman Mazzeo, and is referenced to the Assembly Housing and Government Committee. Similar legislation, A-922, sponsored by Assemblymen Chris C. Brown and Thomas Giblin is referenced to the Assembly Transportation Committee.

Infrastructure Investment (Resolution 2013-15) This resolution called for the immediate and ongoing need for Substantial Investments in our infrastructure. In an August 13 op-ed, Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto noted the need for extensive investments in our transportation structure and the looming lack of available funding to meet that need. It appears that this issue will move to the forefront in the fall.

We encourage our member municipalities to submit their ideas for resolutions for consideration at the 2014 Annual Conference. A summary of a resolution should be provided by October 3. The full draft of a resolution should be provided by October 17. Questions can be directed to Mike Cerra at either mcerra@njslom.com or 609-695-3481 x120. 📧



Partnerships for Prosperity



Dear Conference Delegate:

Welcome to the New Jersey League of Municipalities 99th annual Conference. The Conference is the highpoint of the League's service program and a highlight of my year as League President.

The League's 2014 Conference, "Partnerships for Prosperity," will be a vibrant, varied and valuable experience. The program offers a host of relevant topics for Mayors, governing body members and all types of appointed officials. The State of New Jersey has recognized the value of our sessions and workshops by granting continuing education credits, essential for professional recertification for the members of municipal management teams.

Sessions include Budget and Audit Updates, Ethical Standards, Conflict Resolution, Crisis Leadership, Implementing Effective Risk Management, Shared Services, Tourism Marketing, Economic Redevelopment, Affordable Care Act Challenges and Opportunities and Reviews of the Open Public Records and the Open Public Meetings Acts. Other sessions will give legislative leaders, cabinet members and former governors the opportunity to share their priorities and perspectives. And all of our meetings will give conference delegates the chance to ask questions and offer insights from the floor.

In the Exhibit Hall, municipal decision makers will be able to connect with vendors of essential goods and services, waiting to demonstrate the value of their products and their commitment to New Jersey.

So, participate in the sessions, bring your questions to the seminars, engage the experts at the Consulting Period and compare all the products and services present on the Exhibit Floor. These, along with the informal encounters with old friends and new acquaintances, will make you better able to take charge of the changes you face today, and those you'll confront on into the future.

On behalf of the League's officers, executive board and staff, I thank you for participating in this important event.

Sincerely,

Suzanne M. Walters
President, New Jersey League of Municipalities
Mayor, Stone Harbor Borough

PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

Tuesday, November 18

- 8:00 a.m. Affiliate's Meeting (See listing of all Affiliates' Meetings on page 4)
- 9:00 a.m. Registration and Exhibits open
- 12:00 p.m. 6th Annual Sustainable Jersey Luncheon (Sheraton)
- 12:30p.m. League Consulting Period (from 12:30p.m-2:30 p.m., Hall A)
- 1:00 p.m. Vendor Solutions session (See page 6 for complete listing)
- 2:00 p.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 3:00 p.m. NJLM Resolutions Committee Meeting
- 5:00 p.m. Registration and Exhibits close

Wednesday, November 19

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibits open
- 9:00 a.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 10:45 a.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 12:00 p.m. Affiliate Luncheons and Vendor Solutions Sessions
- 12:15 p.m. League's Mayors Box Luncheon (Sheraton)
- 1:00 p.m. Vendor Solutions sessions
- 2:00 p.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 3:45 p.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 5:00 p.m. Registration and Exhibits close

Thursday, November 20

- 8:00 a.m. Women in Municipal Government Breakfast (Sheraton)
- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibits open
- 9:00 a.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 10:45 a.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 12:00p.m. Vendor Solutions Sessions
- 12:15 p.m. League Luncheon for All Delegates (Sheraton)
- 1:00 p.m. Exhibits close
- 2:00 p.m. Select from concurrent sessions and meetings
- 3:00 p.m. Registration closes
- 3:30 p.m. NJLM Business Meeting (Sheraton)



99TH ANNUAL NEW JERSEY LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

ATLANTIC CITY CONVENTION CENTER • NOVEMBER 18-20, 2014

NJLM SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

THE CONSULTING PERIOD ROUND TABLES

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 – 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.
Hall A of the Convention Center



This is your chance to talk one on one with the experts. Over 60 state program directors, area experts and grant givers will answer your questions.

LEAGUE LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Thursday, November 20, 2014 – 12:15 p.m.
Sheraton Crown Ballroom



Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno

The following schedule includes highlights of League sponsored activities and jointly sponsored activities. For a full list, visit NJSLOM.org. Please note that many workshops, sessions and meetings run concurrently. **On page four, you'll find a list of meetings and programs sponsored by the League's Affiliate Organizations.**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:00 a.m. Registration and Exhibits Open

12:00 p.m.  **Sixth Annual Sustainable Jersey Awards Luncheon** 

1:00 p.m. **Vendor Solutions Sessions:**
George Ely Associates • Johnston Communications
• Plastic Safety Systems (PSS) • Health Republic Insurance of New Jersey

12:30 p.m.– 2:30 p.m. **NJLM CONSULTING PERIOD**  **Hall A**

2:00 p.m. **Session Highlights:**

League Orientation • Budget and Audit Updates • Power of LOL
• Clean Communities Funding • Sustainable Jersey Award Winners
• Sovereign Citizens • Serving Local Veterans • Safety Resources

3:00 p.m. NJLM Resolutions Committee Meeting

3:45 p.m. **Session Highlights:**

Business Development in Your Downtown • Retirement Planning and Employee Benefits and Services • Economic Impact of Child Care • Managing Your Technology • Conflict Resolution • Identifying New Traffic Safety Resources • Model Innovations in Sustainable Communities • Dollars for Downtown • School/Municipal Cooperation • Roles of Governing Body Members • Resiliency Part-1 the Energy Bank

5:00 p.m. Registration and Exhibits Close

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

8:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibits Open

9:00 a.m. **Session Highlights:**

Commissioners Roundtable • Municipal and School District Collaboration • Suburban Office Spaces • Facebook and Twitter • Civil Service Commission Update • Information Technology-Best Practices • Elected Officials and the Police Department • Building Trust with Immigrant Communities

10:45 a.m. **Session Highlights:**

Former Governors • Vehicle Routing • Address by the Commissioner of Health • Ethics • Salary Ordinances • Electricity 101 • Your Role In Overseeing Authorities • Sustainable Jersey- New Actions and Initiatives • Grant Resources • Urban Mayors • Safety Resources

12:00 p.m. **Vendor Solutions Session:**
SEMGeeks

12:15 p.m. **Mayors Box Luncheon (Sheraton)**
Open Dialogue with Cabinet Members 

1:00 p.m. **Vendor Solutions Sessions:**
Colonial Life • Document Conversion Associates
• First MCO • Yeager Engineered Systems



2:00 p.m. **Session Highlights:**

Legislative Leaders Panel • Traffic Safety • Elected Officials Primer • Municipalities and Public Opinion • New Tools for Redevelopment and Rehabilitation • NJEIT’s Sail Program • Crisis Management • County Improvement Authorities • Local Government Ethic Complaints • Paperwork and Purchasing • Local Government Communications in a Digital World

3:45 p.m. **Session Highlights:**

Mayors Wellness Campaign • Federal Traffic Sign Visibility Requirements • Storm Water • Elected Officials Primer-Ethics • Best Practices Checklist • Review of Tax Assessment Pilot Programs • Strengthening the Workforce • Government Energy Aggregation • FEMA’s Community Rating System • Risk Management

5:00 p.m. Registration and Exhibits Close

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

8:00 a.m. **Women in Municipal Government Breakfast**
Sheraton Pearl Ballroom 

8:30 a.m. Registration and Exhibits Open

9:00 a.m. **Session Highlights:**

Affordable Housing Update • Open Public Meetings • NJ Resiliency Network • Affordable Care Act • DMOs and Tourism • Public Contracts Law and Regulations Update • Essentials of Appraisal Experts in Tax Appeals • Interest Arbitration Reform • Water Infrastructure Asset Management • Safety Resources

10:45 a.m. **Session Highlights:**

Benefits of Well Prepared Project Specifications • Preventing Outages through Tree Trimming • Best Practices-EMS • OPRA and Privacy • Partnerships for a Successful Reentry Model • Essentials of Appraisal Experts in Tax Appeals • Appraisal Experts in Tax Appeals • Important Court Decisions • Municipalities and State ABC Laws • Shared Services—The True Cost • Curbing the Foreclosure Process



WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT BREAKFAST 

“Female Officials: Transitioning from Municipal Office to the Next Step”

Thursday, November 20, 2014
Pearl Ballroom – 2nd Floor / 8:00 a.m.
Sheraton, Atlantic City

Guest Speakers & Presentation of Outstanding Women in Government Award:



Nancy Pinkin
Assemblywoman
District 18



Holly Schepisi
Assemblywoman
District 39



Presented by: The NJ League of Municipalities Women in Municipal Government Committee

• Leadership on Local Energy Opportunities • Legal Implications of Social Media

12:15 p.m. **NJLM Luncheon for all Delegates**
Sheraton Crown Ballroom 

1:00 p.m. Exhibits Close

2:00 p.m. **Session Highlights:**

• Resiliency Part 2-CHP/Fuel Cells • Electronic Tax Sales • Risk Management for Improvement Districts • Preventing Sexual Harassment • Jersey Fresh Program • The Open Public Records Act • Sustainable Jersey Policy Update • Brownfields and LSRPS

3:00 p.m. Registration Closes

3:30 p.m. **NJLM Business Meeting**, Sheraton Pearl Ballroom



AFFILIATE PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

AFFILIATE PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS

Twenty-one affiliated organizations form an integral part of the League Conference and their programs are open to all delegates. Meal functions normally require separate paid admission.

Affiliate associations participating in this year's Conference are:

American Public Works Association-NJ Chapter; Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey; New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys; New Jersey Building Officials Association; Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey, Inc.; Municipal Court Administrators Association of New Jersey, Inc.; Municipal Electrical Inspectors Association of New Jersey, Inc.; New Jersey Society of Municipal Engineers; Government Finance Officers Association of New Jersey; New Jersey Fire Prevention and Protection Association; New Jersey Health Officials (NJACCHO); New Jersey Municipal Management Association; New Jersey Planning Officials, Inc.; New Jersey State Plumbing Inspectors Association, Inc.; New Jersey State Municipal Prosecutors Association; Governmental Purchasing Association of New Jersey; Community Recreation Society of New Jersey; Registrars Association of New Jersey; Tax Collectors and Treasurers Association of New Jersey; Municipal Welfare Association of New Jersey; and Jersey Access Group.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

- 8:00 a.m. Registrars
- 9:00 a.m. Planning Officials • Registrars
- 10:00 a.m. Assessors • Municipal Clerks • Finance Officers • Planning Officials • Registrars • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 12:15 p.m. Registrars
- 1:00 p.m. Court Administrators • Finance Officers • Planning Officials • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 1:30 p.m. Assessors
- 2:00 p.m. Municipal Clerks • Jersey Access Group • Purchasing Agents • Registrars • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 2:30 p.m. Recreation
- 3:00 p.m. Planning Officials
- 3:30 p.m. Registrars

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

- 7:00 a.m. Health Officials
- 8:30 a.m. Engineers
- 9:00 a.m. Assessors • Municipal Clerks • Court Administrators • Planning Officials • Health Officials • Purchasing Agents • Recreation • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 9:30 a.m. Welfare
- 10:00 a.m. Assessors • Building Officials • Engineers • Fire Officials • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 10:45 a.m. Prosecutors
- 12:00 p.m. Affiliate Luncheons (See program book for locations)
Assessors • Building Officials • Electrical Inspectors • Engineers • Managers • Planning and Zoning Administrators • Prosecutors

- 1:00 p.m. Attorneys • Court Administrators • Finance Officers • Planning Officials • Tax Collectors and Treasurers • Prosecutors
- 1:15 p.m. Attorneys
- 1:30 p.m. Recreation
- 2:00 p.m. Municipal Clerks • Finance Officers • Health Officials • Managers • Planning Officials • American Public Works • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 2:30 p.m. Attorneys • Engineers
- 3:00 p.m. Finance Officers • Planning Officials • Plumbing Inspectors • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 3:30 p.m. Fire Officials
- 4:00 p.m. Attorneys

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

- 8:00 a.m. American Public Works
- 8:30 a.m. Court Administrators
- 9:00 a.m. Finance Officers • Health Officials • Planning Officials • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 10:00 a.m. Building Officials • Fire Officials • Welfare
- 10:45 a.m. Finance Officers • Tax Collectors and Treasurers
- 1:00 p.m. Attorneys
- 1:30 p.m. Assessors
- 2:00 p.m. Fire Officials
- 2:15 p.m. Attorneys
- 3:30 p.m. Attorneys
- 4:30 p.m. Attorneys
- 5:00 p.m. Attorneys

These sessions are produced by exhibitors to bring you their expertise. Full details can be found in the printed Session Program Book. Exhibitors produce these sessions to help you gain in-depth knowledge on specific topics in a comfortable meeting room.

Tuesday November 18

1:00 – 1:50

- Room 317
DMR ARCHITECTS "A Case Study in Creating a New Model for Downtown Revitalization"
- Room 406
GEORGE ELY ASSOCIATES "Inclusive Play: Designing Outdoor Environments for Everyone"
- Room 305
HEALTH REPUBLIC INSURANCE OF NJ "Health Insurance Options for Individuals and Small Businesses"
- Room 307
JOHNSTON COMMUNICATIONS "IT Strategic Planning, Risk Management and Best Practices"
- Room 306
PLASTIC SAFETY SYSTEMS (PSS) "Distracted Driving: Reduce Risk and Improve Safety in New Jersey Work Zones"

ACCESS VALUABLE INFORMATION FROM EXHIBITORS TWO WAYS

The country's largest municipal exhibit hall is searchable right now on the web at the interactive exhibit hall website map-dynamics.com/NJLM2014/. And be sure to attend one of the Vendor Solutions Sessions listed below to gain in-depth knowledge on specific topics in a comfortable setting.

Wednesday November 19

12:00 – 12:50

- Room 318
SEMGEEEKS "Municipalities Gone Digital: A Guide on How Your Municipality Should Embrace Digital Media"

1:00 – 1:50

- Room 316
COLONIAL LIFE – "Increasing Your Bottom Line with Chapter 78 Compliance"
- Room 310
FIRST MCO – "How to Evaluate and Fine Tune your Workers' Compensation Program"
- Room 306
YEAGER ENGINEERED SYSTEMS – "The New EPA Fuel Tank Storage Regulations"



EXHIBITORS

3M TRAFFIC SAFETY AND SECURITY
A&K EQUIPMENT COMPANY INC.
ABBINGTON ENGINEERING LLC
ACCESSREC, LLC
ACCES NEW JERSEY/CAN SERVICES
ACF ENVIRONMENTAL
ACME/LINGO FLAGPOLES
ACTION DATA SERVICES, INC.
ACTIVE DISASTER RESPONSE
ADAMS, REHMANN & HEGGAN ASSOC.
AFLAC - GINA CANDURA PURAZZO
AIA NEW JERSEY
AIR & GAS TECHNOLOGIES INC.
ALL COVERED
ALL TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS
ALLEN ASSOCIATES
ALLIANCE BUS GROUP
AMERICAN FREEZE DRY OPERATIONS
AMERICAN HOSE & HYDRAULICS
AMERICAN PIPE CLEANING LLC.
AMERICAN RECYCLING TECHNOLOGIES
AMERICAN RED CROSS - NEW JERSEY
AMERICAN ROLL OFF
AMERICAN TENNIS COURTS, INC.
AMERICAN TRAFFIC SOLUTIONS
AMERICAN UNIFORM & SUPPLY
AMERIHEALTH CASUALTY SERVICES
AMERIHEALTH NEW JERSEY
AMERLUX
AMY S. GREENE ENVIRONMENTAL
AP CERTIFIED TESTING LLC
APPLIED LANDSCAPE TECHNOLOGIES
AQUALETE INDUSTRIES, LLC
AQUATECH-USA.COM
ARSENAULT ASSOCIATES
ARTPRIDE NJ FOUNDATION
ASPLUNDH TREE EXPERT CO.
ASTROTURF
AT&T
ATLANTIC - TOMORROWS OFFICE
ATLANTIC AQUATIC ENGINEERING
ATLANTIC COAST RECYCLING
ATLANTIC COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AURORA ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.
AXA EQUITABLE
BADGE COMPANY OF NEW JERSEY
BADGER METER, INC.
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CONVAULT, INC.
CONVERT NJ - FLEET ENERGY
COOPER'S OFFICE FURNITURE
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DELUXE INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS
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EQUIPMENT
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DIESELPURE
DIRECT FLOORING

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DUNCAN SOLUTIONS, INC.
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EMEX, LLC
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FILEBANK INC.
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FIRST PRIORITY EMERGENCY VEHICLE
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GRAMCO BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS
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GREEN SKY INDUSTRIES, INC.
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GRIFFITH ELECTRIC
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INVESTORS BANK
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 KEYSTONE STRUCTURES INC.
 KIELY EQUIPMENT CO., LLC
 KLEIN RECYCLING
 KOMPAN PLAYGROUNDS
 KRAFT & CAPIZZI
 KUBOTA TRACTOR CORPORATION
 KUEPER NORTH AMERICA
 L&W SUPPLY CORP.
 L.R. KIMBALL
 LABOR SYNC
 LAN ASSOCIATES EPAS, INC.
 LAUREL EQUIPMENT
 LIBERTY PAPER&JANITORIAL SUPPLY
 LIBERTY PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS
 LINCOLN FINANCIAL GROUP
 LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES OF NJ
 MACK CAMERA & VIDEO SERVICE INC.
 MACO OFFICE SOURCE
 MAGNACARE
 MAJOR POLICE SUPPLY
 MARBELITE COMPANY INCORPORATED
 MASER CONSULTING
 MASSMUTUAL RETIREMENT SERVICES
 MAX SPANN REAL ESTATE/AUCTION CO
 MAYORS WELLNESS CAMPAIGN
 MCINTOSH RAIN BARRELS
 MCNEILUS TRUCK & MANUFACTURING
 METLIFE
 METLIFE RESOURCES
 MGL PRINTING SOLUTIONS
 MID ATLANTIC TRUCK CENTRE
 MID-ATLANTIC WASTE SYSTEMS
 MIDJERSEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 MIKE'S BETTER SHOES
 MILLENNIUM COMMUNICATIONS
 MILLENNIUM STRATEGIES, LLC.
 MITCHELL HUMPHREY & CO.
 MOBILE NOW! LLC
 MODERN GROUP
 MONMOUTH TRUCK EQUIPMENT
 MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY
 MONTANA CONSTRUCTION CORP INC.
 MPH INDUSTRIES
 MTI AMERICA
 MUNCIE POWER PRODUCTS
 MUNICIPAL CLERKS' ASSOC OF NJ
 MUNICIPAL EXCESS LIABILITY FUND
 MUNICIPAL SOFTWARE INC.
 MUNIDEX, INC.
 MUSCO SPORTS LIGHTING
 MY DOWNTOWN MOBILE
 NAJARIAN ASSOCIATES
 NATIONAL RESTORATION
 NATIONAL WATER MAIN CLEANING CO.
 NCPA
 NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER
 NEW JERSEY BUSINESS SYSTEMS
 NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
 NEW JERSEY LAW JOURNAL
 NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS
 NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS (NGV)
 NEW JERSEY PLANNING OFFICIALS
 NEW JERSEY PREVENTION NETWORK
 NEW JERSEY YMCA STATE ALLIANCE

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 NJ - COOPERATIVE PURCHASING& DSS
 NJ - COUNCIL ON DEVEL. DISAB.
 NJ - DEPT HEALTH INDOOR ENVIRON.
 NJ - DEPT LOCAL GOV'T ASSISTANCE
 NJ - DEPT OF CHILDREN & FAMILIES
 NJ - DEPT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
 NJ - DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION
 NJ - DIVISION OF TAXATION LPT
 NJ - HOUSING & MORTGAGE FINANCE
 NJ - LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN
 NJ - MOTOR VEHICLE COMMISSION
 NJ - REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 NJ - UNCLAIMED PROPERTY
 NJ ASSOC. OF CO. ALLIANCE COORDS
 NJ CERTIFIED ANIMAL CONTROL
 NJ CLEAN COMMUNITIES
 NJ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ASSOC.
 NJ GMIS
 NJ HALL OF FAME MOBILE MUSEUM
 NJ HIGHLANDS COUNCIL
 NJ MECH. ALLIED CRAFT COUNCIL
 NJ POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
 NJ PROPANE GAS ASSOCIATION
 NJ RECREATION & PARK ASSN.
 NJ SOCIETY OF PROF LAND SURVEYOR
 NJ SPOTLIGHT
 NJ STATE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 NJ STATE FIRST AID COUNCIL
 NJ STATE FMBA
 NJ STATE MUNICIPAL PROSECUTORS
 NJ SUSTAINABLE ENERGY JOINT MTG
 NJ WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOC.
 NJ WIRELESS ASSOCIATION
 NJEIT
 NJ'S CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAM
 NJSBGA
 NORRIS SALES CO. INC.
 NORTH AMERICAN PIPELINE SERVICES
 NORTHEAST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
 NU-TEL VOICE-DATA VIDEO
 OFFICE BUSINESS SYSTEMS
 OLDCASTLE PRECAST EASISSET BLDGS
 OMLAND ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES
 ONSPOT AUTOMATIC TIRE CHAINS
 OPENGOV
 OTTO ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS
 P.L. CUSTOM EMERGENCY VEHICLES
 P3 GENERATOR SERVICES
 PABST ENTERPRISES/EQUIPMENT CO.
 PAPER MART INC.
 PARAMOUNT FMS
 PARTY PERFECT RENTALS
 PEIRCE-EAGLE EQUIPMENT COMPANY
 PENN GLOBE GASLIGHT
 PENN JERSEY MACHINERY
 PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC.
 PHILIPS LIGHTING NORTH AMERICA
 PHOENIX ADVISORS, LLC.
 PIAZZA & ASSOCIATES, INC.
 PLAINFIELD M.U.A.
 PLASTIC SAFETY SYSTEMS
 PMA MANAGEMENT CORP
 PNC BANK NA
 POM PARKING METERS
 POWER PLACE INC.
 PRESRAY CORPORATION
 PRIOR & NAMI BUSINESS SYSTEMS
 PROGRESSIVE WASTE SOLUTIONS

PROPERTYPILOT
 PROVIDENT BANK
 PRUDENTIAL RETIREMENT
 PS&S CONSULTING ENGINEERS
 PSE&G
 PTR BALER & COMPACTOR COMPANY
 PUBLICSTUFF, INC.
 PUBWORKS
 QC LABORATORIES
 QPR - QUALITY PAVEMENT REPAIR
 QSCEND TECHNOLOGIES INC.
 Q-STAR TECHNOLOGY
 QUALCARE, INC.
 QUALITE SPORTS LIGHTING
 QUESTCDN
 R&H SPRING & TRUCK REPAIR
 R&L PAYROLL
 RADARSIGN, LLC.
 RAHWAY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY
 RAIN FOR RENT
 RANSOME
 RAPID RECOVERY SERVICES LLC
 REALTY APPRAISAL COMPANY
 RECLAMATION LLC
 REED SYSTEMS LTD
 REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS
 REMINGTON, VERNICK & VENA
 REPUBLIC SERVICES OF NJ
 RFP SOLUTIONS, INC.
 RICHARD GRUBB & ASSOCIATES INC.
 RICOH USA INC
 RILEIGHS OUTDOOR DÉCOR
 RIO SUPPLY/NEPTUNE TG
 ROAD RECYCLING COUNCIL - NJ
 ROBERTS ENGINEERING GROUP, LLC.
 ROBINSON
 ROHRER BUS SALES
 RONALD SCHMIDT & ASSOCIATES, PA
 ROUTE 23 AUTOMALL
 RUDCO PRODUCTS INC.
 RUTGERS CONTINUING EDUCATION
 SADAT ASSOCIATES, INC.
 SAMSUNG WIRELESS ENTERPRISES
 SANITATION EQUIPMENT CORP.
 SANTANDER
 SCHAEFER SYSTEMS INTERNATIONAL
 SEA BOX, INC.
 SEAMLESSGOV BY SEAMLESSDOCS
 SEMGEEKS.COM
 SENSUS USA
 SERVPRO GREEN TEAM OF NJ
 SERVPRO OF FREEHOLD
 SIGNS AND SAFETY DEVICES LLC.
 SMART TECH-KEYBOARD CONSULTANTS
 SMART VENT PRODUCTS, INC.
 SMITH-MIDLAND CORPORATION
 SNOW DRAGON SNOW MELTERS OF NJ
 SONITROL SECURITY
 SORA NORTHEAST DEVELOPMENT
 SOUTH JERSEY ELECTRIC VEHICLES
 SOUTH JERSEY FED. CREDIT UNION
 SPATIAL DATA LOGIC, INC.
 SPECIALTY AUTOMOTIVE EQUIPMENT
 SPORTPROSUSA, INC.
 SSP ARCHITECTURAL GROUP, INC.
 STANDARD SOLAR, INC.
 STARNET SOLUTIONS INC.
 STATEWIDE INSURANCE FUND
 STATEWIDE TRAFFIC SAFETY
 STEWART & STEVENSON/ATLANTIC

STOKES CREATIVE GROUP
 STORMWATER COMPLIANCE SOLUTIONS
 STORR TRACTOR COMPANY
 SUBURBAN CONSULTING ENGINEERS
 SUNRISE SYSTEMS
 SUSTAINABLE JERSEY
 SWIFTREACH NETWORKS, INC.
 T&M ASSOCIATES
 T. SLACK ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
 T.M. FITZGERALD & ASSOCIATES
 TD BANK, N.A.
 TECHNOLOGY CONSULTING SERVICES
 TECTONIC ENGINEERING
 TENNANT COMPANY
 THE LANDTEK GROUP
 THE POTHOLE KILLERS
 THE SHAUGER GROUP, INC.
 THE STRESSCRETE GROUP
 THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
 THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE
 TIMES BY VCS
 TOZOUR ENERGY SYSTEMS
 TRACKLESS VEHICLES LTD.
 TRANSAXLE
 TRANSDYN, INC.
 TRIAD ASSOCIATES
 TRICO EQUIPMENT SERVICES, LLC.
 TRIUS, INC.
 TURF EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY CO.
 U.S. MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC.
 UNIQUE PAVING MATERIALS CORP.
 UNITED CONCRETE PRODUCTS INC.
 UNITED HEALTHCARE/OXFORD
 UNITED WATER
 US SPORTS INSTITUTE
 US TENNIS INSTITUTE
 USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT
 USDA-APHIS-WILDLIFE SERVICES
 USGOVBID.COM
 V.E. RALPH & SON, INC.
 VALIC
 VALK MANUFACTURING CO
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REGISTRATION

Pre-registration ended October 1. If you haven't pre-registered, you can register on site at the Conference Registration Desk in the Convention Center. Despite the fact that our conference is the largest of its kind in the nation, our on-site registration fees remain among the lowest: \$65 for municipal members and \$125 for all others. The registration fee is the same whether you attend functions for one day or all three days. Spouses attend free. (Full-time students can register for \$5 with proper school identification.)

Costs for meal functions are extra. Please visit www.NJSLOM.org for information on how to purchase tickets. Some tickets are only sold by our affiliated organizations.

HOTEL CONFIRMATION AND CANCELLATION POLICY

Any room cancellation made after Thursday, November 6, 2014 (the deadline is November 5, 2014 for Caesars, Harrah's and Bally's) will be required to pay for all cancelled room nights. In cases where the municipality pays for reservations, the municipality will incur this charge for late cancellations.

You should not call the hotels to check on your reservations. You will be issued an acknowledgement number that acts as your reservation confirmation. This number will be sent to you either by e-mail, fax or regular mail and serves as your assurance of a room reservation.

TRANSPORTATION

Shuttles between the casino hotels and the Convention Center will be provided by Academy Bus Company. The shuttle service is paid through a \$7 per day, per hotel room fee. Limited on-site parking is available starting at \$7. For casino hotel parking rates and lot parking information, contact individual hotels or check the signs at the parking entrances. For full schedule visit njslom.org.

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

The Resolutions Committee will meet on Tuesday at 3:00 p.m. in Room 320. The meeting is open to all and you are encouraged to attend. Only members of the Resolutions Committee may vote.

Delegates may request copies of all resolutions at the League information booth or online. For the League's Resolution Policy and Procedures, please go to njslom.org/99thconf/index.html.

EXEMPTION FROM OCCUPANCY TAX

The combined city and state sales and luxury taxes are 14 percent. This applies to hotel and motel rooms within the city boundaries of Atlantic City only. To avoid this tax you must pay by municipal voucher.

The New Jersey State Occupancy rate of \$5.00 to \$10.00 per room, per night is applicable to casino hotels. A \$1.00 fee is applicable to non-casino hotels. There is no exemption from these fees. There may be other fees and assessments from which you will not be exempt.

CEU INFORMATION

To make the CEU procedures more efficient and convenient, the League is utilizing an electronic scanning system. Please note, these procedures only apply to educational sessions. Business Meetings and vendor sessions are not included in the scanning system.

Instead of sign-in sheets, there will be badge scanners in each room in the convention center. You will need to scan in and out to receive your credits. As you enter an educational session, you will scan your badge face side up at the badge scanner at the entrance. The scanner will make a "beep sound." Then, following the session, sign-out in the same way you signed in.

You will not receive a paper certificate on the way out of the session. Instead you will be able print your certificate from your home or office computer by logging on to www.njslom.org/confceu.html Please note that you must fill out the session evaluation form for the session before printing your certificate. To print additional certificates, you will need to return to the main screen.

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATES DURING CONFERENCE WEEK

Follow NJLM on Facebook and Twitter during the conference by using #njleague. We'll be providing immediate notices on changes to the schedule of League educational sessions, shuttle bus changes and announcements about sold out League events. You may view NJLM's profiles at facebook.com/njleague and twitter.com/nj_league.



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- Can be completed within two years
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Contact: **Dr. Robert Shick, EMPA Director** – rshick@newark.rutgers.edu | 973-353-5336
spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/empa

State of NJ Certified Public Manager Program (CPM)

- The CPM Program provides the skills organizations are looking for when evaluating employees for promotions
- All requirements for the CPM Program can be completed within a year
- Students have the option to meet Friday and Saturday twice a month or every Friday once a week in locations throughout New Jersey
- No prerequisites, entrance exams, or bachelors degree required
- Graduates receive a CPM certificate and the CPM designation issued jointly by the State of New Jersey Civil Service Commission and Rutgers University

Contact: **Ingrid Castillo-Renderos, CPM Director** – icastill@newark.rutgers.edu | 973-353-3979
spaa.newark.rutgers.edu/cpm

U.S. News & World Report ranks the School of Public Affairs and Administration at Rutgers University-Newark:

7th in Public Management/Administration

and

- **4th** in Information and Technology
- **10th** in Public Finance and Budgeting
- **11th** in City Management and Urban Policy
- **18th** in Nonprofit Management
- **23rd** in Public Affairs
- **24th** in Public Policy Analysis



Getting It Right

New Jersey's local leaders are working with officials from the power utilities to prepare for "The Next One"

By Mayor Tim McDonough, Hope; Chairman, NJLM Emergency Response Committee; NJLM Past President



New Jersey native son General Norman Schwartzkopf famously once said, “The more you sweat in peace, the less you bleed in war.” Time and time again, in recent years, we have been reluctant witnesses to the wisdom of those words.

Over the last few years, since the Great Recession hit us hard in 2008, local officials in New Jersey municipalities have managed to balance their budgets as property values declined, tax appeals increased, development and economic activity stalled, and employment slumped. During every one of those years, local officials have managed to fund their pension obligations for local employees, and to meet their responsibilities to fund a laundry list of mandates imposed by the state and federal government.

Over those same years, local officials all around New Jersey have had to respond to a succession of natural disasters including Hurricane Irene, the Halloween snow storm, the great derecho, Superstorm Sandy and, most recently, one of the worst winters in years. New Jersey municipalities have faced serious emergencies, and we will again. As local leaders, we are closer to those emergencies than state or federal officials. We recognize the problems before others do and we need to respond immediately.

We have learned, in fact, that ‘immediately’ is not really soon enough. Management of an emergency, as General Schwartzkopf knew, begins with planning and preparation, long before the crisis. And the period that seems to come after an emergency, is most valuable when it is used as the interval that comes before the next one.

Every responsible New Jersey Mayor now knows about the risks our municipalities might face, the weak points in our communities, the resources we have and those we can quickly access. As local leaders, we have always been closer to the people feeling the pain and dealing with the problems, during and after emergency events. Local residents are used to bringing their problems to the attention of local officials. We have

esteemed in what each of the state’s utilities are doing to better coordinate their efforts with federal, state and local governments and emergency management agencies. As a veteran Mayor, I know that elected officials throughout the state want assurances that every local utility is doing everything it can to meet any conceivable challenge, from major

storms to the ever-changing energy demands of consumers.

Superstorm Sandy knocked out power to more than 1.7 million of PSE&G’s customers. Virtually all of Jersey Central Power & Light’s 1.1 million customers were affected by the historic storm resulting in the largest restoration effort in that company’s history. At the height of the

Working with and through the Board of Public Utilities, the League of Municipalities had been able to bring the municipal perspective to the attention of power company management.

learned a lot by listening to them. We have encouraged local public employees and volunteer first responders to share their problems and perspectives on emergency management and recovery.

Local emergency preparedness also involves working with our neighboring municipalities, colleagues in county government and professionals from the state’s Office of Emergency Management. Vitaly important, too, has been communication and cooperation with the keepers of our towns’ critical infrastructure.

As Chairman of the New Jersey League of Municipalities’ Emergency Response Committee, I am keenly inter-

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Approved Applications

- Sediment Control
- Dewatering
- MTD Maintenance
- Pre-treatment for Site Remediation
- Sediment Basin Maintenance
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- Drying Dredge Material
- Oil/Water Separation

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- Freeholder Director
Joseph Vicari



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storm, Atlantic City Electric had about 220,000 customers without power in the utility's service territory. Throughout the state, critical substations and switching stations were knocked out of commission. Tens of thousands of trees had to be trimmed or removed and thousands of utility poles repaired or replaced. Every community in New Jersey was affected. The storm took a terrible toll.

I'm a firm believer in speaking out when change is needed, but I also feel it's important to give credit where credit's due.

"If you are going through hell" said Winston Churchill, "keep going." After Hurricane Irene, none of us were satisfied with the pace of progress, with the utilities' responsiveness to local needs, nor with the amount and reliability of the information being provided. But working with and through the Board of Public Utilities, the League of Municipalities has

been able to bring the municipal perspective to the attention of power company management.

I was critical of Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L), which serves Hope Township, following Hurricane Irene. I'm a firm believer in speaking out when change is needed, but I also feel it's important to give credit where credit's due. I've personally experienced more reliable service in our community as the result of recent projects, and I'm impressed with the level of commitment I've seen from that company to maintain a strong focus on this key priority in the years ahead.

Like our state's other regulated utilities, JCP&L has put into place a number of major improvements over the past two years. They have built a new management team that is committed to staying in touch with mayors and local officials. They brought on board new employees to serve as community contacts. Significant investments have been made in equipment upgrades, maintenance and tree trimming that should enhance reliability regardless of the



weather. And, JCP&L has developed a stronger emergency management process for use in future storms.

In response to our concerns, the regulated utilities have added new channels of communication, including text messaging and alerts, outage reporting through Facebook, an enhanced mobile web site and free smart phone apps. And, I believe that JCP&L—the utility that I work with on a daily basis—is doing a better job at determining estimated restoration times after storms hit. This means a lot to families that are trying to decide where to stay. These channels of communication will also help the companies provide more reliable and responsible non-emergency service.

JCP&L was the first utility in New Jersey to create separate web pages featuring every community in its service territory. Beyond playing an essential role in keeping customers informed during outages, these "MyTown" web pages provide updates on projects, such as vegetation management and upgrades to major equipment.

Peter Drucker, the great student and teacher of modern corporate governance once said, "Management is doing things right. Leadership is doing the right things." Local elected officials know that both qualities are needed—especially when trouble hits. No utility will ever be able to provide perfect service—Mother Nature will make sure that doesn't happen. But New Jersey's Mayors are pleased to know that our regulated utilities are doing their best to provide the most reliable, affordable service they can to the customers they—and we—are privileged to serve. ♣

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Left photo, Revel Casino Hotel; center photo, MetLife Stadium, courtesy of Skanska USA; right photo, Montclair rail station & municipal parking lot, courtesy of Prismatic Development Corporation.

Recognizing Outstanding Leadership

The League's Constitution designates the Executive Board to serve as the policy setting body for the state's 565 municipal governments. In recognition of their time and effort, and the knowledge they share to improve municipal government throughout the Garden State, we're publishing their photos below.



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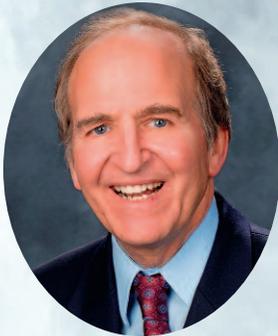


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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Michael F. Cerra, NJLM Director of Government Affairs;
Lori Buckelew & Jon R. Moran, NJLM Senior Legislative Analysts
& Edward Purcell, Esq., Staff Attorney-NJLM Associate Counsel

A-926



Greater Public Disclosure by State Legislators

Status: Assembly Judiciary Committee

The League of Municipalities supports A-926, which provides public access to certain information received or possessed by legislators.

Currently, the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) provides a very broad exception for state legislators, while providing nothing of the sort for local elected officials. Specifically, the law states that a government record, which must be made available to the public, "... shall not include ... information received by a member of the Legislature from a constituent or information held by a member of the Legislature concerning a constituent, including but not limited to information in written form or contained in any e-mail or computer data base, or in any telephone record whatsoever, unless it is information the constituent is required by law to transmit ..."

That, on its face, seems to be a reasonable exception, if it applied only to information provided by or pertaining to individuals who the legislator actually represents. However, the law goes on to define the term "constituent" to mean "... any state resident or other person communicating with a member of the Legislature." This common-sense bill would eliminate that creative definition and limit the OPRA excepted information to that from or concerning an individual in that member's district.

We welcome this bill and the sponsor's leadership on this matter.—JRM

A-2289



Issuing of Stop-Work Order for Failure to Pay Prevailing Wage

Status: Assembly Labor Committee

A-2289 would allow issuing of stop-work orders for failure to pay prevailing wage. A-2289 is well intended. However, the Legislative Committee is concerned that as a result of a contractor's misdeed a municipality's project will be delayed. The result could be additional costs to taxpayers and possible loss of grant funding.

Specifically, A-2289 would permit the Commissioner of Labor to immediately issue a stop work order to an employer who violates the Prevailing Wage Act and have them cease all business operations at every site where the violation has continued. The stop order would remain in effect until the Commissioner has issued an order releasing the stop work order upon finding the employer has agreed to pay wages at the required rate and has paid any wages due and any penalty assessed under the stop work order. Instead, the League has suggested to the sponsors that the penalties for violating the Prevailing Wage Act be expanded to encourage compliance.—LB

S-1972 & A-474



Prohibits Municipal Registration of Multi-Family Dwellings

Status: Second Reading in Senate; Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee

The League continues its opposition to companion legislation which will preempt any municipal ordinance requiring registration for multi-family dwellings. Fortunately, after local officials reached out to the state Senators to express opposition, the bill was held and did not advance. This bill was scheduled for a Senate vote in June. However, the bill may reemerge again in the fall. It is important for local leaders to continue to press their legislators to oppose these bills.

A 1967 law, the "Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law," authorized the state to require registration, in addition to local registration, of residential rental properties with three or more units. Currently, a municipality has the option to require registration for these units.

Such registration is neither redundant nor at cross-purposes with registration conducted by the state. Municipalities conduct these registrations for reasons that affect the health, safety and welfare of their residents. For example, this discretion enables some municipalities to keep a timely inventory of multi-family dwellings in the community and minimize the instances of overcrowding. This option assists municipalities in effectively regulating the quality of housing in the community and should not be preempted by Trenton. For more information and a copy of a sample municipal resolution in opposition of this legislation, please see the League's Dear Mayor letter (njslom.org/letters/2014-0708-Legislative-Update.html) of July 8, 2014.—MFC

S-951



Sanitation Worker Safety

Status: Senate Law and Public Safety Committee

The League of Municipalities supports S-951, also known as “Michael Massey’s Law.” This legislation requires flashing lights on sanitation vehicles and imposes restrictions on drivers approaching sanitation vehicles displaying flashing lights.

Specifically, the bill would require the operator of a motor vehicle approaching a stationary sanitation vehicle to approach the vehicle with due caution and, absent any other direction by a law enforcement officer, make a lane change into a lane not adjacent to sanitation vehicle if possible in the existing safety and traffic conditions. If a lane change would be impossible, prohibited by law

or unsafe, the operator is to reduce the speed to a reasonable and proper speed for the existing road and traffic conditions, which must be less than the posted speed limit, and be prepared to stop.

Additionally, the bill would provide that sanitation vehicles must display flashing amber warning lights while stopped upon a street and while engaged in the collection of garbage, solid wastes, and refuse or while moving between stops at a speed not greater than 10 miles per hour. Current law authorizes sanitation vehicles to use flashing lights but does not require this safety provision.

The bill’s title is in honor of Michael Massey, a resident of Freehold Township and a public works employee with Ocean Township, who was killed in a motor vehicle crash while working, on May 30, 2013.

We commend the sponsor for her leadership on this legislation. It will appropriately provide better protection to san-

itation workers all around our Garden State.—JRM

A-947/S-2216



Release of Bidder’s List Prior to the Bid Opening

Status: Passed the Assembly 59-16-3; Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee

The League continues its strong opposition to A-947/S-2216, which would require municipalities, counties and local authorities to release the names, upon request, of all parties who have received bid documents prior to the bid opening once three or more bid packets have been obtained.

The release of the bidders’ list would have to be made available in a timely manner in accordance with the Open



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Legislative Update

Public Records Act. In addition, municipalities will have the option to post the list on their websites. However, failure to release this information would prohibit a municipality from accepting the bids and require the re-advertisement for bids. The League opposes A-947/S-2216 for several reasons:

1. Release of the bidders' names prior to the receipt of bids could lead to collusion and bid rigging.
2. The bill will require a municipality to create and maintain a record. Presently, the Local Public Contracts Law does not require a municipality to create or maintain such a record.
3. The benchmark of "three or more bids" before the release of the bidders' list is arbitrary and will lead to costly litigation. For example, if a person requests a copy of the bidders' list but at that time only two bid packets have been released and twenty minutes later a third person obtains a bid packet what is the municipality's obligation to the person who requested the list?

The public bidding process should be open and competitive. The names of bidders are routinely released after a bid opening. Releasing the list prior to a bid opening has the potential to limit competition, which can drive up costs for

taxpayers and create an environment that could possibly lead to bid rigging and collusion. Please consider adopting the following sample resolution njslom.org/resolutions/bidders_list_sample_resolution.pdf.—LB

A-1779 & S-444



Amends the Spill Compensation and Control Act

Status: Assembly Environment and Solid Waste Committee; Senate Environment & Energy Committee

The League of Municipalities supports A-1779 and S-444 which amend the New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act to specifically state that any domestic, commercial, or industrial wastewater, sewage, or sewage sludge expelled or released from a public sewer system or a public sewage treatment plant, are exceptions from the Spill Act.

In late 2005 the NJDEP filed an environmental cleanup suit pursuant to the Spill Act against nine businesses for discharging toxic chemicals, mainly dioxin, from a plant in Newark into the Passaic

River. The private companies then filed third party complaints against about 300 public and private entities alleging that those entities had contributed at varying degrees to the contamination of the Passaic River and should bear some of the responsibility. Under the theory that the various public entities contributed, either directly or indirectly, to the contamination of the Passaic River through the discharge of wastewater, a total of 71 municipalities, six municipal wastewater entities and nine state entities were named as third party defendants in the litigation. They were named despite language in the Spill Act stating that sewage and sewage sludge shall not be considered hazardous substances.

The municipal entities named as third parties each paid \$95,000 to the state as part of a settlement. It is our contention, however, that the Legislature intended to exempt municipalities from the requirements of the Spill Act with respect to discharges of sewage and sewage sludge. A-1779 and S-444 clarifies the intent of the Legislature and will ensure that taxpayers are not held liable in similar circumstances going forward. For more information and a copy of a sample municipal resolution in support of this legislation, please see the League's Dear Mayor letter (njslom.org/letters/2014-0722-Weekly-Update.html) of July 22, 2014.—MFC

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A-2966



Limits on Employment with Law Firm

Status: Assembly Judiciary Committee

The League Legislative Committee has voted to oppose A-2966, which would prohibit a local elected official from accepting employment with law firm for a period of time, if she or he voted to award a local government contract to that firm.

Specifically, this bill would prohibit an elected local government officer from accepting employment with a law firm if the officer voted to award that firm a contract with the local government. This prohibition would apply for the duration

of the contract and for a period of one year thereafter.

To address situations in which an elected local government officer leaves office after voting to award a contract to a law firm, the bill would also prohibit a local government from continuing that contract, or from entering into a new contract for a period of one year thereafter, if the former elected officer accepts employment with the law firm. This prohibition would apply to contracts for which the restriction was included in the resolution required for professional services contracts or the bid specification, as applicable, entered into after the date of enactment.

Our Committee felt that this bill could have an adverse impact, particularly in small municipalities, on the ability to recruit strong candidates for local office. Effective local government depends on the willingness of citizens to sacrifice their time and talents to serve their communities. The restrictions on employment

mandated in this bill can be adopted locally, where locally elected individuals believe that the need exists.—JRM

A-3143



Limits Local Enforcing Agency Fees

Status: Assembly State and Local Government Committee

The League opposes A-3143, which limits local enforcing agency fees. Specifically, A-3143 prohibits the municipality's fee for code enforcement from exceeding the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) charges for code enforcement services but permits the Commissioner to waive the fee limitation on a case by case basis.

N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.17 requires a municipality to calculate their enforcing agency fees to "reasonably cover the municipal

cost of enforcing the regulations" and to "provide a means of making such revenue readily available for such purposes from year to year." N.J.A.C. 5:53.4-17 details the cost and includes such items as salaries for code enforcement officials, inspectors and clerical personnel; cost of motor vehicle use by the enforcing agency; and equipment and supplies.

The intent of the regulation, which has been upheld by the courts (*Toys "R" Us, Inc. vs. Twp of Mount Olive*, 300 N.J. Super 585, 591 (App. Div. 1997)), is that the local enforcing agency fee structure must be examined using a multi-year approach because it is difficult for any municipality to achieve a perfect income and expense balance during a single budget year. The rules encourage funds to be reasonably accumulated during surplus years to cover potential deficits during years of reduced income.

The fee established by the DCA differs from the fees charged by municipalities. First and foremost, municipalities are

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complying with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:23-4.14. In addition, the level of services that a municipality may provide tends to be much different than the level of service that DCA will provide.

While the provisions of A-3143 permit a municipality to apply to the Commission-

er for a waiver from the fee limitations, we are extremely concerned that it will be an unwieldy bureaucratic process with the potential for unintended consequences for a process already defined by regulation.

Municipalities must retain the flexibility to set the fees charged for local enforcing agencies to meet the needs of their citizens. If forced to meet arbitrarily limits, municipalities may be required to reduce the level of service they provide their residents.—LB

The bill would streamline and simplify the consolidation process. At a time when it is becoming more difficult to recruit and maintain volunteers and when municipal and fire district budgets are increasingly strained, consolidation initiated at the local level might benefit governing bodies, taxpayers and citizens who depend on this vital service.

This bill permits two or more municipalities to consolidate fire districts if the commissioners of all of the fire districts within each municipality adopt parallel resolutions consenting to the development of a consolidation plan. In addition, the bill permits a single municipality to consider the consolidation of all fire districts within that municipality.

Any municipal governing body or governing bodies that approve the development of a consolidation plan would be required to work with the fire district commissioners to prepare the plan. That plan may be prepared in consultation with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, or his designee.

Upon completion of the consolidation plan, which is to include a first-year budget for the consolidated fire district, the governing body of each municipality considering consolidation would conduct a public hearing to discuss the proposed consolidation. Notice of the hearing and copies of the proposed consolidation plan would be made available for public inspection by the municipal clerk.

Following the hearing, the governing body or governing bodies of each municipality would vote on a resolution to consolidate the fire districts. Upon passage of the resolution, the assets and debts of the fire districts to be consolidated are to be reapportioned pursuant to the consolidation plan. The consolidation would become operative after the next fire district election following the final adoption of the consolidation plan by at least 29 days, during which new commissioners for the consolidated district would be elected.

The League thanks the sponsors for their leadership on this matter and we enthusiastically support A-3006, which was referred to the Assembly State and Local Government Committee.—JRM

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A-2623



Reforms Animal Cruelty Statutes Regarding Euthanasia

Status: Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

The League's Legislative Committee supports A-2623, which would revise the animal cruelty laws concerning euthanizing and impoundment of animals, and provisions for court disposition of seized animals. The bill will also establish a civil penalty for improper euthanizing of animals.

This bill seeks to ensure that humane and painless protocols are observed whenever an animal must be euthanized or impounded. The bill establishes improper euthanizing of an animal as a disorderly persons offense, and aggravated improper euthanizing of an animal as a crime of the fourth degree. It also provides for the imposition of civil penalties of \$500 to \$2,500 for these offenses. We commend the sponsor for his leadership on this.—JRM

A-3006



Fire District Consolidation

Status: Assembly State and Local Government Committee

The League of Municipalities supports A-3006, which would facilitate the consolidation of fire districts, both within and between municipalities.



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NJLM Educational Foundation

Bringing Education and Updates to Municipal Leaders

In 2013-2014 the League of Municipalities Educational Foundation once again held education programs, supported literacy efforts, secured grants and continued to publish its “Friends of Local Government” white paper series.

We published white papers on:

- “Expiring Affordability Controls - Maintaining Affordable Housing in our Municipalities” by David Kinsey, FAICP, PP and Edwin W. Schmierer, Esq.;
- “Municipal Lessons Learned from Superstorm Sandy” by Dr. Stephanie Hoopes Halpin, Ph.D from the School of Public Affairs and Administration, Rutgers-Newark;
- “New Legal Tools for Redevelopment” by Joseph J. Maraziti, Jr., Esq. and Stan Slachetka, PP AICIP; and
- “2014: The Unexpected Economic Soft Patch” by James W. Hughes, Ph.D., Dean and Joseph Seneca, Ph. D; Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers.

With substantial financial assistance from sponsors, the NJLM Educational Foundation hosted the following educational events:

- How to Restore Civility in Public Discourse;
- Reinventing New Jersey’s Obsolete Suburban Office Campus—The Local and Statewide Impacts;
- Energy 101, a program that explained how electricity is generated

and distributed and how aggregation works. It also discussed storm response and resiliency measures that municipalities can implement. In addition, there was information about programs and planning that benefit counties, municipalities and consumers.

For the fourth consecutive year, the Mayors Book Club—in partnership with the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, Monmouth University, Atlantic City Electric, JCP&L, Investors Bank, and AT&T—was conducted with great success as a pilot program in Atlantic, Cape May, Monmouth, Ocean and Cumberland counties.

In 2014 the Foundation assumed the administration of the Michael A. Pane Memorial Fund. The Fund awards an honorarium to a local government professional (attorney, engineer, or planner) who personifies outstanding ability, integrity and ethics in his or her dealings with local governments.”

In addition, NJLM’s Educational Foundation continues to secure and administer grants in support of sustainability efforts. More than \$1 million in grants is being administered from such funders as Wal-Mart Corp, BPU and others. ♻

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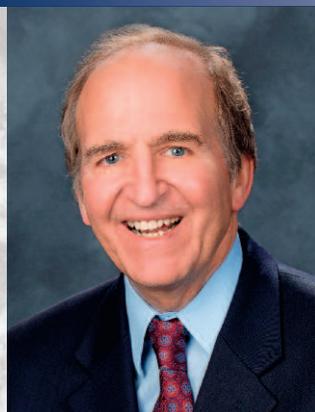
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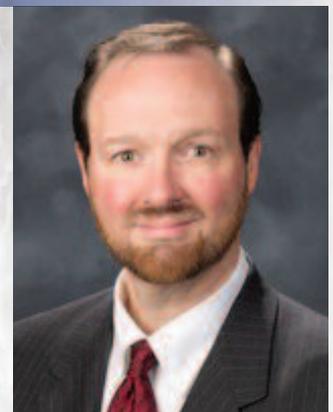
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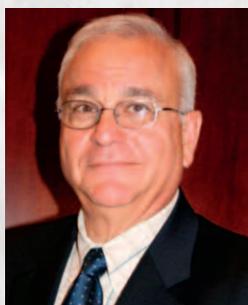
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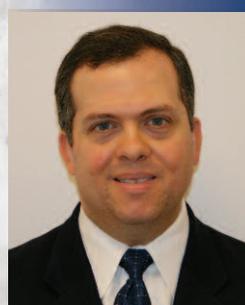
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Pardon Our Dust

Time and the collaboration of the borough and volunteer groups, is bringing back Lavallette

By James G. Borowski, Councilman,
Borough of Lavallette



Lavallette Councilman James Borowski notes that “there is something cathartic about strolling or sitting on a boardwalk free of amusements and concessions.” This photo captures the waves off Lavallette.

On October 29, 2012 Superstorm Sandy struck the Barnegat Barrier Island causing widespread destruction never before seen or imagined. The northern access via State Highway 35 and the Mantoloking Bridge were gone. A storm-created inlet from the Atlantic Ocean to the Barnegat Bay took its place. The other access and egress to the south was across the Route 37 causeway to Toms River. Travel on this route was limited to emergency vehicles and personnel only.

The municipal buildings of the Borough of Lavallette and private residences were impacted with varying levels of storm damage depending mostly on their age and elevation relative to the storm surge. Some homes to the north where the sand dune system was wider and stronger were minimally damaged. Those closer to the southern border with Ortley Beach were knocked off their foundations. The area of West Point Island was flooded with four feet of water in places.

The recovery process, although perceived as painstakingly slow by some, proceeded in a well-organized, methodical way that allowed for eventual repopulation. This was only achieved through a coordinated effort led by our Business Administrator Chris Parlow and our Mayor Walter LaCiciero.

The mayor was fortunate to have recently built a home that was eight feet above sea level. Although the waves were lapping at his front door, the home was spared. As a result,

he never left the island or had to relocate during the recovery process. This enabled him to oversee and collaborate around the clock with the Public Works Department, Construction Office, Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, as well as the federal, state and county officials who assisted with the relief effort. It is a testament to his leadership abilities and his dedication to Lavallette that our recovery has proceed so far, so rapidly.

The recovery process, although perceived as painstakingly slow by some, proceeded in a well-organized, methodical way.

Getting the Power On Lavallette is one of the ten communities that belong to the Public Power Association of New Jersey, owned and operated by the Municipal Utility. The Supervisor of the Electric Department and his team worked 18-hour days to rebuild the storm damaged system. Assisted by other teams from the PPA NJ and contracted emergency teams from Georgia, Lavallette was the first community on the barrier island to have power restored on November 10. The main distribution feeder that ran from the north to our local substation was not yet energized. Mayor LaCicero once again prevailed and convinced JCP&L to energize a spare, lesser used feeder line that ran along the Route 37 causeway to provide energy to the substation. It was an incredibly proud moment for everyone when, in the darkness of night, the Borough of Lavallette shone brightly.

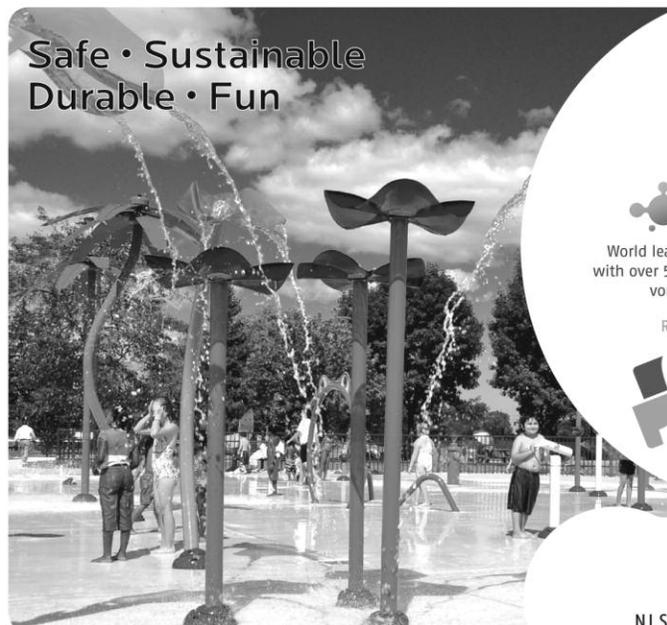
Municipal Buildings In early 2013, certain decisions needed to be made regarding the Municipal Building and the Police Headquarters. Both structures suffered heavy storm damage as a result of



Chris Parlow, Borough Administrator; Michael Stogdill, Councilman; Joanne Filippone, Councilwoman; Walter LaCicero, Mayor; Lee Horan, Councilman; Anita Zalom, Council President; and Jim Borowski, Councilman pose in front of the construction site for the new Borough Hall. Missing from the picture is Councilman Robert Lamb.

being at grade level. They both had outgrown their initial design capabilities and it was time to think toward the future.

After reviewing the engineering reports and damage assessments, the governing body committed to building a new



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Lavallette's Recovery

municipal building complex that will include the police department headquarters as well as the local post office. US Postal officials have entered into a long term lease arrangement with the borough to house their facilities within the municipal building. Construction has begun on this new complex. The multitude of office trailers that have enabled the borough staff to continue to serve our residents in the parking lot of the fire department will remain just a little longer. Many residences have been rebuilt and many more are in the process. With the latest release of additional RREM funding more homes are being raised up—like phoenixes from the ashes.

Buy-a-Board The premier attractions of Lavallette are its beaches and the Atlantic Ocean. The Lavallette boardwalk runs the entire length of the community and provides majestic views for walkers, cyclists, runners and those in

strollers. Some questioned the need to rebuild the severely damaged structure, citing concerns of repeat damage in a future storm.

However, there is something cathartic about strolling or sitting on a boardwalk free of amusements and concessions. You can be in the presence of hundreds yet still be by yourself, alone with your thoughts. A great community effort spearheaded by Mayor LaCicero's wife, Joanne, was undertaken to supplement the funding to rebuild our beloved boardwalk.

Through "Buy-a-Board" a donor could have a board engraved with their choice of inscription and placed in their desired location. The support of our residents and summer visitors garnered nearly \$340,000 in funding. Lavallette's became the first boardwalk completed in Ocean County and we celebrated the driving of the final nail with a visit from Governor Chris Christie. It was

another tangible sign that life here is returning to normal.

While we know things will never be the same after Sandy, we still want to preserve and hold onto the traditions and values that make Lavallette "The Ideal Family Resort," that has attracted so many for countless generations. The commitment of volunteer organizations ranging from the Lavallette Beautification Committee and Heritage Committee to the Lavallette Businessman's Association, to working hand in hand with the Mayor and Council toward a common goal, has accelerated our recovery. This spirit of cooperation and teamwork, so needed in a crisis, continues through this day. Please consider taking the time to witness first hand all of the progress we have made on the road to recovery. In the words of our Business Association: "Pardon our dust as we work to make our town shine." 🍂

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Information Access for Council Persons

By Edward Purcell, Esq.
Staff Attorney-NJLM Associate Counsel

I would like to begin this new “Legal” column by focusing on something basic that often becomes a source of intra-municipal disputes between mayors and council persons. Disputes should not be surprising between legislative and executive authorities. They are, in essence, disputes between the group that sets the policy and the individuals who implement it.

The law seeks to divide the legislative and executive functions to promote independence of each group. For example, the council manager form prohibits any activity by a council person to influence the official acts of the municipal manager. N.J.S.A. 40:69A-91. Indeed, they can be removed from office if convicted of such activity. See *Stern v. Hall*, 183 N.J. Super. 536 (N.J. Law Div. 1982).

Most often I come across this friction when council persons are surprised to learn, that while investigating a municipal issue, they must use the Open Public Records Act to compel the production of records from the municipality they serve. They cannot simply compel the production of records through the municipal office. This is because, under state law, governing councils have the power to investigate and require the production of records. Each individual council person does not. There is a limited exception for council persons in Faulkner Act Mayor-Council plan.

This is a tricky topic because the distribution of powers among legislative and executive officers depends on the form of government adopted by a municipality. 34 New Jersey Practice, Local Government Law 5. at 82 (Michael A. Pane, Jr.) The “authority to investigate and to seek information to discharge the legislative function in a mayor-council form of government is similar to the authority of the Senate and General Assembly to investigate and receive information.” *Morgan v. Shing-Fu Hsueh* 2011 WL 6003972 (N.J. Sup. Ct. App. Div 2011). By contrast the Walsh Act provides for no separate legislative power because it vests a Board of Commissioners with all legislative, administrative, executive and judicial functions. N.J.S.A. 40:72-2.

Governing Bodies Can Conduct Investigations and Access Information Each form of local government has some provision that every governing body has the authority to conduct investigations and compel the production of records from the municipality’s executive administration. As a general rule, local governing bodies can begin an investigation through a resolu-

tion enacted by a simple majority.

The Mayor-Council plan gives the municipal council the power to “conduct... a legislative inquiry or investigation.” N.J.S.A. 40:69A-36(c). This includes the power to issue subpoenas. *IMO Shain*, 92 N.J. 524 (1983). In the City, Town and Borough form of government the council has the power to “investigate any activity of the municipality.” N.J.S.A. 40A:61-5; N.J.S.A. 40A:62-6(b)(4); N.J.S.A. 40A:60-6(b)(4).

Township committees are a little different because the committee has “all the executive responsibilities of the municipality” not placed by law upon the mayor. N.J.S.A. 40A:63-6(c). However, because the Township Committee also has legislative functions, committees have the authority to “investigate any activity of the municipality.” N.J.S.A. 40A:63-6(b)(4).

Council-Manager Form Exceptions The council-manager form of government gives the council the authority to delegate its investigatory authority to subcommittees. Specifically, it states, “nothing herein contained shall prevent the municipal council from appointing committees or commissions of its own members or of citizens to conduct investigations into the conduct of any officer or department, or any matter relating to the welfare of the municipality, and delegating to such committees or commissions such power of inquiry as the municipal council may deem necessary.”

Mayor-Council Plan Exceptions The traditional forms of government, do not imbue individual council persons with the ability to request information from a municipality solely due to their holding office. However, the Faulkner Act does provide this ability in a limited way.

The Mayor-Council form of government gives individual council members the ability to request records from the administration. However, the law states that “any council member may, at any time, require a report on any aspect of the government of the municipality by making a written request to the mayor.” N.J.S.A. 40:69A-37.1.

Conclusion Local councils have the power, acting as a whole, to require the production of government records from the local governments they serve. Individual council persons, with the exception of those in the Mayor-Council plan, do not have this power. Therefore, if individual council persons wish to force the production of records, they must use the Open Public Records Act. ❧

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Aging in Place

Municipal services and partnerships are helping senior citizens continue to live at home

By Janice S. Mironov, Mayor, East Windsor Township;
NJLM Immediate Past President and Dina A. Leacock,
Senior Coordinator, East Windsor Township

“I’ve fallen and I can’t get up,” is a funny line from an old commercial; but also a serious concern for senior citizens who are living at home. For New Jersey’s elderly, the solution is a new movement most commonly referred to as Aging in Place.

According to Wikipedia, The Center for Disease Control defines Aging in Place as “the ability to live in one’s own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level.”

As we age, of course there are many physical changes that affect each person individually. Our bodies and capabilities change and these changes have to be considered when looking into programs that provide services to ensure the ability to age and stay in one’s home. Most senior citizens experience some or all of the following changes as they grow older: reduced vision; increased risk of falls due to balance issues; increased risk of diseases including high blood pressure, diabetes, and heart disease; hearing loss; a decrease in mobility, and for some reduced mental processing abilities and dementia. As such, many seniors struggle with simple tasks such as finding transportation when they can no longer drive, getting around their home as their mobility decreases, cooking meals, going to the doctor, shopping, and socializing.



The United Way of Greater Mercer County (UWGMC), which serves Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset Counties, is working to help seniors continue living in their homes for as long as possible. UWGMC created United Aging and Disability Partnership, a collaboration of health and support service providers that

provide comprehensive care management services to seniors and people with disabilities. A Care Coordinator helps navigate services offered through the United Way Alliance, by providing information on relevant issues including health, nutrition and safety in the house. Home Health Aides assist when needed. Volunteers are available to help with socializing, shopping, transportation and to run errands as needed.

Partners in the United Aging and Disability Partnership include:

- Jewish Family & Children’s Service which provides care management, coordination of care and inter-agency referrals;
- The American Red Cross which provides home delivered meals;
- GMTMC—Ride Provide which

East Windsor’s senior citizen center activities support exercise, health and nutrition, transportation and shopping, and socialization.

- supplies low cost transportation;
- Greenwood House which provides home health aides and nursing;
- Interfaith Caregivers of Greater Trenton, Inc. which provides volunteer home visitors;
- Meals on Wheels of Trenton/Ewing which provides home delivered meals, and;
- Mt. Carmel Guild of Trenton, Inc. which provides nursing.

This United Way program is designed to keep seniors and people with disabilities in their own homes so that they can age in place with dignity, have access to needed services and socialization activities, and maintain their physical and mental health.



The United Way of Greater Mercer County (UWGMC), which serves Mercer, Middlesex and Somerset Counties, is working to help seniors continue living in their homes for as long as possible. Activities such as this origami class at the East Windsor Senior Center help seniors to enjoy a better quality of life.

East Windsor’s Role Our township is doing its part to support senior citizens to age in their homes. East Windsor has a vibrant senior citizen center with a variety of activities, which support exercise, health and nutrition, transportation

and shopping, and socialization. Several services are available directly at the East Windsor Senior Center.

For example, each month the Center offers free blood pressure screenings, as well as many other free screening

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Seniors

throughout the year. There are exercise programs including a Core and Balance Class, a Chair Exercise Class, Tai Chi, and Yoga. The Center also hosts several health related lectures a month; topics include coping with mental health issues such as depression, hoarding, and making the most of your “golden years.”

The East Windsor Senior Center sponsors a community bus, which provides transportation to and from the Center, as well as providing a fixed route schedule for shopping and medical visits. Additionally, Mercer County provides on demand, non-emergency service by TRADE for seniors and people with disabilities. The goal is “to support eligible county residents who require transportation to maintain their health, improve their financial status, use various public and private programs and services (medical, therapeutic, recreational) and access other needed community resources.”



East Windsor Township is a host site for the Mercer County Nutrition Project for the Elderly, a federally funded and state-monitored program, which serves balanced lunches to seniors at the Center five days a week for a \$1.00 donation.

Nutrition East Windsor Township is a host site for the Mercer County Nutrition Project for the Elderly, a federally

funded and state-monitored program, which serves balanced lunches to seniors at the Center five days a week for a

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Support New Jersey's Military Bases

A new state task force seeks to circle the wagons around New Jersey's military installations

By Kim Guadagno,
Lt. Governor

The impact of New Jersey's military installations on our national defense and security is patent. Beyond ensuring America's safety, New Jersey's bases make an incredible contribution to our economy and the quality of life in our communities.

As Lt. Governor, I have crisscrossed this state meeting with business owners and job creators to listen to their concerns regarding New Jersey's business climate. I never tire of these conversations, and they have led to tangible results—namely, the creation of more than 140,000 private sector jobs since our Administration took office.

However, the signing of Executive Order No. 154 in late April gave me—as the mother of an Air Force cadet—the opportunity to take on a new role that is even closer to my heart: leading the New Jersey Military Installation Growth and Development Task Force (Task Force) in its efforts to forge a blueprint for the long-term vitality and economic stability of New Jersey's military bases. To help protect our bases against any potential federal base realignment and closure (BRAC), the Task Force is organizing a

broad-based coalition to (1) support our state's military bases, (2) assist in their economic fortification and (3) ensure the alignment of base missions with larger Department of Defense priorities.

To complement our efforts, the Christie Administration's Fiscal Year 2015 budget included a \$200,000 appropriation to the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to further efforts to safeguard New Jersey's military installations from any BRAC designations.

Membership The Task Force is comprised of experienced members from across the military, government and the private sector, including: Brigadier General Michael Cunniff; former Congressman Jim Saxton; Michele Brown, CEO of the Economic Development Authority; Tracye McDaniel, President and CEO of Choose New Jersey; and Paul Boudreau, President of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce. Together, we have toured the state's military bases and met with numerous businesses impacted by them. We have discussed the issue with officials at every level of government and, in the coming months, will continue meeting with stakeholders to gather information and make our final recommendations for further action.

- With a diverse portfolio specializing in advanced conventional weaponry and ammunition, Picatinny Arsenal adds \$1.5 billion to the state's economy each year and accounts for more than 8,200 indirect jobs. Engineers and scientists comprise roughly half of its workforce.
- Located in two sections of Monmouth County, Naval Weapons Station Earle

handles, stores, transports, renovates and issues a wide array of naval weapons and ammunition. This base adds more than \$32 million annually to New Jersey's economy.

- The United States Coast Guard Training Center at Cape May is the fifth largest base in the Coast Guard and the sole accession point for the entire enlist-

A number of municipalities have already adopted resolutions supporting the Task Force's efforts.

The impact of New Jersey's military installations on our national defense and security is patent. Beyond ensuring America's safety, New Jersey's bases make an incredible contribution to our economy and the quality of life in our communities.

Employment and Economic Activity Analysis by Rutgers University has detailed the impact of our military bases on the state's overall economic vitality. Taken together, the installations generate employment for more than 73,000 people and support \$9.6 billion in total economic activity. For example:

- Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst is the state's second-largest employer, supporting more than 40,000 military and civilian employees and contributing more than \$7 billion annually to New Jersey's economy.



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New Jersey's Military

ed workforce, thereby creating a year-round steady flow of military personnel and visitors to Cape May. The Coast Guard led rescue efforts from the sea as Superstorm Sandy devastated regions of New Jersey in 2012.

- The 177th Fighter Wing, located at Atlantic City International Airport, employs more than 1,100 people. It provides combat-ready citizen airmen and fighter aircraft for worldwide deployment in support of United States Air Force Initiatives. It also serves New Jersey with emergency relief and public safety support.

Be on Board Protecting our military installations is not a red issue or blue issue. It is not purely a federal issue, nor is it purely a state or local issue. Rather, it is a non-partisan issue for which we all must work together, and there are numerous ways in which municipalities can help protect the mili-

tary bases on which their communities and economies rely.

Municipalities and their bases should develop opportunities to share services. This symbiotic “win-win” not only will reduce costs incurred by municipalities during these fiscally austere times but also will reduce costs to the military installations, making them more efficient and less of a target for a BRAC.

Municipalities must increase awareness about the possibility of a BRAC and the impact it would have on their communities. We hope that such awareness will lead to grassroots and community efforts to support our bases, such as advocating with elected officials at all levels of government, staying informed and involved on the issue and supporting our bases by partnering with them on community events and other initiatives. A number of municipalities have already adopted resolutions supporting the Task Force's

efforts—a proactive step that increases awareness at the local level and furthers the Task Force's goal of developing a supportive coalition.

Finally, and most importantly, we must demonstrate that New Jersey is a military-friendly state. To this end, municipalities and their local businesses can facilitate the hiring of military personnel, veterans and their families. These brave men and women fight for our freedom both at home and abroad—they should not have to fight for jobs.

By working collectively, in a non-partisan fashion, we can ensure that our military bases remain vibrant engines of economic growth and job creation in our state and critical components of our communities. We will continue to work collaboratively to ensure not only their continued sustainability and growth, but also that New Jersey remains at the forefront of efforts to safeguard America's lasting strength and security. ♣



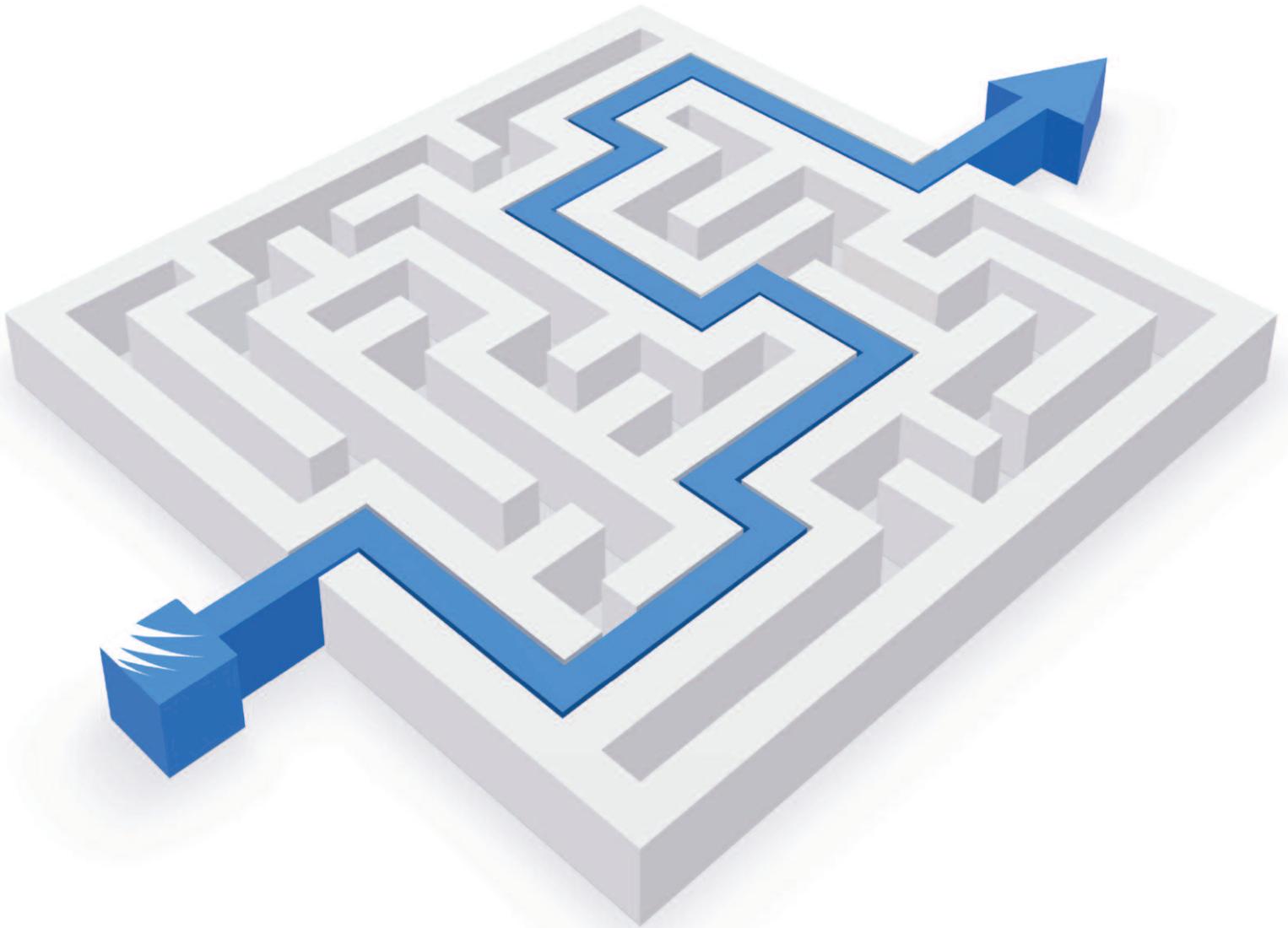
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Interest Arbitration Hard Cap Extended; Chapter 78 Sunset is Next

By Joseph M. Hannon, Esq., NJLM Labor Counsel;
Genova Burns Giantomasi Webster, LLC

With the interest arbitration legislation debate behind us (until 2017) another important piece of legislation affecting municipalities will be sunseting at various times for municipalities over the next few years. That legislation, Chapter 78, P.L. 2011 and health insurance contributions, will be the next big issue in negotiations for public sector collective negotiations agreements.

As you should be aware, the interest arbitration statute was recently updated (A3424). Of particular importance with the new interest arbitration legislation is the extension of the 2 percent hard interest arbitration cap through December 31, 2017. The cap therefore covers all contracts that expire on or before December 31, 2017. While the 2 percent cap was extended, it provided for a compounded 2 percent—meaning that the 2 percent is calculated anew after each year of the agreement rather than just looking at the value of 2 percent for the year preceding the expiration of the collective negotiations agreement.

A3424 also removed the “one bite at the apple” provision. This means that if your municipality previously received an interest arbitration award under the 2 percent hard cap or voluntarily negotiated a successor agreement within the 2 percent hard cap, your municipality may still use the 2 percent hard cap. In short, all contracts for law enforcement and firefighting units that expire on or before December 31, 2017 are subject to the 2 percent hard cap. The law also provides for one mandatory mediation session before proceeding to arbitration and extended all various deadlines. Most notably an award now must be rendered within 90 days of arbitrator appointment, rather than 45. All other timeframes were also extended.

Now that the rules are a bit clearer in the near future regarding the interest arbitration cap, the focus shifts to what is/will happen with Chapter 78 issues. To review, Chapter 78 established the four tier system to phase-in employee insurance premium contributions. While the statute was effective June 28, 2011, contributions began for existing unionized employees

upon expiration of their collective negotiations agreement that were in effect on June 28, 2011. For example, if an agreement had an effective date of January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2013, then the four year phase-in did not begin until January 2014. As such, all bargaining units throughout the state have different dates in which the four year phase-in will be completed. The issue, however, is ripe for discussion as the expiration of the four year phase-in for those who immediately were able to go into the Chapter 78 matrix is as early as June of 2015. Those municipalities will be the first to negotiate contracts in which the employees have all reached the fourth year by the end of the collective negotiations agreement.

The statute itself provides the best guidance for municipalities regarding its obligations in negotiations. The relevant portion of the statute, N.J.S.A. 52:14-17-28e provides as follows:

A public employer and employees who are in negotiations for the next collective negotiations to be executed after the employees in that unit have reached full implementation of the premium share set forth in [the legislation] shall conduct negotiations concerning contributions for health care benefits as if the full premium share was included in the prior contract...After full implementation, those contribution levels shall become part of the parties’ collective negotiations and shall then be subject to collective negotiations in a manner similar to other negotiable items between the parties.

Local Finance Notice 2011-20R clarified the parties’ obligations further by stating that once the fourth year of the phase-in has been completed: (1) negotiations for the next contract shall be conducted as if the full contribution was a part of the previous contract; (2) the contributions remain in place until fully phased in and (3) once the contributions are fully implemented, the contribution structure is negotiable, starting from the point of full implementation.

The statute and the notice provide guidance for municipalities in proceeding with their negotiations regarding Chapter 78 issues. First, the contributions must be fully phased-in. Chapter 78 contributions cannot be diminished prior to the full phase-in. The statute, however, instructs that the parties who are in negotiations for the “next” collective negotiations agreement after Chapter 78 contributions hit their maximum shall

conduct their negotiations as if the full premium share was included in the prior contract. This terminology is also used in the notice. Therefore, if the complete phase-in occurs during the term of a collective negotiations agreement, then the fourth tier shall be utilized for the remainder of that collective negotiations agreement. It is not until the next negotiations after the full phase-in that the negotiations concerning reduction of Chapter 78 benefits may occur.

So, how will these negotiations regarding Chapter 78 benefits go? Of course, that remains to be seen, but a few important issues must be considered. First, as the statute states, "the parties shall conduct their negotiations as if the full premium share was included in the prior contract." Therefore, when negotiating successor contracts municipalities should do exactly what the statute says. You are negotiating from the fourth tier. That is the term that is considered, by

law, to be part of your collective negotiations agreement. You are not negotiating to get back the Tier 4 benefits; rather you are negotiating from the Tier 4 benefits. What a municipality needs in their negotiations is going to be dependent on a number of factors. Each municipality and each bargaining unit may require different issues that must be addressed. Negotiating from the fourth tier will at least provide municipalities the ability to negotiate other issues concerning health benefits or any other term or condition of employment in the collective negotiations agreement that was not previously available due to the mandatory contributions required by Chapter 78. Chapter 78 is certainly a good thing for municipalities, but the sunseting of the contributions does provide some flexibility in negotiations.

One should not forget the mandatory contribution of 1.5 percent of base salary as provided by P.L 2010, c.2 which serves

as a floor for the minimum contribution that can be negotiated. That is still the law. Therefore, if any negotiations occur in which the Chapter 78 premium contributions are decreased, the parties still must abide by the 1.5 percent base salary contribution towards health benefits. So, in essence, parties have the flexibility to negotiate health insurance contributions between that Tier 4 of Chapter 78 and the 1.5 percent of base salary.

It is expected that we will see some creative solutions to dealing with health insurance contributions. Therefore, please consult counsel in devising your negotiations strategy in handling this issue and staying current on any developments. ♪

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The Keys to Bringing Them Home

Jersey City is finding ways to help former inmates escape addiction and crime

By James McGreevey, former Governor; Executive Director, Jersey City Employment and Training Program

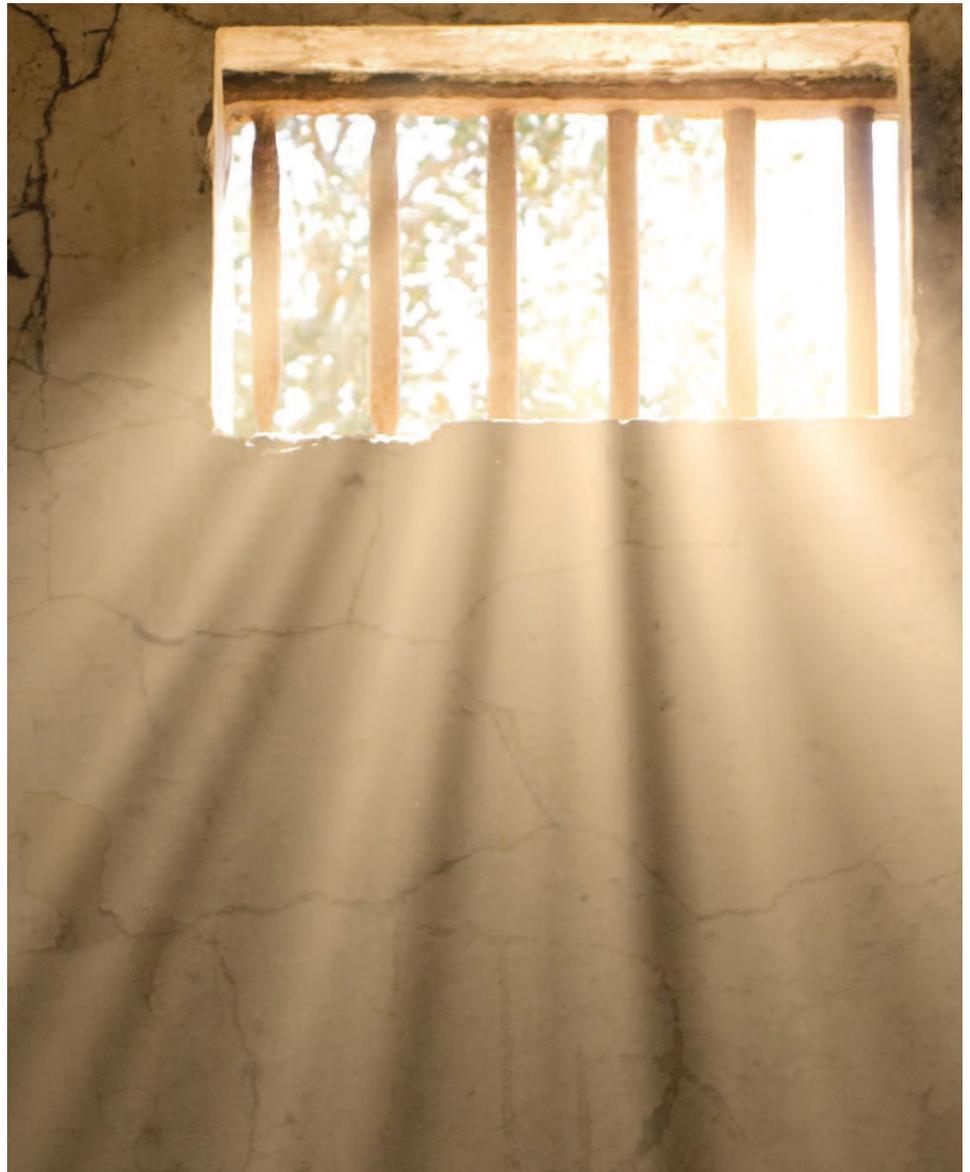
Although U.S. citizens represent 5 percent of the world's population, our prisons hold 25 percent of the world's incarcerated population. In other words, we lock up more of our fellow countrymen (as a percentage of our population) than any other nation.

Our prison population now exceeds two million persons. Accompanying the human cost of failed lives and lost potential, an \$80 billion national correctional cost, an additional \$50 billion criminal justice cost, and an additional \$100 billion cost for policing are focused upon criminal activity. The costs for policing, prosecuting, judging, and incarcerating are understood as being essential to maintaining an ordered society.

A Return to Crime Yet, the results of this expensive endeavor are abysmal. Approximately, two thirds of ex-offenders commit a felony within three years of release. And, the expense of battling and incarcerating criminals impacts our ability to finance other worthwhile priorities. New York spent more money this year for corrections than it did for public higher education. In an era of diminished government resources, monies expended to address broken criminal lives are not available to help prevent the cycle from repeating itself in the next generation.

I would like to make three arguments:

1) for the upwards of 70 percent of offenders who are addicts and alcoholics, treatment ought to be a cornerstone of their



prison life. Without sobriety, few will ever be able to successfully reenter society, secure a job, pay rent, and be a loving family member;

- 2) municipalities are the proper venue to establish a reentry program, as they are closest to the ground and can assist with the tangible services required by ex-offenders, and;
- 3) we can reduce the probability of ex-offenders returning to a life of crime by transforming them.

Drug Treatment First, treatment is essential. Columbia University's report entitled "Behind Bars II" evaluated the level of addiction treatment provided behind prison walls throughout the nation. Sadly, of the 70 percent of inmates who are addicts, only 11 percent receive any treatment.

who want to change their lives through a Second Chance Act grant. Integrity House, the licensed treatment provider, has been offering Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMAS) licensed treatment in accordance with "best practices" of clinical addiction treatment with amazing results. Upon release, working with the Hudson County Judiciary, treatment is provided in the community, at an Intensive Outpatient Program or, if necessary, at a licensed residential facility.

The Role of Local Government Second, municipalities are where the proverbial "rubber hits the road." As Mayor Steven Fulop of Jersey City has stated, ex-offenders are our neighbors and family members, we need to help them become productive citizens as they return home. The two most essential requirements for the ex-offender are housing and work. Working in partnership with Hudson County and Jersey City Employment and

Training Commission, we aim to address both of these essential needs.

Housing Upon release, almost every inmate faces the difficult task of finding a place to sleep each night. The answer is usually a shelter, halfway house, or illegal housing. Ex-offenders convicted of distributing Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) are precluded from Federal Housing, Section 8 assistance, and a host of other rental benefits. Strangely, one can be convicted of far worse crimes and qualify for rental assistance. In an effort to get tough on drugs, we may be barring those who want to change their lives from essential help.

Hudson County provides limited transitional housing through an innovative use of federal and state Human Service dollars. Working with housing vendors, we also require that housing be safe, structured and sober. Clients can rely upon secure housing to regulate their lives, change behaviors and begin life

As inmates are released, we can either help them receive treatment, housing and work or abandon them to the streets.

Hudson County Jail, directed by Oscar Aviles, provides treatment to inmates



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Prison Inmates

anew. The program makes avoiding the distraction and lure of old haunts and drug dealing corners an option.

Employment In addition, the Jersey City Employment and Training Program (JCETP) works to find jobs for ex-offenders. Unlike most prisons, every inmate enrolled in the program is required to work and participate with a rigorous schedule of study and treatment, from an early morning meeting to an evening prayer.

Work is essential. Work provides economic self-sufficiency, self-worth, and an alternative to drug dealing. It has been easier to secure this employment because of the revitalization and renaissance of Jersey City. The mayor has required developers to work with JCETP to provide training and employment opportunities to Jersey City residents, regardless of their criminal history. We've established innovative training programs with the Laborers and Carpenters, Liberty Med-

ical Center and the non-profit Samesky, to provide work for our clients.

Leaving Prison Behind Third, this initiative is keeping people out of prison. As opposed to a national recidivism average of 66 percent, our recidivism rate for women is approximately 25 percent. All of the women within our transitional housing partner "Most Excellent Way" are employed. For all of JCETP's ex-offenders, men and women, in and out of transitional housing, JCETP has helped 50 percent find employment. We can and will do better, but we are moving in the right direction.

Reentry and reintegration from prison to society is a time consuming and messy business. It's labor intensive and fraught with failure and joy. Yet, as inmates are released, we have a simple choice: either to help them receive treatment, housing, and work or abandon them to the streets. The correct choice is clear.

An old Benedictine priest once told me

that the cracks in the vase are where God's grace pours through. I am asking you to help our broken neighbors to know God's grace and the support of their community. There are few more rewarding tasks. ❧



For further information on the Prisoner Reentry initiative, please contact Jim McGreevey at jemcgreevey@hotmail.com

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Scaling the New Learning Curve

New Jersey's move to a post-suburban economy will mean tough decisions for local leaders

By James W. Hughes, Dean & Joseph J. Seneca, Professor, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers, The State University



An unprecedented tidal wave of decentralization and suburbanization took place in New Jersey during the second half of the twentieth century. First there was a decentralization of population and housing, followed by retailing, and then by all sectors of a once highly-centralized, urban-based economy.

The overwhelming power of suburbanization was vividly illustrated by the contrast between the employment growth of New Jersey vs New York City. New Jersey experienced an employment increase between 1950 and 2000 almost ten times that of New York City (2,337,700 jobs versus 250,400 jobs). In 1950, New Jersey's economy—measured by total employment—was less than one-half the size of New York City's. By the mid-1980s, the state's employment base achieved parity with New York City, and by the year 2000 it was seven percent larger. New Jersey was the unquestioned regional growth locomotive.

During this transformation, the state's manufacturing-centric central cities suffered enormously, both in potency and scale, while suburban New Jersey municipalities flourished. In 1980,

a badly aging manufacturing economy was hemorrhaging obsolete industrial-age jobs and factory inventory. Ten years later, our state had remarkably transformed itself into a leading-edge, post-industrial, information-age economy. The vast new knowledge-based jobs were largely housed in office buildings, the factory floors of the new economy.

Much of the vast office inventory was located in suburban highway-oriented growth corridors. New Jersey was a nation-leading example for this automobile-dependent development format. This development pattern was the state's core economic competency and specialization. The nets of suburban growth corridors reached their greatest concentration in the narrow six-county "Wealth Belt" midsection of the state. It was anti-

pated that they represented the skeletal framework of what would be the state's 21st Century economy. However, that assumption was soon proved wrong.

Moreover, the late 20th Century suburban office building was designed to house white-collar jobs whose day-to-day tasks involved pre-internet based information processing. But advances in information technology ultimately changed the nature of white-collar work, and the shape of the economy. Now, many of the economic sectors that occupy offices depend on innovation and collaboration. This has contributed to another profound transformation that started in the post-2000 period.

Markedly different new workplace and residence place values and preferences emerged. Echo boomers—or Millennials—are defining the workforce of the future. Safe, activity-laden, walkable environments are what young, educated and hyper-connected echo boomers mostly see in today's urban areas. The suburban allure for many members of the echo-boom/Millennial generation has rapidly waned in favor of more edgy and active urban environments.

There were also profound advances in information technology during the 2000s—particularly mobile technology that encouraged these changes while the new forces of globalization also started to fundamentally alter knowledge-based work and its accompanying business models. The new era of mobile information technology is, despite its profound impacts to date, still in its early years. Already, it is providing ubiquitous connectivity, unshackling and untethering workers from fixed-in-place information technology systems. Workers are no longer geographic prisoners or cubicle captives. A new mantra has emerged: Any space is a work place. This has redefined and extended the spatial boundaries and composition of the traditional workplace. And it has reduced

corporate space needs.

Moreover, New Jersey's suburban office corridors aged even more rapidly than chronologically expected, and are no longer cutting edge. The New Jersey-New York employment inter-relationship illustrates the new pattern of economic growth in the post-2000 period. New Jersey's employment advantage over New York City peaked in 2003, when the state's job base was 13 percent larger than the city's. During the next 10 years, in a reversal of roles, New York City became the regional growth locomotive. Between 2003 and 2013, it was New Jersey that lost employment (-71,800 jobs), while New York City gained (464,880 jobs)! This economic role reversal suggests a much less suburban-centric economy in the future, an economic scenario that is being played out nationally.

The New Jersey economy must reinvent itself yet again. The state must reimagine many of its suburban assets, and reinvent many of its suburban office campuses in order to create competitive workplaces. It must find ways to maximize sustainable places where people can live, work, and play through reuse and re-design. It's time to scale a new economic learning curve. ♣

This economic role reversal suggests a much less suburban-centric economy in the future, an economic scenario that is being played out nationally.

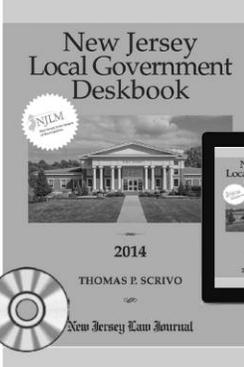
The Post-suburban New Century

Many of the forces and trends that shaped the second half of the 20th century changed profoundly in the new century and promise to continue to do so going forward. Growth in employment slowed and its structural composition changed dramatically. At the same time new demographics began to reshape the workforce, workplace geography and housing markets. The greatest age-structure transformation in history was well underway by 2011, when the first baby boomer—that generation of Americans born between 1946 and 1964—turned 65 years of age. In that same year, the echo-boom generation—which was born between 1977 and 1995 and was almost the size of the original baby boom—accounted for all of the nation's young adult population under 35 years old.

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Learning Despite Our Mistakes

The potential of an inmate sitting in a cell is no less valuable than that of an accomplished student

By Gary M. Lanigan, Commissioner,
New Jersey Department of Corrections



Jason Altschuler of Princeton University squared off against inmates during a recent chess tournament at New Jersey State Prison. (Photo by Al Trach)

I recently was privileged to join Governor Christie at an event in support of an acclaimed program known as New Jersey Scholarship and Transformative Education in Prisons (NJ-STEP), which offers access to higher education to qualified incarcerated individuals and assists with the transition to college life upon their release. NJ-STEP has been a centerpiece of the Governor’s commitment to reduce recidivism. That day, Governor Christie spoke about how every human life is precious and how the potential of an inmate sitting in a cell is no less valuable than that of an accomplished student.

“We need to make sure that we bring that message to everyone,” the Governor told those in attendance. “Through programs like [NJ STEP], we’re beginning to be able to do that.”

Indeed, the advantages of educating inmates who are in the care of the New Jersey Department of Corrections (NJDOC) cannot be overstated. That’s why I view the many initiatives

and programs through which the NJDOC joins forces with colleges and universities across the state as critically important to our offender re-entry efforts.

Perhaps the most gratifying aspect of these initiatives, other than the obvious benefits to the inmate population, is that they are made available at no cost to taxpayers. Funding is provided

in its entirety by our philanthropic partners, who have demonstrated a willingness to support and enhance this department's many educational endeavors. Why are our partners so willing to fund this initiative?

Funding is provided in its entirety by our philanthropic partners.

The Educated Are Less Likely to Re-offend Last year, a RAND Corporation analysis found that participation in educational programs while incarcerated significantly decreases the possibility of recidivism. Furthermore, prison staff have noted that the stronger their educational programs, the lower the rate of violent incidents in the facility.



Raritan Valley Community College student Daniel Baker serves as a volunteer at Mountainview Youth Correctional Facility.

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Prisoner Education

For most inmates who pursue an education while incarcerated, that trend does not end with their release. Educated offenders are far better equipped to turn their lives around outside the prison walls than those with inadequate educations.

Among the most engaging public-private partnerships in the corrections field is the Pathways Project. Led by the Vera Institute of Justice, the Pathways Project provides selected states with incentive funding and technical assistance to expand access to higher education to

those in prison as well as those recently released.

The Pathways Project In advance of the 2012-2013 academic year, New Jersey was one of only four states to receive Pathways Project major funding for four years to develop a national demonstration model. The goals of the project—funded by the Ford Foundation, the Sunshine Lady Foundation, the Open Society Foundations, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation—are essentially the same as ours: to demonstrate that access to post-secondary education, combined with effective re-entry services, can reduce recidivism and increase employability and earnings.

Inside Out The College of New Jersey, Princeton and Drew also have been part of Inside Out, a program through which college students come to NJDOC facilities to take classes alongside members of the inmate population. Inside Out has been offered at Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women and Albert C. Wagner Youth Correctional Facility, and it is hoped that the program will expand to other facilities. Other colleges, including Raritan Valley, have expressed an interest in participating.

The Mountainview Project Through an initiative dubbed the Mountainview Project (which also includes eligible inmates from facilities other than the Mountainview Youth Correctional Facility), former NJDOC offenders who have taken college courses while incarcerated become part of the student body at Rutgers.

The former inmates have typically performed as well as or better than their peers, both academically and socially, and some have truly distinguished themselves. I'm pleased to report that two ex-inmates became Rutgers' eighth and ninth recipients of the prestigious Harry S. Truman Scholarship for demonstrating "exceptional leadership potential." Both were housed at Mountainview just a handful of years before they were chosen for the scholarship, which provides up to \$30,000 for graduate study.

Ivies vs. Inmates One of our most unusual programs is the "Ivies vs. Inmates" chess competition, usually held twice yearly, at New Jersey State Prison. The competition matches members of the Chess Club at Princeton University against state-sentenced inmates. Each Princeton student simultaneously faces off in separate games against several offenders.

In essence, different worlds are colliding. Princeton students agree to leave the comfort of their Ivy League campus to embark on arguably the most unlikely road trip imaginable. Book smarts meet street smarts, with the chess board as the common denominator. The offenders face their opponents from Princeton armed with the lessons they have

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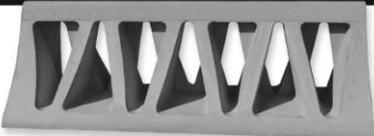
The Pathways Project grants were used by the NJ-STEP consortium, which serves almost 500 inmates in six of this department's 13 prisons. Our aim is to expand the program to include 2,000 inmates in 10 prisons over the next four years. The ever-expanding consortium is housed at Rutgers University's School of Criminal Justice. The current roster of NJ-STEP schools includes Rutgers, Princeton University, The College of New Jersey, Drew University, Raritan Valley Community College, Essex County Community College and Mercer County Community College.

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learned through their involvement with chess, such as strategy, patience and—yes—respect. Clearly, these lessons apply to life as well, which is why I regard the chess program at New Jersey State Prison and other NJDOC facilities as a valuable learning tool.

Tutoring Through yet another Princeton initiative, the Petey Greene Prisoner Assistance Program, hundreds of students have served as volunteer tutors for inmates in subjects ranging from math to English, from science to social studies.

The late Petey Greene was an ex-con who reinvented himself outside the prison system and became a radio and television personality in the 1970s and '80s. Princeton graduate Charlie Puttkammer, who served as a mentor to Greene, founded the program and named it in his longtime friend's memory.

Students work in both individual and group settings with custody offenders at the NJDOC's three youth correctional facilities—Mountainview, Garden State and Albert C. Wagner—as well as Edna Mahan Correctional Facility for Women.

The NJDOC also relies heavily on the invaluable contributions of volunteer student tutors from Rutgers, The College of New Jersey, Seton Hall University and various other institutions of higher learning. In fact, in 2014, our educational programs have had more than 400 weekly volunteers. In the last fiscal year, education volunteers, whose ranks include both students and numerous college/university faculty members, donated more than 10,500 hours of their time.

From the human perspective, the interaction between college students and inmates, particularly our younger offenders, has proven to be mutually beneficial. The fact is, the majority of students and inmates who have interacted through the kinds of initiatives I've discussed would not otherwise have done so.

We are grateful for the ongoing partnerships we maintain on so many levels with New Jersey's colleges and universities. Not only are we anxious to maintain these initiatives, we aspire to expand them wherever possible. It is my hope that our partners share this vision. ♣



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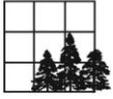
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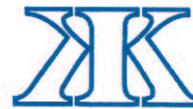
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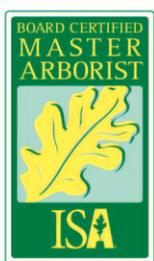


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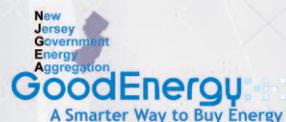
November 18-20

99th Annual NJLM Conference
Atlantic City Convention Center,
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