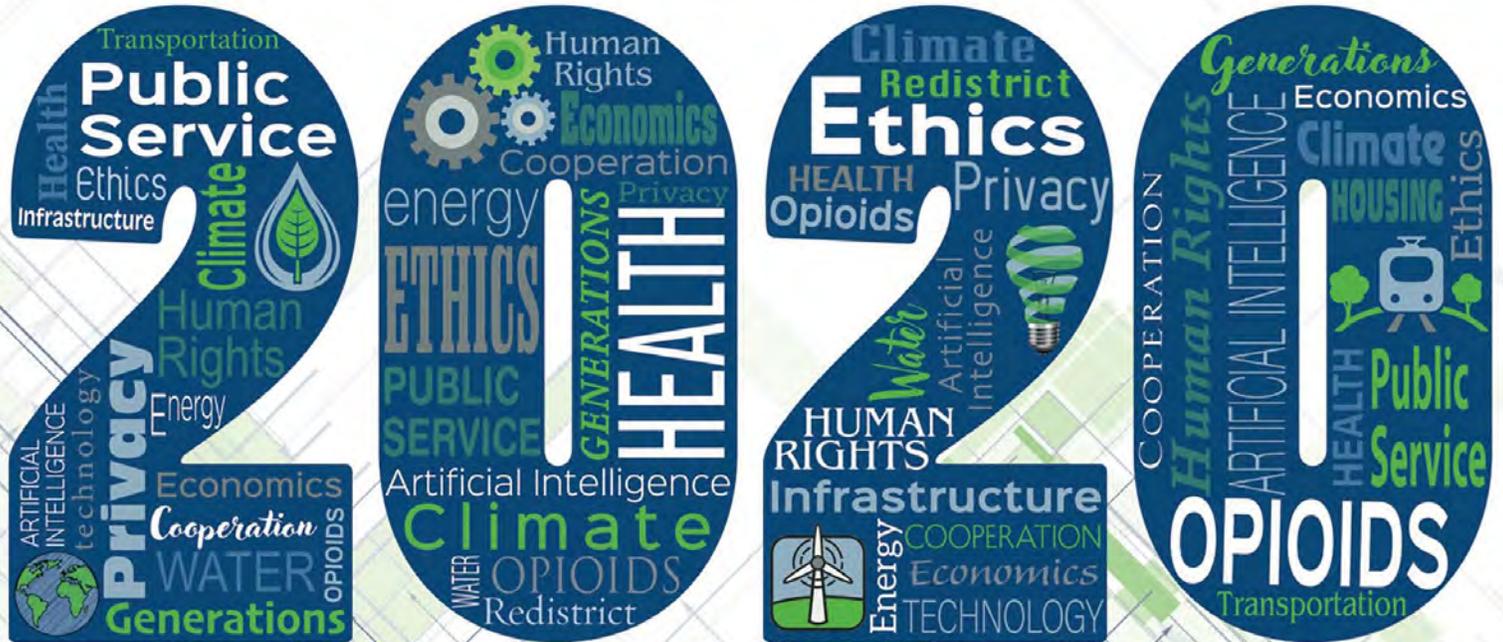




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November 2020



105th Annual NJ State League of Municipalities Conference- Presented Virtually

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INSIDE: Special Program Guide

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New Jersey Municipalities Magazine

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EDITOR
Michael F. Cerra

MANAGING EDITOR
Amy Spiezio aspiezio@njlm.org

DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING, AND TECHNOLOGY
Taran B. Samhammer tsamhammer@njlm.org

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS
Lori Buckelew
Benjamin Dworkin, Ph.D.
Andrew LaFevre
Frank Marshall, Esq.
Jon R. Moran
Paul A. Penna

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Dawn Becan, White Eagle Printing Company

SUBSCRIPTION MANAGER
Thomas Fratticcioli

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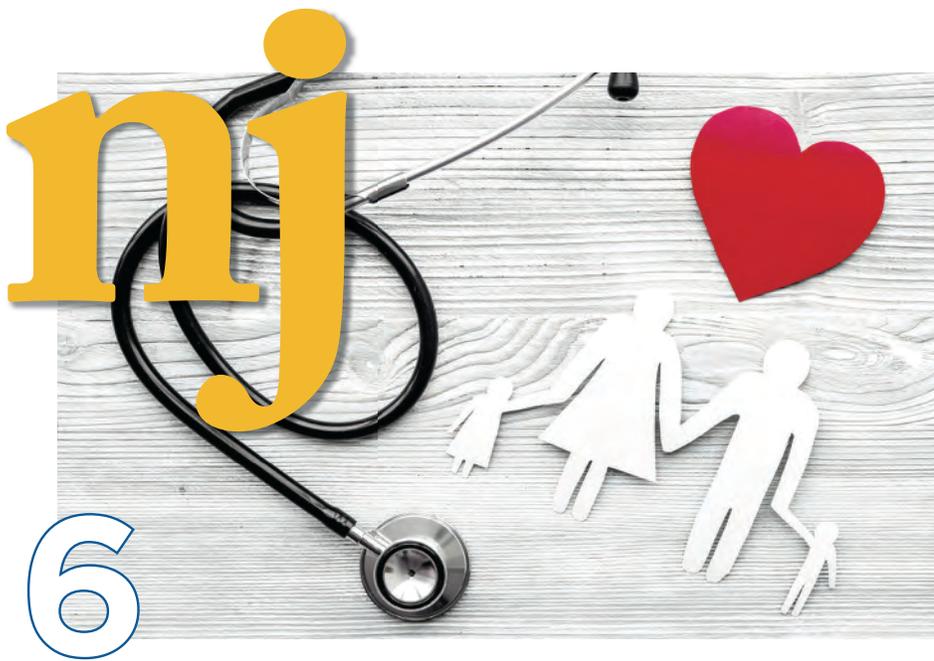
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Local Government Staffing

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A Most Extraordinary Year

I am happy to welcome you to the 105th Annual Conference—Presented Virtually. Did I think my first Conference as Executive Director would roll out like this? In terms of this year’s format in the digital world, not a chance. But when it comes to the high quality of content and the enthusiastic participation on the part of NJLM Officers and Executive Board Members, Affiliates, Presenters, and Delegates I am not surprised at all.

The League has always worked as a bridge between you—our members—and officials on the State and Federal levels. At our Conference we look forward to bringing you face-to-face, or should I say screen-to-screen with Executive-level State Officials, Division and Department Heads, and so many other key contacts who can help you do the business of recovering from the pandemic and facing the challenges of 2021.

We here at the League thank them and you for joining us online at the Conference. I’d also like to take a moment to thank the League’s in-house team for pivoting on a dime and rewriting a century’s traditions to make a modern experience that meets the educational, informational, and networking needs of local government officials.

For a look at the fruits of our efforts, please visit the Conference Program on page 81. This year we’ve combined the Session and Exhibitor programs for your convenience. We will update the program online at the Conference platform, www.njlm.org/2020conference, as details are finalized. In the meantime, plan your week secure in the knowledge that there

will be useful CEU credit courses and informative non-credit sessions as well.

In this issue, be on the lookout for information boxes in features throughout that provide a sneak preview of some sessions, including an Op-Ed from 1st Vice President Mayor Janice Kovach of Clinton Town (page 20) that will tease Local Film Production: A Means of Economic Development.

I’d like to thank our outgoing President, Jim Perry, for his service to the League. His term was anything but ordinary and he gave his all to guide the League through a major executive team transition and pandemic in the same year. Thanks to him, our 1st Vice President Kovach and 2nd Vice President William Chegwiddden, and all of our Executive Board Members for their hard work in this extraordinary year.

And with some regret but much appreciation, we’ll be saying, well not goodbye, but rather see you further up the road, to Jon Moran, who is retiring later this month after 34 years of service to New Jersey’s municipalities. For more, please see page 12. When I was a naïve, wet-behind-the-ear policy wonk turned lobbyist, Jon took me under his wing. I appreciated his guidance, his keen instinct, analysis, and counsel. But more importantly, I appreciated our long discussions on baseball trivia, college basketball, and politics. Normally I would say be sure to find him at the Conference and wish him well, but in 2020 I guess an email or phone call will have to do. Good luck, Jon, and don’t be a stranger.

Looking forward to seeing you online at the Conference! 🍷

Michael Cerra

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Health Benefit Costs

Looking to the fourth-quarter shortfalls' impact on premiums

SCOTT DAVENPORT, REBC, CEBS,
Public Entity & HIF Practice Leader,
New Jersey Health Insurance Fund (hi fund)



Concerns about fourth-quarter tax collections, lost ratables and reductions in state aid have many municipal leaders questioning the impact COVID-19 will have on the future of health benefit costs.

Will premiums go up? Are there ways to save money? How can we plan for the future with warnings of a resurgence of COVID-19 on the horizon?

“There is lot of uncertainty around the direction healthcare costs will go in the next 6 to 12 months, which is very concerning,” said Joe DiBella, Executive Vice President - Managing Director of PERMA. “What we do know, is that by looking at what has transpired so far, municipalities can make more informed decisions regarding health benefits going forward.”

Utilization of health benefits

There has been an unprecedented drop in health care utilization since the pandemic started. Statistics from the New Jersey Health Insurance Fund (hi fund), a health care insurance risk pool that serves more than 230 public entities across the state, reported that in April and May health benefit claims were actually down 30% across the board.

“It is early, but we know the numbers are lower than anticipated,” said John Dunleavy, Bloomingdale Mayor and NJLM Executive

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UpFront: Health Benefit Costs

Board Member, who also serves as Chair of the North Jersey Municipal Employee Benefits Fund. “The irony is that all things are down, dental, routine visits, surgeries. We are seeing potential savings on that side, but when things calm down and people start seeking care again the numbers may spike back up.”

Early fears of massive hospitalizations never came to fruition. Those who contracted the virus and were hospitalized did have heightened affiliated costs, but there were far fewer incidents in contrast to the balance of the population.

Impact of postponing treatment

Limited access to doctors and specialists, the cancellation of elected procedures, and the fear of contracting the virus resulted in many people choosing to postpone medical treatment. The concern is how this delay will affect the health of patients and influence future health care costs.

“The diabetic that has not been taking care of themselves, 5 to 6 months from

now, will they experience complications that could make them more difficult to treat? What are the consequences for the person who never got the MRI or that extra test? That is what we need to watch every day in terms of utilization: will that delay result in a higher cost of care?” DiBella said.

Another related impact could be that people realize they don’t need all the care they have been getting, and that some of the elective procedures and diagnostics are not necessary. This could spur discussions to help fine-tune health benefits coverage to reduce expenses.

Telemedicine

Telemedicine served as a lifeline for people unable to see their regular doctors, particularly early in crisis when few office-based physicians had systems in place to accommodate the need.

Telemedicine is offered by certain insurance providers under names like Teladoc or MD Live, to provide 24/7 virtual access to doctors and health professionals at pre-negotiated rates.

The costs are typically less than a regular office visit providing savings for both patients and employers.

Telemedicine will become much more mainstream in the future so check with your insurance carrier to see if this option is available. Telemedicine is a standard feature for hi fund members.

Continuation of coverage

The ability to provide uninterrupted health benefits coverage to employees who are furloughed or laid off, without having them incur additional costs or activate COBRA, left many municipalities scrambling this spring.

The “active at work” provision found in most group health benefit policies made compliance difficult. Many employees who were needed to maintain municipal services didn’t meet the requirements for “active at work” if they were on furlough, working from home, working reduced hours, or on a rotating schedule.

Fortunately, many insurance carriers and government agencies were given temporary relief from the provision,

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Tips For Cutting Health Benefit Costs

2 Cost Containment.

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3 Review Provider Networks and Centers of Excellence.

Contract with providers and specialized treatment centers (cancer, orthopedics, cardiac) based on the quality of care and outcomes to help narrow the network and contain costs.

1 Benefits Contracts. Rates are typically locked in for 1-year terms, but changes to a plan can be made if new bargaining agreements are reached with union members. Public entities can also decide to join a HIF at any time regardless of renewal/anniversary dates.

4 Pharmacy Cost Containment.

Institute specialty drug management and formulary controls to ensure that providers are prescribing medications that have the right efficacy of intent and have passed long-term clinical trials.

allowing those not “actively at work” to stay on the plan even if they were furloughed. This also helped avoid layoffs.

Administrators should include this issue on their checklist of items to address when fine-tuning health benefits packages for the next fiscal year.

Controlling Costs

The current decline in claims and has resulted in some insurance carriers offering one-time premium waivers, but they are temporary and do vary by carrier. Some dental and vision providers are also following suit.

Under the Affordable Care Act, if a fully insured plan collects a premium and doesn't have to pay claims, the insurance company has to give some of that money back. “Insurance companies are trying to

get ahead of that by giving it back in 2020 rather than 2021,” explained DiBella.

While “give backs” are helpful, they may not affect future premiums.

A more stable form of cost control can be found in HIFs, which provide member municipalities with long-term rate stability and the opportunity to receive annual dividends based on the success of the fund.

“Historically our rates have been very stable averaging increases of only 6 to 7%,” said Thomas Nolan, Administrator for the Borough of Brielle and Chair of the Central New Jersey Regional Employee Benefits Fund. “It is hard to predict health care costs, sometimes you have a series of bad claims but the HIF helps balance that among members so there are no major spikes that are a detriment to any one town or the community.”

“The North Jersey fund has a \$4 million dividend and we are allowing members, if they need cash flow now, to get early disbursement of those funds to help our members,” related Dunleavy. “Based on the leadership, financial security and stability of our fund we are comfortable that we will be able to manage and get through this crisis without a major impact to our members.”

Health care benefits are the second-largest budget item under salaries for municipalities and can have a direct impact on taxes. Even if health benefit costs don't rise right away, the pressure to find savings will continue to grow as administrators struggle to keep their employees healthy and their towns running in the face of the economic uncertainty caused by COVID-19. 🇯🇵

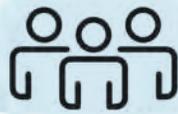
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NJLM Announces Restructuring New Roles for Kizer, Lawrence, and Samhammer

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities is pleased to announce a restructuring of its team to best meet the needs of its members.

The restructuring of the League's team by the Transition Committee and the NJLM Executive Board is focused on continuing the development of management operations and creating a more decentralized structure that delegates more authority and responsibilities to three new directors, Marie Kizer, Director, Finance and Administration; Kristin Lawrence, Director, Conference Business Development; and Taran Samhammer, Director, Communications, Marketing and Technology.

"These changes mark a significant step. With the restructuring of existing roles within our team, we will position the League for continued success," said Executive Director Mike Cerra. "These changes represent progress toward aligning our operations in a way that will greatly streamline efforts and free up the executive staff to focus on major priorities and functions."

Marie Kizer, Director, Finance and Administration joined the League 27 years ago and manages the financial aspects of the League. She is the driving force behind the registration desk at the Conference each year. In addition to that sizeable effort, Kizer manages the accounting and reporting functions and is the League's certifying officer for the administration of pensions and benefits and other HR matters. In 2018, Kizer was presented with the National League of Cities' John G. Stutz award for those who have served a total of 25 years or more on the staff of a state municipal league.

Kristin Lawrence, Director, Conference Business Development, has been with NJLM since May 2006. She started her career at the League as the Exhibit Administrator, and progressed to Director of Exhibition and Sponsorships. In her role, she manages the exhibit and sponsorship programs for NJLM's Annual Conference, typically in Atlantic City, where over 725 exhibiting companies display in 1,100 exhibit booths for NJ's local government officials. This year Lawrence has rebuilt the Exhibit Hall in the virtual event. She earned her B.A. in American Studies from Rutgers University.

Taran Samhammer, Director of Marketing, Communications, and Technology, is responsible for developing the League's communications and branding strategy, including implementing new technology to improve member services and message outreach. She also manages print and web advertising, coordinating research and online educational tools, and the League's internship program. Samhammer has a B.A. in Communications from the University of Arizona and an M.P.A. from Villanova University.



Marie Kizer



Kristin Lawrence



Taran Samhammer

Moran Retires: NJLM Says Goodbye to Longtime Analyst, Friend



Photo from Jon Moran's hiring announcement in 1986.

Senior Legislative Analyst Jon Moran retires this month after 34 years with the League. Along with his work on behalf of NJLM working with Federal representatives from New Jersey and our partner, the National League of Cities, Moran was a key member of the Legislative team who coordinated the General Legislation Committee within the League Legislative Committee.

At League headquarters, Moran was a resource for members and staff alike, keeping an eye on Energy Tax Receipts and always striving to help local governments get the funding to which they are entitled. His work behind the scenes writing speeches, blogs, and informative materials represented the staff at their best; and Moran could always be counted on for a smart opinion and educational insights on the workings under the Gold Dome and the Capitol.

But Moran has always had a meaningful life outside of Trenton.

Continued on page 14.

Accountability Matters.

It's time polluters paid their fair share.



As early as the 1960s, oil and gas companies knew their products caused climate change – and then spent millions to bury the truth. Now, New Jerseyans will need to spend billions to protect our homes, communities, and businesses from the impacts of climate change.

Learn more about holding polluters accountable at the Pay Up Climate Polluters exhibit and educational session.

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Dressel, Moran and Barrs review proposed "State Pay for State Mandate" Constitutional Amendment with Senate President John Russo in 1987.



Since earning his B.A. in History from St. Joseph's University and M.A. in Political Theory from Rutgers University, he has worked for social justice and a better community as a parishioner at St. Marks Parish, Bristol, PA. Over the years, he has participated in the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge, ridden in the MS Bike: City to Shore Ride, and served as a Scout Master for Boy Scouts of America. His work as a volunteer helped those nearby through Code Blue Mission, Advocates for Homeless & Those in Need (ANTN) as well as at Cape Shawnee as part of Christian Appalachian Project in Eastern Kentucky.

Jon Moran retires to a rich life, filled with activities ranging from reading, hiking and camping with his canine companion, Fritz, and spending time

with his son and daughter to cheering on the Phillies and St. Joseph's University baseball teams as well as the Tipperary Hurling Team. Always a proud Irishman, Moran will use his newfound spare time to work on his Gaelic language skills.

"I've known and worked with Jon for nearly a quarter century, and he's the only man who could regularly stump me on sports trivia. I'll remember and treasure our long conversations on policy, politics, A-10 basketball and baseball," said NJLM Executive Director Mike Cerra.

The entire League staff, Officers, and Executive Board members thank Jon for his years of hard work on behalf of New Jersey's Local Governments and wish him a very, very happy retirement. 🇺🇸



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The biopharmaceutical sector is the foundation of one of New Jersey's most dynamic and innovative business ecosystems. Not only does the industry invest heavily in the research and development of new treatments and cures, it also generates high quality jobs, powers economic output and exports for the U.S. economy, and sustains a very large-scale supply chain. Our companies create the medicines that save the lives of patients in the state, across the country and around the globe.

New Jersey biopharmaceutical companies are committed to developing solutions to help diagnose, treat, and prevent COVID-19, the disease caused by a novel strain of coronavirus called SARS-CoV-2.

In addition to working to improve health and economic viability, biopharmaceutical companies provide philanthropic outreach in local communities through grants and programs supporting access to affordable health coverage and medicine, education, social services, arts, and other community needs.

On behalf of this vital industry, We Work For Health seeks to educate our elected leaders, the news media and the communities they serve about the significant contributions these companies and their employees make to the health and economic security of individuals, local communities, states and the nation.

New Jersey's Innovation Ecosystem

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Mayors Committee
on Life Sciences

A partnership of the State League of Municipalities
& We Work for Health New Jersey

Secaucus Police Announce Therapy Dog Program



The Secaucus Police Department has created a Therapy Dog Program to enhance community relations and assist the general public, first responders, and the staff of the Secaucus Police Department cope with the exposure to traumatic events.

Police Officer Taylor Ensmann, sparked the idea early in Chief Dennis Miller’s tenure. Therapy Dog Programs exist in other states, like California, Ohio and Massachusetts. Therapy dogs provide affection, comfort and support to those affected by trauma, mental health, and crime.

Oakley, a golden retriever, is personally owned by Police Officer Ensmann, but is a certified “therapy dog” that is trained to provide affection, comfort and support to people, often in settings such as hospitals, nursing homes, schools, libraries, or disaster areas.

Chief Dennis Miller said, “The Therapy Dog Program is additional tool that will be utilized for community outreach and engagement, thereby bringing the Secaucus Police Department closer to the community it serves.”

“Adding a canine to our force is something I have dreamed about for a long time,” Mayor Michael J. Gonnelli said. “Oakley is wonderful addition to the department’s community policing efforts. Make sure you say hello when you see him!” 

DECEMBER

December 2

5G In Your Community
Webinar-Your Computer

December 8

The Challenges of the 2020 Budget and What It Means for 2021
Webinar-Your Computer

JANUARY

January 9

Orientation for Municipal Officials Who Are Newly Elected, Re-elected, and Experienced

Hilton Hotel, East Rutherford

January 23

Orientation for Municipal Officials Who Are Newly Elected, Re-elected, and Experienced

Westin Hotel, Mount Laurel

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Orientation for Municipal Officials Who Are Newly Elected, Re-elected, Or Experienced

Saturday, January 9, 2021

Hilton Meadowlands Hotel
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Saturday, January 23, 2021

Westin Hotel
555 Fellowship Road • Mount Laurel, NJ

This orientation for municipal officials who are newly elected, re-elected, or experienced is fast paced and designed to quickly bring officials up-to-date on important municipal issues. The newly elected officials will get a thorough overview of their major areas of responsibility, key contacts at the State level, and important sources of information and assistance.

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New Jersey's COVID Alert App

Enlist Your Phone in the Fight Against COVID-19

JUDITH PERSICILLI, *Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Health*

In our communities across New Jersey, a corps of approximately 2,000 contact tracers with local health departments is working to reach individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 to provide them with information to protect themselves and their families and to help stop the chain of transmission.

It is a mission centered solely on protecting public health, and, along with testing, is a key pillar of the state's continued reopening.

Contact tracers provide information on how to safely isolate to protect family members, how to monitor for symptoms, as well as information on available social services.

Just as important, contact tracers also ask individuals who they have been in close contact with—who may have been exposed to the virus. A close contact is defined as someone who has been within six feet of you for more than 10 minutes. Working through the contacts provides those individuals with the critical information they need to help protect themselves and their loved ones and helps stop community spread.

Months into this pandemic, New Jersey continues to see cases of COVID-19, particularly among young adults. Yet, despite pleas from community leaders, and health and state and local officials, a steady percentage of individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 refuse to take the call from a contact tracer. And, a larger percent of those contacted have consistently refused to provide information on those they might have had close contact with, which leaves contact tracers unable to reach out to alert those individuals of potential exposure.

To help bolster our local contact tracing efforts, New Jersey has joined neighboring Pennsylvania, Delaware and New York in launching an exposure notification mobile app. COVID-19 knows no borders, and COVID Alert NJ embraces a wider regional effort.

The app technology is shared by those in use in Pennsylvania, Delaware, and New York and provides cross-state interoperability, meaning that the apps all work together. Because of this, you only need to download the app from your state of residence. COVID Alert NJ is free, fully protects data and privacy, and doesn't track locations.

The app uses Bluetooth Low Energy Technology, which recognizes other Bluetooth mobile devices with the app that users come in close contact with and exchanges anonymous codes.

You may not know everyone around you, particularly if you are a frontline worker, on a train, or in a crowd. While you may not feel ill or show symptoms, you can still unknowingly spread the virus to others, particularly more vulnerable members of your family and community.

If you test positive and enter a verification code, the app will anonymously alert other app users that you have had close contact with so that they can start to protect themselves and their families. The app will also notify you if you encounter another app user who has tested positive and will provide important information on what you need to do next. The greater the participation, the more effective COVID Alert NJ will be in helping all of us to beat this virus.

At the same time we are working to contain COVID-19, we are also preparing for the possibility of a "twindemic" of seasonal flu overlapping with a second wave of coronavirus. For that reason, it is critical that as many residents as possible get a flu vaccine as soon as possible. While a flu vaccine cannot protect you from COVID-19 infection, it will help reduce flu illnesses and help keep you out of the doctor's office or hospital.

COVID-19 has confronted all of us with the challenge of a life-time and has impacted every aspect of our lives—how we work, how we interact with family and friends, how we go about everyday living, how we go to school or travel. As a state, we have been working together for more than six months to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Throughout the pandemic, most of the attention on health issues has been focused on physical health. However, there is no doubt that the COVID-19 public health emergency has taken a toll on the emotional well-being of our residents.

We have all adapted to new protocols and restrictions over this time. We know that this new normal will persist for the foreseeable future and all these factors are causing what is called pandemic fatigue, the feeling of exhaustion from the effects of the COVID-19 health emergency on our lives. We need and are counting on everyone to do the right thing to help our efforts to break the chain of transmission.

Doing so means using every tool at our disposal. That means continuing to remain physically distanced and socially engaged, wear a mask, take the call from a contact tracer and share necessary information, and add your phone to the COVID fight.

This is a message that mayors and other community leaders can help spread to their residents, businesses and other community partners, especially if they are home to one of the state's colleges or universities. You can learn more about COVID Alert NJ at covid19.nj.gov/app or download it in the App store or Google Play store. 

Lessons & Questions from the Covid-19 Quarantine

- 1. Social distancing in the work place may mean some employees will need to work from home.**
- 2. Government stay at home orders may shut down entire administration buildings.**
- 3. Lack of day care may force more employees to work from home.**
- 4. Municipal business needs to continue. OPRA requests need a response. The ability to work remotely is essential. This requires access to records presently on paper or existing digital records in a secure, monitored manor.**
- 5. When will this immediate threat end? Will there be another?**

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JANICE KOVACH, Mayor, Clinton Town; 1st Vice President, NJLM; Member, New Jersey Film Commission

As you may know, the New Jersey film and television industry has blossomed in recent years, creating over \$400 million of revenue for the state and its municipalities in 2019 alone. Production totals and revenues are expected to continue a dramatic rise in the years to come, creating commerce for our businesses and thousands of jobs for our residents. Moreover, the industry is bringing much excitement to the state and enhancing the cultural climate, as motion pictures and television series film on attractive and interesting locations from Sussex County to Cape May.

Governor Murphy signed into law the Garden State Film and Digital Media Jobs Act in July of 2018, creating a robust incentive program for filmmakers, and that has played a major role in the renaissance of production that we are now enjoying. The state has hosted such major motion pictures as *The Joker* and the soon to be released *West Side Story*, *The Trial of the Chicago 7*, *Army of the Dead* and *The Many Saints of Newark*. Television series filmed here in the last two years include NBC's *The Enemy Within* and *Lincoln Rhyme: Hunt for the Bone Collector*, ABC's *Emergence*, CBS' *FBI: Most Wanted*, HBO's *The Plot Against America*, and the Apple TV+ anthology series *Little America*. And many new projects are in the works.

The incentive has leveled the playing field with other states and helped to make New Jersey a very desirable destination for film production. But the state has many other important assets that are attractive to filmmakers, among them the wide variety of locations available, our deep talent pool, and most importantly, the cooperation offered by the state and its municipalities. It is essential to any successful production.

The COVID-19 pandemic has hit New Jersey very hard, and altered the way we live. The economic hardship our state has endured (like every other state) is almost unfathomable. But we are resilient and we will rebound. Moreover, we believe that the film and television industry can contribute substantially to our economic recovery. Studios, networks, and streaming services are very anxious to resume work in the state, and will likely be returning in record numbers. In fact, small productions have already begun filming once again, and big-budget projects will start production within the next couple of months.

New Jersey is ready to welcome them, and we are working with the industry to ensure that they are adapting to the "new normal" by following accepted COVID-19 safety protocols—those required by the state, and those instituted by

the production industry itself. The safety of casts, crews, and the public is paramount.

We are hoping that you will assist the New Jersey Motion Picture and Television Commission in enabling crews to work within in your jurisdiction. Production companies can provide a much-needed boost to your businesses, and put people back to work. Last year, the industry created well over 10,000 jobs in the state, and that number will continue to rise. Moreover, the image enhancement that the state and its communities receive, thanks to widespread exposure on movie and television screens throughout the world, has value that is incalculable.

Commission staff members would be happy to speak with you and other officials from your town should you have any questions, or need further information. Although our physical offices remain temporarily closed, you can reach us at our email address, njfilm@sos.nj.gov, and we will get back to you right away.

Please know that your cooperation and support are essential to the continued revitalization of the film and television industry in New Jersey, and the state's overall economic recovery. We look forward to bringing production work to your town in the near future. 🇺🇸

For more information on rolling out the red carpet for local filmmaking, join NJLM 1st VP, Mayor Janice Kovach for the session:

Local Film Production: A Means of Economic Development.

Tuesday, November 17, at 1:30 p.m.

This session invites community representatives to learn about the New Jersey film industry and how to become "film friendly." Participants will gain a broad understanding of the production industry's standards and best practices; learn how to market their town; create opportunities for local small, minority, and women-owned businesses; discover how film locations are chosen; and explore the use of public property for motion picture and television production. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

President: Janice Kovach, Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM

Speakers: Michael Uslan, Chairman, NJ Motion Picture & Television Commission

Steven Gorelick, Executive Director, NJ Motion Picture & Television Commission

David Schöner, Associate Director, NJ Motion Picture & Television Commission



The views expressed and the data presented by contributors are theirs and are not necessarily shared by the League.



PROVIDING TOOLS TO REDUCE WORKPLACE DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

Lawsuits alleging workplace discrimination and harassment have increased dramatically in the past few years. Major personnel actions lacking a well-documented history of performance issues are likely to result in litigation.

Every two years, the MEL updates its model employment practices risk procedures and is offering a substantial incentive to members adopting the latest update by June 1, 2021.

The MEL has made it easy to complete the update online with the following tools:

- Updated written policies and procedures
- Special training for Police Chiefs and Command Officers
- A new employee anti-harassment video

Online Training for Managers and Supervisors will also be provided by each MEL Member JIF

In addition, a special \$250 discount is being offered for every elected official and Authority Commissioner who completes the MEL Annual Risk Management Training Program. The program will be offered on line at the upcoming NJ League of Municipalities conference and is available in the MEL Learning Management System. Each MEL/JIF member will receive instructions on how to register and participate.



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New Life for New Jersey's Roadways

PATRICK DIEGNAN, NJ State Senator, District 18

It seems you can't pick up a newspaper without reading an article about the woes of New Jersey's Transportation system. As Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee I have the unique opportunity of working closely with New Jersey Department of Transportation Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti. After nearly a decade of neglect, the Commissioner has revitalized the Department and won nation wide acclaim.

Numerous NJDOT projects have been recognized by the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and other organizations, demonstrating how New Jersey is leading the way in delivering transportation projects that improve our infrastructure and enhance quality of life. The I-280/Route 21 Interchange Improvements Project was named AASHTO's best "Operations Excellence" in the Northeast in August 2020.

The \$95 million Route 280, Route 21 Interchange Improvements project helped Newark alleviate congestion in the highly trafficked area at the interchange, improving safety and promoting economic growth in the city. The project built four new bridges and rehabilitated two additional bridges to provide a fully integrated interchange between I-280 and Route 21. It also upgraded existing infrastructure, such as highway lighting, traffic signals, signing, and landscaping.

Contract 4, which reconstructed the Old Causeway Bridge, was awarded AASHTO's "Best Quality of Life/Community Development" in the Northeast in August 2020. During Contract 4, NJDOT's contractor used an innovative approach to reconstruct the Old Causeway Bridge that saved time and money, and resulted in reopening the bridge a year early.

The historic Route 206 Bridges over Stony Brook Rehabilitation Project won two awards—the 2018 New Jersey Historic Preservation Award given by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and the 2018 Project of the Year Award by the New Jersey Society of Professional Engineers Mercer County Chapter. The \$7.4 million state-funded project rehabilitated the historic Stone Arch Bridge over Stony Brook in Princeton, the oldest bridge on a State highway, and replaced the adjacent Flood Channel Bridge on time and on budget.

The project helped preserve the historic structure built in 1792 while maintaining 21st century engineering requirements for safety and structural soundness.

New Jersey Department of Transportation has taken many steps to improve the condition of our highways and bridges. NJDOT owns 8,563 lane miles of highway. One lane mile is one linear mile of a single travel lane. For example, a 10-mile stretch of road with two lanes comprises 20 lane miles. Shoulders and ramps are not counted for lane miles. About 64% of NJDOT maintained roads are in good or fair condition—up from 47% in 2008. In 2019, NJDOT improved a total of 1,157 lane miles, including 586 lane miles with cost-effective pavement preservation treatments.

About 64% of NJDOT maintained roads are in good or fair condition—up from 47% in 2008.

There are a total of 6,768 bridges in New Jersey, NJDOT owns or maintains 2,585 of them. NJDOT has dedicated significant resources to keeping our bridges in a state of good repair. New Jersey has continued its trend over several years of reducing the number of NJDOT-owned structurally deficient bridges from 285 in 2015 to 258 in 2019. One of the challenges to maintaining bridges in good repair in a state like New Jersey is our location. We have some of the heaviest truck traffic in the nation, and the weather—snow, ice, and fluctuating temperature can cause wear and tear, particularly on bridge decks. In addition, bridges naturally deteriorate due to age and the average age of a bridge in New Jersey is 56 years. Since 2012, NJDOT has rehabilitated or replaced 134 structurally deficient bridges.

Of course there is still work to be done. Our transportation system is the backbone of our economy, and an essential part of the quality of life of our residents. However, let's give credit

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The proposed FY21 Capital Program is \$3.76 billion and breaks down as follows:

NJDOT share:	\$2.32 billion	NJ Transit Share:	\$1.43 billion
Federal:	\$1.08 billion	Federal:	\$0.65 billion
State (TTFA):	\$1.24 billion	State (TTFA):	\$0.76 billion

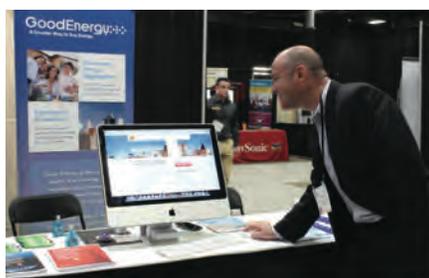
NJDOT is allocating its Capital Investments in the following categories:

- **\$630 million** Local System Support (Municipal Aid, County Aid, and other Local Aid programs)
- **\$599 million** Bridge
- **\$376 million** Road
- **\$252 million** Capital Program Delivery
- **\$189 million** Congestion
- **\$145 million** Safety
- **\$73 million** Multimodal
- **\$57 million** Transportation Support Facilities
- **\$5 million** Airport Improvement Program
- **\$2.32 billion** **Total**

where credit is due. Under the leadership of Governor Murphy and Commissioner Gutierrez-Scaccetti, New Jersey transportation network has a record to be proud of.

As you can see by the allocations listed above, the New Jersey Department of Transportation is committed to Local Aid programs. You can learn more about these programs by visiting <https://njdotlocalaidrc.com>.

The Local Aid Resource Center is a centralized source for information and a connection to a team of experts ready to guide counties and municipalities through the grant application process, assist with project planning and selection, or provide guidance for other technical needs. The Resource Center Team seeks to collaborate with and serve New Jersey's 21 counties and 565 municipalities to enhance New Jersey's local transportation infrastructure to improve the quality of life for New Jersey's residents and the traveling public. 



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Outlook on Newark, New Jersey, and the U.S.

The state of our future

RAS J. BARAKA, *Mayor, Newark; Member, NJLM Executive Board*

Today, in America we are fighting two pandemics, both based on the inequities and systemic racism that is endemic in the country and has been through its history. The injustices aimed at those that are most vulnerable are woven into the very fabric of America's founding and expansion.

We have often referred to this precarious circumstance of the COVID-19 period as our defining “Noah Moment,” a time to reset, reorganize, and force change through this storm that has laid bare the enormous health and wealth inequities in our society. But then, the murder of George Floyd, further exposed the awful truth about the oppression inherent in our country.

The COVID-19 pandemic and murder of George Floyd are defining, historic moments of 2020 leading up to a presidential election that will equally define the future of this country.

What follows must be stated by us with emphatic force: We cannot and will not go back to the way things were, for these injustices have gone on far too long.

These dual pandemics have exposed America's system that protects and gives privilege to some while keeping others confined to poverty, uncertainty, blatant



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New Jersey Building Officials Association, Inc.

www.newjerseyboa.com



The Only Building Code Officials Association Recognized by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs

The New Jersey Building Officials Association was established in 1929. We are a not-for-profit organization recognized as a chapter of the International Code Council, and are devoted to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public, by promoting professionalism, education, and ethics.

NJBOA's Active Membership is comprised of licensed Code Officials and Inspectors of all disciplines, as well as Technical Assistants. We have Associate, Subscribing, and Honorary memberships available to others engaged in the building industry, including housing, planning, zoning, and manufacturers' representatives. Our annual scholarships, totaling over \$30,000.00, have benefited dozens of worthy college students. As always, we welcome people from many career backgrounds to consider joining our organization, or come to any meeting as our guest.

As we celebrate our 90th Anniversary, **NJBOA** is proud to be the **only** statewide association, inclusive of Code Officials, and members of other diverse backgrounds, that is recognized by the Department of Community Affairs. **NJBOA** will continue to actively support and participate in the Building Safety Conference of New Jersey, as we have done for over 35 years. **NJBOA** is an organization that remains strong in membership, welcoming new applicants each year. **NJBOA** is a tried and true brotherhood whose success is written in its legacy. The **NJBOA** Executive Board would like thank our members, Past Presidents, and communities, for their unwavering support, which has helped pave the way to its success thus far. **NJBOA** will continue to forge ahead with strong leadership and the proven confidence of its members, through this decade and beyond.

Jerome Eger *Charles Lasky* *John Fiedler* *Jeffery Heiss* *Lawrence Scorzelli* *Pat J. Naticchione* *Bob LaCosta*
 President 1st Vice President 2nd Vice President Secretary Treasurer Immed. Past President NJLM Rep.

State of Our Future

inequality, and death, solely based on race, national origin, and class.

Our “Noah Moment” has become a moment of profound clarity.

America’s bruised and beaten cities of color have reached a breaking point that we all should have seen coming. The data is alarming. In my city alone, a third of our people live in poverty and about 75% of our residents are renters, with approximately half spending at least 30% or more of their income on rent.

This pandemic forced us all to put immediate and dire protections in place that should be considered “the new normal” to close the gaps on the inequalities that are ripping this country apart.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING For instance, the lack of affordable housing has alarmingly and disproportionately impacted communities of color, and there are a half million homeless individuals in the United States. In 2019, Newark had approximately 2,000, about 25% of whom are “unsheltered” either due to not qualifying for shelter payment, severe mental health, or drug abuse issues. Yet during the COVID crisis, the City of Newark launched a program to offer mass COVID-19 testing to its entire homeless population, with a \$1 million investment in rapid, short-term housing for Newark’s most vulnerable residents.

That initiative was designed to get residents without addresses in safe quarters to help slow the person-to-person COVID-19 spread, and in a matter of weeks, we had them housed and fed for three meals a day with the help of federal aid. This is something that should happen anyway and should remain once COVID passes. There needs to be increased funding and support for America’s homeless, difficult to house, and those in transition.

DIGITAL DIVIDE Likewise, where we once had a digital divide, we found technology and resources for children who previously attended school systems where they barely had books. Our public school system to date has given more than 9,000 Chromebooks to families in need, and the local cable company, Altice, extended free Wi-Fi to families



to ensure that they could participate in distance learning.

ECONOMIC INSECURITY We also found innovative approaches and funds at every level of government to fill in gaps for those experiencing economic insecurity like our essential and frontline workers, while extending and strengthening enforcement around earned sick leave and family medical leave.

In the early stages of the pandemic, New Jersey state leadership passed a law that protected workers with COVID-19 from being fired and the federal government passed a law providing an additional 10 paid sick days for workers affected by COVID. However, these new laws should extend to increase the number of paid sick days during health emergencies to ensure that people can care for themselves or for family members. Family Leave should also be extended to families who must stay at home with their children.

HEALTH CARE With millions of Americans filing for unemployment insurance, almost half of those have lost their health coverage. If people do not have jobs, how can they get healthcare? Economists further predict that health insurance premiums will likely increase by 40% in the next year due to less payers and more who need care, and

the eventual collapse of private health care insurance.

This is the opportune time to fight for universal health care for all and a subsequent march toward bringing our prescription costs under control. We need an organized national health care model that will not have us putting our survival rate in the hands of profiteers and speculators during a crisis.

Economic relief strategies

Our economy is even more stressed when we think about how this has an impact on our small businesses, who are the backbones of our communities. In Newark we invested \$2 million in a small business emergency fund with grants up to \$10,000 for qualified businesses.

Early during the pandemic, locally, we created a \$750,000 emergency fund to provide financial relief for Newark-based 501(c) (3) non-profit organizations that provide services related to COVID-19 and/or have expended extra funds in creating new programs or in expanding existing programs to the benefit of Newark’s local economy and community.

For homeowners, renters, and landlords, early on we made a significant investment in the “Live Newark” program to provide down payment and rehabilitation funds for Newark homeowners, and tax relief to building owners with stores and other small

business tenants who have lost their ability to pay rent because of COVID-19 with the tax savings passed along to the tenants as a rent reduction.

While the efforts are helping, it is a small drop in the bucket. The US Small Business Administration should continue to find real revenue to get to mid-sized and smaller lending institutions, getting funds to non-profits to help seed and scaffold small local businesses—not just for payroll. These businesses are sole proprietors and they hire local residents.

While Congress passed legislation to get money directly into Americans’ hands to support families that have been upended by the crisis, we long knew about the persistent wealth gap in our country. For the past year, Newark has examined whether providing ongoing cash to residents could be a solution for equitable growth, and if so, how we should do it. We recently released a report and the need for Universal Basic Income has never been stronger. The time is now. So many people need money and resources—and are looking

for help to survive.

Universal healthcare and guaranteed income should not be considered radical changes. They are simply investments in our collective future and correcting the systems that have failed us in so many ways and the ideas that stand in the way of our inevitable change.

The efforts to rebuild and recover will take time and political will but we must have the courage and fortitude to close gaps and address systemic inequality. Our future depends on it. Let us be brave and steadfast in our efforts to build a better society for the next generation. 

Ras Baraka, Mayor, Newark;
Member, NJLM Executive Board
will preside over the session:

**Safer Communities:
New Jersey’s Roadmap
to Collective Justice**

**Monday, November 16
at 3:15 p.m.**

He will also be a panelist on
the session:

**2020: A New Normal
for Urban New Jersey**

**Tuesday, Nov. 17
at 1:30 p.m.**



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The Power of Collaboration

A new risk management manual provides guidance for local officials

THOMAS MERCHEL, *Manager and CFO, Moorestown; Chair, Municipal Excess Liability JIF*



Insurance and related employee, liability, and property claims cost New Jersey government over \$1 billion each year. Had it not been for the widespread adoption of risk management beginning in the mid-1980s, that figure would easily have been double.

The MEL just published a risk management manual for local officials. “The Power of Collaboration” is being distributed at no cost to every municipality and authority in the State, including non-MEL members. Until now, no single resource has been available to serve as a quick reference to help better understand risk management issues.

The new manual

The book was written specifically for municipal elected officials and local authority commissioners. It begins with extensive discussions on workers’ compensation and liability issues along with insurance coverage. The manual also includes sections of particular interest to local officials such as:

- Pedestrian safety

- Playgrounds
- Senior citizens
- The opioid epidemic
- Protecting children from child abuse.

Chapters also address Land Use Liability, the Local Officials Ethics Act, the Open Public Meetings Act, and the Open Public Records Act. Cyber Risk Management is explored at length. Each section highlights actual court cases and decisions (more than 100 total) to illustrate how specific issues are interpreted. The resources section also contains sample ordinances and forms ranging from firefighter health evaluations to a model meeting decorum ordinance.

The Voice for Jersey's Hometowns.



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Focus : Risk Management

Organizing a risk management program

The concept of risk management dates to the mid-1950s when large corporations combined insurance, claims management and safety into a single department. The risk management revolution for New Jersey local governments was led by Joint Insurance Funds (JIFs) that were established in the mid-1980s. Since then, JIFs have reduced property/casualty costs for their members by at least half,

local governments are too small to have an in-house risk management department, so they depend on an appointed risk management consultant (often a local insurance agent). Responsibilities can include: review of exposures, completion of underwriting surveys, assistance in claims processing, safety programs, and review of contracts. In most JIFs, the fees are about half of the commissions paid by commercial insurance companies.



and employee accident rates have been reduced by over 65%. At the same time, non-claim costs have been cut to the lowest in the country.

To achieve long-term results, a risk management program must be structured so that it is consistent over time.

Senior Management Involvement:

The governing body must play an active role in the program and needs to communicate priorities, monitor status, and discuss progress monthly.

Safety Committee: The program should be collaborative including representatives from management, collective bargaining units, non-union employees, and the risk management consultant.

Litigation Risk Committee: Every local government should also have a litigation risk committee comprised of the Mayor or Authority Chair, Manager or Executive Director, the local unit's attorney, senior managers, and the risk management consultant. The committee should monitor the status of lawsuits and put plans into place to reduce potential liabilities.

Risk Management Consultant:

Unlike other states, most New Jersey

Impact of effective risk management

Risk management creates a framework for best practices in nearly all aspects of local government.

Environmental Issues: In 1993, a number of JIFs joined forces to develop the Environmental Liability Risk Management Fund (E-JIF). The E-JIF provides the most comprehensive package of engineering services and pollution insurance in the country. The E-JIF is available exclusively to New Jersey towns and authorities.

Community Safety: In the late 1990s, many JIFs participated in the Community Safety Leadership program to provide local officials with information about a range of new issues including Pedestrian Safety, Senior Citizens, Employment Practices, and Emergency Management. In 2003, the MEL established an annual elected official's risk management seminar that trains an average of 1,500 local officials each year.

Employee Safety: When New Jersey substantially increased safety training requirements, the MEL established a safety institute that trains over 50,000 member employees annually.

THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

RISK MANAGEMENT FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS



MEL

David N. Grubb

The Power of Collaboration Table of Contents:

Introduction

Employee Accidents

1. Workers' Compensation
2. Employee Safety

Liability against Public Entities,
Officials and Employees

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4. Employment Practices Liability
5. Americans with Disabilities Act
6. Land Use Liability
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Insurance and Indemnification

8. Insurance Coverage
9. Managing a Joint Insurance Fund

10. Environmental Risk
Management

11. Cyber Risk Management

Other Risk Management Topics

12. Emergency Management
13. Crisis Management
14. Community Safety
15. Local Officials Ethics Act
16. Open Public Meetings Act
17. Open Public Records Act

Resources and Model Ordinances

Emergency Assistance: The JIFs have adopted claims programs that go beyond just issuing checks. For example, after a devastating fire struck the Edison DPW garage two days before a major snowstorm, destroying the township's fleet of heavy-duty trucks, adjusters for the Central Jersey JIF found a fleet of heavy trucks available for lease in another state. The replacement equipment arrived hours before the storm.

Crisis Solutions: At the beginning of the Coronavirus pandemic, New Jersey municipalities experienced serious problems selling municipal bonds. The MEL established a Joint Cash Management and Investment (JCMI) pool that purchased debt securities issued by the MEL's members and was a major factor stabilizing the bond market.

Protecting our towns

Local government risk management is becoming more complicated. New exposures such as land use liability and tech-

nology risk management make it even more critical for public officials have a resource they can use for reference. Although geared toward all elected officials and authority commissioners, this manual will be particularly helpful to those who are new to these positions.

If this manual helps prevent even one

accident, or helps a public official avoid potential litigation, the MEL will have achieved its goal. "The Power of Collaboration" manual is just another example of the MEL's commitment to providing leadership, guidance, training, and resources to protect New Jersey's hometowns. 

Attend the session: **Annual Risk Management** **Wednesday, November 18, at 3:15 p.m.**

A discussion on how municipal officials can implement an effective risk management program to reduce insurance costs. By completing this session, elected officials from communities that are members of the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL) will be eligible for a premium credit. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

President: *David Grubb, Executive Director, Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund*

Speakers: *Alex H. Carver III, Supreme Court Judge (retired)*

John Clarke, Executive Director, New Brunswick Housing and Redevelopment Authority

Sue Sharpe, Associate Fund Attorney

Rich Peyner, Vice President, Summit Risk

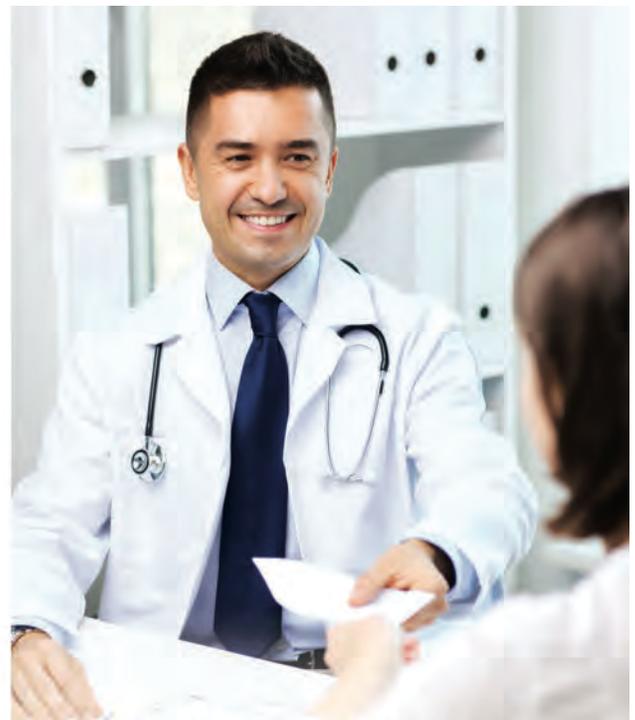


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The New Normal

New Jersey's Urban Mayors steer through COVID-19 and beyond

AL KELLY, Mayor, Bridgeton; President, New Jersey Urban Mayors Association; Past-President, NJLM



Mayors Al Kelly of Bridgeton (I) and Adrian Mapp of Plainfield (left in picture on right) work on food distribution efforts.

The year 2020 has introduced a new normal that has shifted routine functions in various aspects of society. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact numerous lives and it has permanently changed how public health is considered and perceived in everyday operations. Given that New Jersey remains one of the top states for coronavirus cases, local leaders have learned all too well the harsh realities of dealing with the pandemic as they govern their respective municipalities. However, those who manage New Jersey's urban municipalities face new pressures in light of already limited and strained resources. In addition to the coronavirus pandemic, urban mayors are also currently dealing with civil unrest and concerns regarding social justice, public safety, the NJ Supreme Court's recent ruling on Civilian Complaint Review Boards (CCRBs), and the state of policing.

The coronavirus pandemic has affected more than 200,000 New Jerseyans, and as we approach flu season there is an anticipated uptick. Currently more than 20% of those infected are African American and approximately 28% are Hispanic. Both groups make up a large segment of the populations in urban municipalities. Given that the coronavirus pandemic

has had and continues to have an unprecedented impact on our communities, our response to COVID-19 has resulted in a major learning curve. Urban mayors have had to take a wrap-around service approach to alleviation efforts which includes but isn't limited to public health, education, housing, and food security.



T&M COVID-19 Return to Work Services



As New Jersey confronts the ongoing pandemic, municipalities are asking the same question: *When and how can we safely reopen our offices?* T&M's environmental, health and safety professionals are working with municipalities to manage the physical aspects of returning to work and also to inform and educate their employees.

We understand the issues and can provide solutions that best fit your needs:

What COVID-19 services does T&M provide?

- Risk assessments
- Employee screening;
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- Work process evaluation and employee hygiene protocols;
- COVID-19 Building Occupancy communications;
- Continuous indoor air purification with bi-polar ionization;
- Enhance air filtration
- Employee work area preparedness; and
- Fit testing if employees wear N95 masks

When should your municipality engage T&M?

Now is the time to have a plan in place as municipalities are actively returning both essential and non-essential workers to municipal complexes and other facilities.

What is the value of this service?

A comprehensive approach to reducing future risk as your municipality transitions from "Isolation" to "Open for Business" in conformance with applicable guidelines and regulations.



WHY T&M?

T&M's Health, Safety & Industrial Hygiene Practice is comprised of industry experts who specialize in workplace safety, industrial hygiene, workplace risk assessments and indoor air quality. Our team consists of a Certified Industrial Hygienist and Certified Safety Professionals. Our depth of experience and knowledge can be of service to you in developing a customized Return to Work Plan with the safety and health of your employees as well as sustainability of your operations at the forefront.



New Normal

COVID-19 testing and contact-tracing have proven to be a great means to monitor public health in our communities. However, since the onset of the pandemic accessing testing has been difficult for some residents. Testing sites at local pharmacies and mobile clinics have provided much-needed services, and we are encouraging our residents to reply to contact-tracers through the State's Community Contact Tracing Corps Program.

Education and the digital divide

Education has been a focal concern for local leaders as our school districts transition to remote learning. Closing the digital divide in urban communities has always been a challenge, but the pandemic has made it even more urgent that we ensure that all students have internet connection to log-on and have access to virtual learning. Some school districts have been able to provide broadband connections and computer equipment through assistance from the State and non-profit organizations to ensure that each child has access to online learning. Although tech companies offered free or discounted internet access to students during this time, some companies prohibit households who have arrears from participating in these programs. Our quest to ensure that every child is connected to the internet until in-person learning fully commences will continue.

In addition, many of our residents have faced unemployment and furloughs, making it difficult to meet household expenses. Statewide housing policies such as Executive Order 106 provide protection to renters by ensuring that families who are unable to pay their rent remain in their homes until this public health emergency is well over. Urban mayors are now exploring ways to ensure that our residents maintain housing once the pandemic subsides. Furthermore, urban mayors have had to deal with meeting the needs of our residents surrounding food insecurity and we are thankful to the many non-profits and state programs that have



Mayor Ted Green of East Orange helps with food distribution.

aided in the process of increasing food access in urban municipalities.

Many of my colleagues in the New Jersey Urban Mayors Association (NJUMA) have had to consider the possibilities of the virus spreading more rapidly in their communities than suburban communities due to more densely populated geographies which can make it more difficult to effectively quarantine and social distance. Additionally, there has been a concern surrounding our immigrant communities not trusting of the coronavirus relief efforts due to the growing mistrust of government authority and the scare tactics used by ICE and the Trump Administration to find and deport members of the immigrant community. Large gatherings were and remain a concern for many New Jersey communities as residents are trying to make up for the months they've been in the house unable to travel, celebrate holidays, and visit loved ones. Furthermore, many others are gathering outdoors to attend marches and protests.

Calls for social justice

The call for social justice has reemerged at the forefront of American society this year as residents took to the streets to protest in reference to the death of George Floyd, an unarmed African American man who was murdered by police in Minneapolis, MN, and Breonna Taylor, an unarmed African American woman who was shot to death by police in Louisville, KY, in her home. This

trend of unarmed citizens of color being murdered in police custody continues to reoccur nationwide, and even within the state of New Jersey with Maurice Gordon, an unarmed African American man who was murdered on the New Jersey turnpike. According to the 2019 study "Risk of Being Killed by Police Use of Force in the United States by Age, Race-Ethnicity, and Sex" African American men are 2.5 times more likely to be killed by police than their Caucasian counterparts, Latino men also have a higher risk of being killed by police than Caucasian men. Moreover, women and men of African American, American Indian, and Alaska Native heritage are more likely to be murdered by police than Caucasian women and men. Urban Mayors are all too familiar with the importance of public safety—which coincides with effective policing; however, the NJUMA denounces any corrupt and excessive force in policing practices and recognizes that when these acts are carried out the appropriate consequences should be given to perpetrators.

In reference to this type of misconduct the NJUMA filed an amicus brief earlier this year to ensure that CCRB have the same concurrent investigative powers as police departments. CCRBs have been proven to be a means to clear and unbiased investigation and answers when police misconduct occurs. However, the New Jersey Supreme Court's recent ruling on CCRBs has set back our efforts,

and urban mayors must continue to fight to protect the integrity of the CCRB process and procedures in the communities that desperately need them. Furthermore, the NJUMA released a statement on the state of policing in reference to the concerns voiced by urban residents in respect to community and police relations. The NJUMA fully supports A4656/S2963 which authorizes the creation of local CCRBs to review police operations and conduct.

Public safety has long been a concern of the NJUMA membership as many of our local leaders regularly tackle issues with violence in our urban centers. It is outlined as one of the tenants in the NJUMA's 7-Point Plan for Strengthening Cities, Families and Communities that serves a guide for how our membership operates and advocates.

In a recent meeting with Attorney General Grewal, urban mayors stressed the importance of dialogue between

state and local officials to ensure that we leverage all resources and tools available and necessary to ensure that we are providing and promoting public health and public safety for our residents.

The year 2020 has brought about a plethora of new and concurrent issues in the state of New Jersey, especially in urban municipalities; however, with this also comes new lessons learned. 

At this year's NJ League of Municipalities Conference, members of the **New Jersey Urban Mayors Association** will share their knowledge and best practices on the **"2020: A New Normal for Urban New Jersey"** panel based on their approaches to balancing the aforementioned pressures in some of the state's urban and rural municipalities.

NJUMA's session on **Tuesday, Nov. 17, at 1:30 p.m.** will explore how we plan for a new normal as we manage the aforementioned issues and balance the day-to-day pressures of governing urban municipalities. The panel will share lessons learned and examine new approaches to governing within a social justice framework.



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Sustainable Jersey helps municipalities meet their energy goals and save money

RANDALL SOLOMON, *Executive Director, Sustainable Jersey*



Sustainable Jersey offers technical assistance to help municipalities create an action plan to get started on energy efficiency tracking and management.

Making municipal buildings more energy efficient saves taxpayer money while also contributing to solutions for some of our most pressing environmental sustainability issues.

Yet, the majority of municipalities in New Jersey are not focused on energy efficiency. In addition to the impact on the planet, they are leaving a lot of money on the table. Energy costs represent a significant expenditure in municipal budgets. It is not uncommon for as much as 10% of a municipal budget to be devoted to energy expenses.

Technical assistance available

Sustainable Jersey offers guidance, grants, and technical assistance to help municipalities create an action plan to get started on energy efficiency tracking and management. Energy is a key element of Sustainable Jersey's municipal and school certification programs. The programs help our participants make the most

of available incentives while supporting energy planning, efficiency upgrades, and other strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

New Jersey benefits from a statewide program that provides incentives for clean energy projects, especially for energy efficiency. New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) is one of the largest and most successful programs of its kind in the country, and provides the foundation upon which most energy efficiency upgrades in the state are implemented.

Municipal energy efficiency projects can benefit from significant state incentives that recover much of the project cost. Several utilities in New Jersey offer financing programs that complement

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Wasted Energy

NJCEP incentives. In most cases, actual out-of-pocket expenses, such as capital budget impacts, can be minimized or eliminated through careful use of state incentives and project finance solutions.

Energy tracking and management

Energy tracking and management is a critical step to improving building performance. When talking to towns, we are often asked: “How do we figure out which meters are connected to which buildings? What is the best way to store my data? Who should monitor the data and make sure it is inputted regularly?” With guidance, municipal staff learn how to understand the energy use of their buildings by careful review of their utility bills.

With this energy usage information, staff can identify and prioritize building performance improvement opportunities and then track the actual impact of any upgrade investments that are made.



With guidance from Sustainable Jersey, municipal staff learn how to evaluate the energy use of their buildings and consider HVAC upgrades, LED lighting retrofits and other energy efficiency projects.

Completion of Sustainable Jersey’s Energy Tracking and Management action provides a municipal leadership team with a baseline of information for future decision making. In addition, benchmarking is a valuable planning tool that allows a municipality to compare its building portfolio against other municipalities and national averages.

Sustainable Jersey’s Energy Efficiency

for Municipal Facilities action awards points to municipalities for taking increasingly more effective steps to reduce energy consumption, starting with energy audits and culminating with deep energy savings. Municipalities that have participated in NJCEP’s Local Government Energy Audit (LGEA) Program receive a comprehensive Audit Report that includes historic energy consumption data, facility descriptions, a list of major equipment and, most importantly, recommended energy conservation measures.

Bernards Township greens municipal buildings

Bernards Township, located in Somerset County, has improved its municipal buildings’ energy portfolio through data collection and energy audits. The Township uses an energy management tracking spreadsheet for the main municipal buildings and maintains a building portfolio that identifies location, square footage, and usage for each facility. An energy audit was done through NJCEP’s Local Government Energy Audit (LGEA) Program and the township participated in NJCEP’s Direct Install Program, which helped cover a substantial portion of the cost for the energy efficiency upgrades.

“Since beginning our journey with Sustainable Jersey, Bernards Township has implemented many green initiatives. Among them are hybrid vehicles, solar power, building efficiencies, integrated pest management and water conservation measures. These initiatives enabled Bernards Township to reduce our carbon footprint by over 22%,” said Pat Monaco,



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- Open Public Records Act Compliance
- Open Space/Farmland Preservation
- Personnel Policies & Training
- Prerogative Writ Litigation
- Sewer/Water/CATV Utilities
- Tax Appeals
- UCC Regulation/Litigation
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Wasted Energy

Bernards Township Administrator. The Township Sewerage Authority's administrative building was outfitted with a solar thermal system, motion sensor lighting, and HVAC system upgrades that increased efficiency by 7%. Similar steps have been taken across the building portfolio including switching all exit signs from incandescent bulbs to highly efficient LEDs.

Monaco added, "While these green initiatives are good for the environment, they have also well served the taxpayers of Bernards Township by way of grants and lower utility costs. Working with Sustainable Jersey provided the blueprint, motivation, and recognition for Bernards Township to continually strive to be a greener community." Bernards Township has been certified with Sustainable Jersey since 2009 and has maintained certification at the silver-level since 2011.

The Borough of Chatham tracks energy consumption to guide energy efficiency projects

The Borough of Chatham, located in Morris County, tracks its energy consumption monthly to report on progress and to prioritize the implementation of

energy efficiency improvement projects. Since 2009, Chatham Borough has been tracking municipal energy usage for its three main facilities with the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager system. Data is added monthly for all three Chatham Borough facilities based on invoices received from gas and electricity vendors. An energy audit was done through NJCEP's Local Government Energy Audit (LGEA) Program and the Borough has been able to track the effects of the energy efficiency upgrades that were installed following the recommendations.

To further improve Chatham Borough's energy efficiency, the energy data is regularly presented to the Chatham Borough Council and reviewed by the green team, public works staff, and the Borough Engineer. Chatham Borough achieved Sustainable Jersey bronze-level certification in 2009 and was silver-certified in 2012, 2015, and 2018.

Gloucester Township tracks energy usage and savings

Gloucester Township, one of the fastest growing municipalities in South Jersey, implemented an Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP), a comprehensive project that allows local

governments to implement energy-related improvements to their facilities and pay for the costs using the value of energy savings that result from the improvements.

The ESIP process began with an energy audit for seven Township facilities through NJCEP's Local Government Energy Audit (LGEA) Program. The Township's billing department uses a spreadsheet to track energy usage—and energy savings—in order to share updates with township staff.

With the addition of energy efficient fluorescent light fixtures at the Municipal Complex, the Township saves approximately \$7,000 annually. A solar roof-mount system was added to the Municipal Complex, which reduces the Township's energy consumption by \$3,500 annually. Residents can see the savings information from the solar system online on the Township's website or when they visit the kiosk in the main lobby at City Hall. Gloucester Township is currently Sustainable Jersey-certified at the silver level. 🇯🇵

@ To set up a consultation with Sustainable Jersey staff and create an action plan for your municipality, email info@sustainablejersey.com.

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Sustainable Jersey will share information and case studies at our Energy Session at the 105th Annual League Conference.

We will present ways that local municipalities can advance energy sustainability, including best practices from New Jersey's Energy Master Plan and Sustainable Jersey's Gold Star Standard in Energy. Case studies will illustrate high impact strategies and how to implement them using Sustainable Jersey actions.



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Mayors Wellness Campaign

Keeping up the Conversation of Your Life during a pandemic

DAPA WILCOX, *Community Coordinator, New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute*

From my bedroom window, I could see that it was a beautiful day. Due to the pandemic, I couldn't drive to a library or senior center to lead a Conversations of Your Life (COYL) community event, but the event still happened.

That day at lunchtime, veterans, caregivers, and interested residents gathered virtually to hear a passionate and heartfelt presentation on advance care planning entitled, "The Heart of the Veteran," featuring Kent Milliken, a retired Colonel in the U.S. Army and current veteran liaison with a local hospice and palliative care provider. Kent offered the group concrete advice on how to have these important conversations with veterans and their families and shared some personal stories that I am sure resonated the veterans themselves.

Like other groups, veterans are a unique community. When having sensitive discussions about end of life care and personal goals, their life experiences must be respected and included in the process of considering and communicating their end of life care wishes.

Increased need

The current health crisis has increased the need for the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute's (Quality Institute) Conversation of Your Life (COYL) program. COYL was launched in 2015 as part of the Mayors Wellness Campaign, with the support of The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey. COYL started with the mayors of Tenafly, Princeton, and Gloucester. Since then it has grown to include 15 counties.

Prior to this March, COYL programming could be found at in-person community gatherings at libraries, community centers, places of worship, and other meeting spots. People came together to learn about and discuss end-of-life care options and create and share their wishes through advance directives. These in-person conversations were so valuable to easing people through these often-difficult topics. Then, COVID-19 took away our ability to gather at the very moment these conversations became even more critical.

Knowing how necessary this work is, however, we immediately moved COYL to a virtual platform. While we miss the personal interactions, virtual events have the benefit of reaching a wider audience and engaging additional communities and their residents. Reaching more people is critical now that vulnerable



populations, specifically seniors living in long-term care facilities, need to have these conversations with their loved ones and designate someone to make their wishes known when they cannot do so themselves.

Stay tuned, more sessions will take place in November for National Hospice and Palliative Care Month. Topics include: advance care planning for patients with dementia; memorial planning; and senior isolation. Details will be available at www.njhqci.org/events.

In addition to these webinar sessions, we developed a digital resource hub to support you and your residents in talking about advance care planning and taking action, including: conversation starters, games, digital advance directive documents, and films and books with messages that expand your outlook on end-of-life conversations. These are available at www.njhqci.org/resources.

As COYL continues to expand throughout New Jersey, we are developing materials that will serve New Jersey residents of all cultures in these important conversations. In collaboration with COYL task force members, COYL's digital resources and webinars have been translated to other languages, including Spanish and Chinese. We welcome additional partners in this effort.

We are also bringing COYL resources to New Jersey workplaces, as this conversation is important to have at any age. Recently, COYL launched the Workplace Wellness Program in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Treasury, Division of Pensions & Benefits, to provide COYL educational materials to State Health Benefit Program (SHBP/SEHBP) members and their families including vital information on end-of-life care options available to them and different types of advance care

planning documents. In addition to providing resources, we are implementing wellness workshops to assist SHBP/SEHBP members in engaging with their loved ones and health care providers in conversations around advance care planning.

I ask that you join the Quality Institute and your fellow local leaders in furthering awareness of COYL and sharing these vital materials in your community. You can start by:

- **Sharing COYL resources** including the like the COYL webinar recorded sessions and the resources.
- **Getting your community or local organizations involved.** Join a COYL task force or start a new one. COYL is currently active in Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Essex, Gloucester, Hudson, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Somerset, Union. We have a toolkit on how to run create and participate

in a COYL Taskforce and how to help communities start the conversation.

- **Reaching out for help.** Whether it's training community leaders and health care providers or providing crucial education to residents and their loved ones, our COYL Task Forces and Quality Institute staff are here for you.

- **Joining the Mayors Wellness Campaign (MWC).** Reach out to Julie DeSimone, MWC Program Officer at jdesimone@njhcqi.org to see how you join the MWC and/or expand it to bring COYL programming to your town.

Together, let's continue this important conversation. 

Join the Mayors Wellness Campaign session:

Bringing Health to the Community at the Mayors Wellness Campaign

Wednesday, November 18, at 11:00 a.m.

In this discussion of ways to engage in community health through the Mayors Wellness Campaign, panelists will discuss proven strategies to improve the health and wellness of your community and how to be designated as a New Jersey Healthy Town. Health Officer CE credits are available. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

President: *Andre Sayegh, Mayor, Paterson*

Speakers: *Don Cabrera, Mayor, Wildwood Crest*

Sue Portuese, Health Officer, Montclair Township

Julie DeSimone, Program Officer, Mayors Wellness Campaign, NJHQI



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There is no question that COVID-19 has negatively impacted just about every industry in the State of New Jersey except for the production of hand sanitizer, paper products, and cardboard boxes, as well as various delivery services. Real estate transactions were on hold for some time, as were development applications and most construction projects that were already underway at the time that the coronavirus took hold.

New Jersey's municipalities quickly rose to the challenges presented by the pandemic ranging from allowing small businesses to utilize publicly owned spaces, to closing streets or widening sidewalks for local restaurants to accommodate outdoor dining, to proceeding with the business of the public by quickly adapting to holding meetings online in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Clearly, many New Jersey municipalities remain "open for business" despite the challenges presented by the pandemic.

There are questions, however, about how the COVID-19 pandemic will impact redevelopment projects and financing. Will suburban residential be in higher demand? Will office space eventually become obsolete? Will brick and mortar retail

be able to sustain? Will there be any demand for hotels? Even if redevelopers want to continue the business of development, will financing be reasonably obtainable? These questions persist, though early indication is that New Jersey redevelopment will weather this storm.

One thing that has not been questioned about its ability to thrive in a COVID-19-tainted market is the demand for warehousing and logistical distribution centers. They are on the uptick, all the way from Carney's Point to Perth Amboy, and there appears to be no slow down on the development of them all over the State. These projects are beneficial all around, providing not only tax ratables but also jobs, leading to a constant stream of funds being pumped into our local cities and towns.

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Warehousing

Within the redevelopment context, these projects are also known to yield high enough returns to withstand the provision of certain public contributions such as park spaces. Redevelopment projects must be implemented in accordance with the applicable Redevelopment Plan, thereby often requiring infrastructure improvements, roadway repairs, implementation of green and sustainable features, incorporation of stormwater mitigation techniques and importantly, environmental remediation of legacy contamination.

The Carneys Point experience

Redevelopment in the Township of Carneys Point, a 17-square-mile Salem County community of about 8,000 people along the Delaware River, has recently accelerated. The Mayor and the Township Committee have provided a catalyst for this much needed economic revitalization of the Township through the tools of the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 et seq.

Carneys Point is ideally positioned for warehousing given its proximate location to major roadways, the Philadelphia International Airport, the Delaware River and its connection to the State of Delaware by the Delaware Memorial Bridge. Warehousing redevelopment in Carneys Point started almost 4 years ago, the pandemic has not slowed the interest and investment into warehousing.

Amazon: In September 2020, redeveloper Courses Landing Urban Renewal, LLC, closed on a change of its ownership to SunTrust Equity Funding, LLC for the acquisition and redevelopment of 158 acres necessary for the construction of a massive 1,085,468 square foot warehouse, distribution, and office facility that is anticipated to provide 100 jobs during construction and 600 to 1,000 new permanent jobs upon completion.

In addition to job creation, the increased tax rate to the Township through the financial agreement for long-term tax exemption is substantial. For example, in the first year following the issuance of the certificate of occupancy, the Township will realize the greater of 10% of the gross revenue for the project or \$750,000

in lieu of approximately \$9,000 that the Township currently receives.

This redevelopment project has been in the works since the 2018 redevelopment area designation and redevelopment plan, but an expansion of the redevelopment area, an amended redevelopment plan, an amended redevelopment agreement, and an amended financial agreement for long-term tax exemption that all occurred during the pandemic will enable the project to move forward. It is anticipated that this redevelopment project will be fully constructed by the end of 2021 and utilized by Amazon for a logistics center.

Harding Hwy Urban Renewal LLC: A few months prior to the pandemic, the Township approved a redevelopment agreement for Harding Hwy Urban Renewal, LLC, to undertake the construction of a 400,535 square foot warehouse facility on approximately 41 acres of property. During the pandemic, the project continued to move forward with the Township approving a financial agreement for long-term tax exemption that will greatly increase the tax rate for the property. It is anticipated that this project will provide approximately 100 construction jobs and 250 new permanent jobs upon completion in 2021.

Future warehousing demand: Carneys Point continues to be a hot spot for potential new warehousing. During the pandemic, the Township has received two proposals for an additional five warehouses and two other potential entities continue to express interest. Additionally, a redevelopment area study investigation has commenced involving approximately 145 parcels known as the Commercial Corridor Properties in Carneys Point.

Mayor Kenneth H. Brown said he is optimistic about the revitalization of the Township: "This warehouse redevelopment will give our Township and surrounding communities much needed jobs and will give all our residents opportunities for many years to come. Our small business partners will also get a much-needed infusion of business. I am excited about our future, and our ability to decide how our Township is developed."

The Perth Amboy experience

Perth Amboy has also proven to be a highly desirable location for warehousing and logistical distribution center projects, due, in part, to its central proximity to major transportation arteries, its general accessibility for drivers and public transportation, and the availability of a workforce.

The recent redevelopment experience in Perth Amboy, with various projects over the last few years has generated nearly \$1 billion of new construction, approximately 3,000 jobs (long- and short-term) for the City's residents, 20 acres of open space, a \$15 million increase in tax rates, the environmental remediation of over 500 acres of contaminated property, and the implementation of \$25 million in infrastructure improvements. All of which is achieved at no cost to the City.

Following studies to determine whether certain areas within the City were areas in need of redevelopment or rehabilitation, the adoption of the City's Redevelopment Plan made these warehousing projects possible:

Home Depot: Home Depot will be opening a logistics center on a former industrial site which involves an investment of over \$100 million for remediation and redevelopment of over 92 acres and the generation of approximately 500 jobs. This project is also expected to provide the Copperworks Waterfront Amphitheater and other public open space to be donated to the City by the designated redeveloper, which amenities will include a mile-long greenway.

ePort I: This fulfillment and logistics center comprises a three-building, 1.2 million sq. ft. industrial complex. Target is a current tenant. T-Mobile is also a tenant, leasing space for a cell tower, providing much-needed improvement to cellular communications throughout the City.

ePort II: This project will include the construction of two warehouses collectively comprising approximately 1.5 million sq. ft.; parking, trailer storage and dock spaces; security; bike racks;

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Warehousing

signage; lighting; landscaping and streetscaping; construction of public sidewalks along the perimeter of the project site and beyond; stormwater management components including rain gardens; infrastructure improvements including the separation of the Combined Sewer Overflow system; and green features including a solar panel-ready roof.

Each of these projects was the subject of thorough Redevelopment Agreements that were negotiated within the context of and pursuant to the Local Redevelopment Housing Law, *N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1, et seq.* (the Act). Under the Act, the local redevelopment agency has discretion in selecting a redeveloper. Following its consideration of factors such as experience, credentials, financial capacity, and history/presence within the City, the redevelopers were designated by the Perth Amboy Redevelopment Agency, chaired by Mayor Wilda Diaz.

The Redevelopment Agreements addressed the project details and legal

terms and conditions that are pertinent in the implementation of such projects, including governmental approvals, environmental and historic preservation requirements, demolition of existing structures, stormwater management, design, landscaping and streetscaping, provision of open space, security, mitigating traffic and construction impacts, adherence to a project schedule, the holding of job fairs and promoting first source employment, transfers of ownership, financial commitments, liability, insurance requirements, and remedies for default, to name only a few. Even drone paths in certain cases have been established, so that drones do not fly over populated, residential areas.

Mayor Diaz has highlighted the redevelopment efforts that have been and will continue to be underway throughout the City: "Over the past eight years in particular, the City has successfully touted why it is so well-situated for redevelopment. Due to the efforts of the Perth

Amboy Redevelopment Agency (PARA), we have been able to achieve significant expansion and improvement.

She added: "As the Chairperson of PARA, I am proud to say that these efforts have resulted in the construction of various projects, including certain warehouse and logistics centers which are hosting nationally recognized companies, bringing jobs and overall economic growth to the City. Those important benefits are at the top of the list but there are others as well, such as environmental remediation of contaminated sites, creation of open space, and improvement of aging infrastructure, all of which will serve the future generations of Perth Amboy well.

Diaz added," the relationships between municipalities like ours and redevelopers are meant to be mutually beneficial, and when all of the pieces of the puzzle fit together, and the tools are used correctly, both sides can get what they need." 

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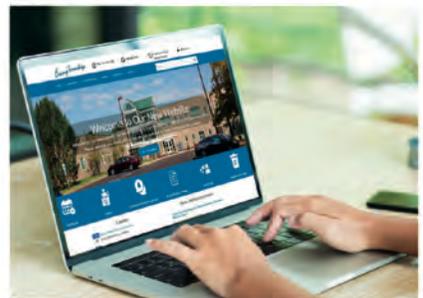
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Clean Communities Rise to the Challenge

Tackling a new wave of pandemic-driven litter

SANDY HUBER, *Executive Director, New Jersey Clean Communities Council*



Besides completely changing how we live our lives in New Jersey, COVID-19 has also left a trail of single-use plastic gloves, masks, personal protective equipment on our streets, beaches, lakes, streams, and other public places.

Our Clean Communities Coordinators across the state are now rising to the challenge, as we tackle this new wave of litter resulting directly from this stubborn pandemic.

According to a street litter survey conducted by the New Jersey Clean Communities Council (NJCCC) in 2018, plastic in the form of shrink wrap, snack plastics and other wrap was the predominant form of litter. A waterways survey conducted in 2019 suggests that water bottles were the predominant form of litter. Add the groundswell of concern over plastic bags, plastic

bag bans and the promotion of reusable bags in recent years. Now add PPE to the litter pile.

PPE debris

Throughout New Jersey, residents are stripping off their gloves and masks and discarding them outside their vehicles, concerned that they could infect the interior of their cars and bring the pandemic home. Gloves and masks are subsequently being washed ashore on beaches, a sure sign they have made it

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Clean Communities

into the sewer systems and directly into the state's waterways.

Managers and business owners of essential businesses, such as ShopRite, Supremo, Walgreens, and Rite Aid, among many others, have been asked to help out by ordering, installing, and strategically placing receptacles near cart returns and parking lots so that customers can safely discard protective waste near their car doors.

Company leaders have been asked to police their lots and outdoor spaces more often, while proactive municipalities, such as Perth Amboy, have provided signage for cash registers and informational flyers reminding customers to refrain from littering.

"The outcome and results speak for themselves," said Perth Amboy Mayor Wilda Diaz. "The cooperation of municipal officials and business managers resulted in the reduction of the material tossed on the ground, while educating the community. The importance of identifying and utilizing every resource possible within a community is ultimately beneficial."

Choose to Reuse

In 2019, the NJCCC and the New Jersey Food Council launched the statewide "Choose to Reuse" campaign to promote the use of reusable bags while



shopping. But that campaign came to an immediate halt once COVID hit. Local officials expressed concern that the virus might contaminate reusable bags. They then switched course, with our support, asking customers to rely on single-use bags for the time being. Towns that had passed plastic bag bans withdrew legislation temporarily, as we collectively try to control the spread.

Now, Clean Communities Coordinators are using reusable bags to bring supplies to first responders, as we encourage and implement all safety precautions.

NJCCC, in partnership with the New Jersey Food Council, has switched gears with public education, as well. We have now launched a statewide information campaign that urges people to use the proper receptacles for disposal of PPE.

The two associations are coordinating a digital advertising program, as well as continually reaching out to municipal officials and store owners, to provide informational materials designed to quickly change consumer behavior as the pandemic affects more and more New Jerseyans.

The message is simple: "Don't Litter! Throw Away Masks, Gloves and Wipes!"

"As soon as we started this advertising campaign, local leaders, businesses and community groups stepped forward to share their ideas about ways to communicate with the public about this litter crisis," said Linda Doherty, president of the New Jersey Food Council. "We were quick to spread that information, hoping others can emulate good policy."

Now, more than six months into this

COVID-19 guidelines for litter pick-up:



- Volunteers must wear masks.
- Volunteers must wear gloves while picking up trash.
- Groups of volunteers cleaning in one location must be limited to 10.
- Volunteers must social-distance.
- Cleanups must be supervised to ensure that COVID-19 guidelines are followed and enforced.
- Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer must be provided for volunteers who are cleaning. Clean Communities grant funds may be used for this purpose.

Clean Communities' Sandy Huber to Retire Jan. 31

JONATHAN JAFFE, *President & CEO, Jaffe Communications*

Sandy Huber's quest to engage the community really began in the 1970s, when, armed with an English and Journalism degree and alive with a genuine desire to improve the quality of life, she was fresh out of Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA.

Huber was hired to promote the children's department in the local library branch. She developed a relationship with a local radio classical music station, WTGM-FM, which was eager to freshen things up.

Huber had a grand idea. What if she created a puppet that would look like a bookworm? What if she could use local talent to come up with various puppet voices as she went on-air presenting *Alice in Wonderland* and other children's classic literature?

Thus, Bo the Bookworm was born. And so was Huber's career for designing innovative programming that engages the masses. It is the exact strategy she used throughout her 17 years as Executive Director of the New Jersey Clean Communities Council (NJCCC), a position from which she is retiring on January 31.

"Everyone needs to remember that Sandy is the only executive director we have ever had," said Paul Bontempo, who served on the NJCCC Board of Trustees for 11 years before retiring. "She was exactly what we needed; someone who would put the quality of the State before herself. Sandy expanded the breadth and depth of the Council far beyond what any one of us could possibly imagine."

The Clean Communities program stretches to 556 municipalities, 21 counties and public parks, providing nearly \$20 million in grants each year. Meanwhile, the office runs on \$375,000 for statewide outreach and education.

One of Huber's major campaigns has been "Slam Dunk the Junk," in which she focuses on recruiting volunteers in urban areas for annual clean-ups of parks, riverbanks, and other public places that often generate litter.

"Sandy has this quiet style; she is never presumptive, always looking to shine the light elsewhere," said Bill Dressel, a NJCCC board trustee and retired NJLM Executive Director. "Volunteers and employees love coming to work and feel they are contributing to improving the quality of life in New Jersey. It is something to be admired when you can stimulate this kind of enthusiasm, day after day, year after year."

Huber coordinates the annual May statewide conference at various, hand-picked locations. She also created the annual Environmental Exchange for each March, in which students



from suburban and urban areas come together for a day of learning, for litter clean-ups and building relationships.

Huber is also mightily proud of her New Jersey Beach Bird campaign, in which she hired an artist, Willy Cole, to create a massive beach bird from recycled plastic bottles. She created a website <http://njbeachbird.org>, a cartoon character of the bird, a video and an activity book of games, Huber gave the bird a name: "PASquale," following the suggestion of one little girl who attended Pennsylvania Avenue School (PAS) in Atlantic City.

"To describe Sandy Huber as a dynamo is to understate her energy and commitment," said Pat Ryan, NJCCC board chair from 2003-2019. "She has personally touched every nook and cranny of New Jersey, effectively advocating for the Clean Communities movement. Wearing out four vehicles, she brought the anti-litter message to every county, city, town, and rural municipality in our state."

Ryan remains impressed with the relationship that Huber developed in recent years with Rutgers University, providing training and certification to Clean Communities Coordinators who follow a curriculum that Huber created.

To summarize a one-of-a-kind career with NJCCC, look no further than the Council's visual litter survey. In 2003, Huber hired researchers to fan out across the state and gauge the amount of litter in specific spots. She had the researchers return in 2017 to those same locations. The result: a well-documented 53% reduction in litter over a span of 14 years.

But Huber had a nagging question: What about the other 47% of remaining litter? It prompted her to coordinate the "Other 47" campaign. Huber created another project website (other47.com), and a portal to sign up for clean-ups. Her campaign rallied the masses to finish the job, once and for all.

Meanwhile, Huber embraces the latest innovations in fighting litter, such as exploring drone technologies to monitor litter abatement on the shore and partnering with out-of-state coalitions fighting against balloon litter and other garbage in waterways.

These days, Huber is squarely focused on addressing litter issues related to COVID-19 with the uptick of people littering masks and gloves. Huber launched another statewide campaign, hoping NJCCC's voice will once again encourage people to curb littering during this pandemic.

"Sandy is a household name across New Jersey," Dressel said. "When you mention Sandy Huber, everyone knows you are talking about fighting against litter and for recycling. How can you replace that?" 🇯🇵



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Observing the Shoreline

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' technology helps preserve coastlines

JOANNE CASTAGNA, *Ed.D., Public Affairs Specialist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

The Joint Airborne Lidar Bathymetry Technical Center of Expertise (JALBTCX) is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, to obtain cutting-edge survey data about the current condition of New Jersey's coasts.

"This data is a win for everybody," Cusano said. "It helps the Army Corps monitor and cost-effectively improve our coastal projects, and it helps our agency educate the public about their coasts and the work we are doing for them [in a] new Atlantic Hurricane Season," said Jeffrey Cusano, Geospatial Coordinator, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Cost-effective data collection

The Army Corps is tapping the expertise of the JALBTCX team based at the Army Corps' Mobile District in Alabama to monitor and cost-effectively improve its coastal projects in the Atlantic Hurricane Season.

One of the center's programs is the National Coastal Mapping Program. The mission's intent is to acquire regional, high-resolution, high-accuracy elevation and imagery data along the sandy shorelines of the United States on a recurring basis.

To obtain this data, JALBTCX uses an aircraft equipped with government-owned state-of-the-art airborne remote sensing platforms. These platforms are comprised of a lidar sensor with topographic capability that measures the elevation of the coastline's beach and dune systems and bathymetric capability that measures the seafloor elevations.

The lidar sensor provides highly detailed and accurate elevation measurements on land and under water. The two additional cameras provide detailed images and spectral information from the same land and water.



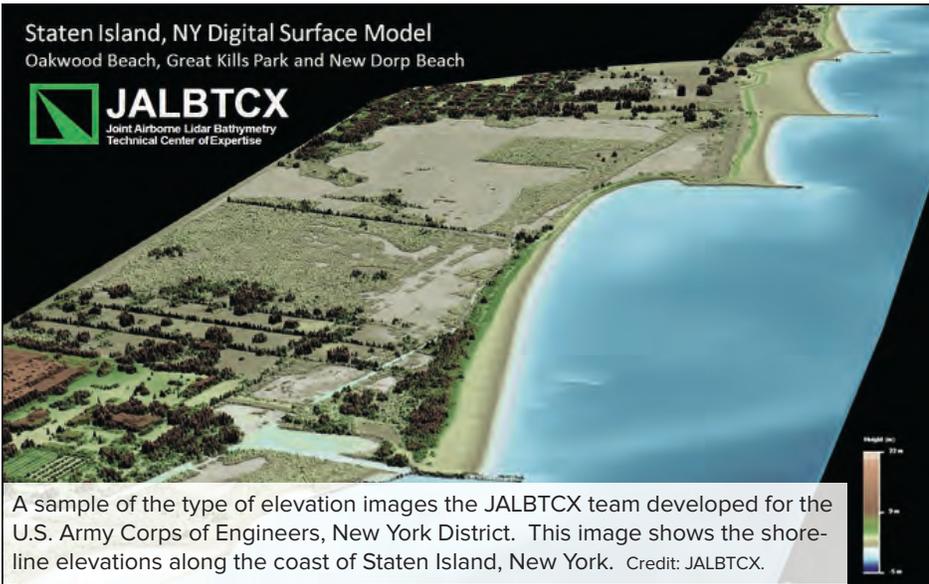
The JALBTCX team standing with COL. Thomas Asbery, Former District Commander, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (far right), in front of their aircraft, at Long Island MacArthur Airport in Ronkonkoma, New York. Credit: USACE.



COL. Thomas Asbery, Former District Commander, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers watching the JALBTCX team working in their flight operations and data production center they stood up in a hotel conference room in Islip, New York. Credit: USACE.



The JALBTCX team showing COL. Thomas Asbery, Former District Commander, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers the airborne remote sensing platforms on their aircraft. Credit: USACE.



A sample of the type of elevation images the JALBTCX team developed for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District. This image shows the shoreline elevations along the coast of Staten Island, New York. Credit: JALBTCX.

This data is acquired along the sandy coastlines of the United States about every five years. Scheduled to fly again in 2022, the Army Corps' New York District wanted to get this information sooner. When the Army Corps discovered that JALBTCX had a small pocket of time available, the district coastal team took advantage of the opportunity.

“They wanted to understand the current coastal condition and how it compared to the 2017 condition to see what work needs to be done now to improve the condition of the coasts. This work may involve such things as sand replenishment and environmental work. They also wanted to see if the work they already performed is functioning well,” said Cusano.

The Army Corps' coastal team worked closely with the JALBTCX team to design flight plans that would produce good data coverage over the district's coastal projects.

Collecting data

Over a two-week period in late January, the JALBTCX team flew their lidar and cameras over 157 miles of the New York and New Jersey coasts. The area included a stretch of coast from Manasquan Inlet to Sandy Hook in New Jersey (see sidebar page 58). To capture the best data, the flight crew flew primarily during daylight hours at or near low tide, at an altitude of 1,300 feet above ground level and at an air speed of 140 knots.

The JALBTCX team set up a flight operations and data production center in a hotel conference room. There the team networked a series of computers used to download data from the flights, and develop it into data products for use by the Army Corps.

In addition, the JALBTCX team will

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Observing the Shoreline

soon provide the Army Corps with what is called a Change Analysis. To perform this analysis, JALBTCX used this newly acquired 2020 continuous digital elevation dataset and compared it to their dataset from the last time they flew in 2017. Results will reveal where erosion or loss of sand occurred and where deposition or accumulation of sand occurred along the coastlines of New Jersey and New York between 2017 and now.

Putting data to work

Cusano said, “We now have valuable information that shows us where there may be storm damage and sand loss that requires repairs. It also shows us how we are progressing with ongoing coastal projects, of which we have done many in the last three years.”

Suzana Rice, Senior Coastal Engineer, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said, “This data is a great tool for us to monitor and understand our coastlines, and compare data from previous years, to use during the 2020 Atlantic Hurricane Season.”

When plans and specifications are created by the project team, they need to have an idea of how much sand will be needed to replenish the beach. Without this JALBTCX data, traditional surveying techniques would have had to be done and this would have taken longer and been more expensive.

The JALBTCX data is also being used to perform environmental work on some of these coastal projects. Robert Smith, Senior Biologist, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said, “The data is being used to design and track changes to habitats we built for endangered species, such as the Piping Plover, an endangered bird that nests along the shore in the summer. We built habitats for the plovers for it to nest and forage.”

This data is valuable to the Army Corps’ projects, and also educates the public about our projects.

Cusano said, “[In fall 2019] we had a number of nor’easters that caused coastal damage. Because of this, residents contacted us. They sought information



COL. Thomas Asbery, Former District Commander, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers being shown the interior of the JALBTCX aircraft. Credit: USACE.

about damages and if rebuilding was needed. We were able to use the data to better respond to their inquiries.”

This data is available to the public and other agencies on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Digital Coast website. The site is a multiyear archive of survey data acquired along U.S. coasts by partners in the Federal mapping community and some state agencies.

Visitors can search for a specific coastal area, learn about available data, customize exactly what they want to

view using the multiple layers of information available, and save the information in the format they can use for their intended purpose. 📄

@ To view the dataset the JALBTCX gathered recently for the Army Corps’ New York District, please visit: <https://coast.noaa.gov/dataviewer/#/lidar/search/where:ID=9000>

Dr. JoAnne Castagna is a Public Affairs Specialist and Writer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District. She can be reached at joanne.castagna@usace.army.mil

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District Coastal Projects

Following are the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer, New York District New York and New Jersey Coastal projects that are benefiting from the JALBTCX Mission.

- The Manasquan to Sandy Hook, New Jersey Project
- The South Shore of Staten Island, New York Project
- The East Rockaway to Rockaway Inlet and Jamaica Bay, New York Project
- The Jones Inlet to East Rockaway Inlet Long Beach, New York Project
- The Fire Island Inlet to Montauk Point, New York Project and its sub project the Fire Island Inlet to Moriches Inlet Emergency Stabilization Project

@ To learn more about these projects visit: www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/



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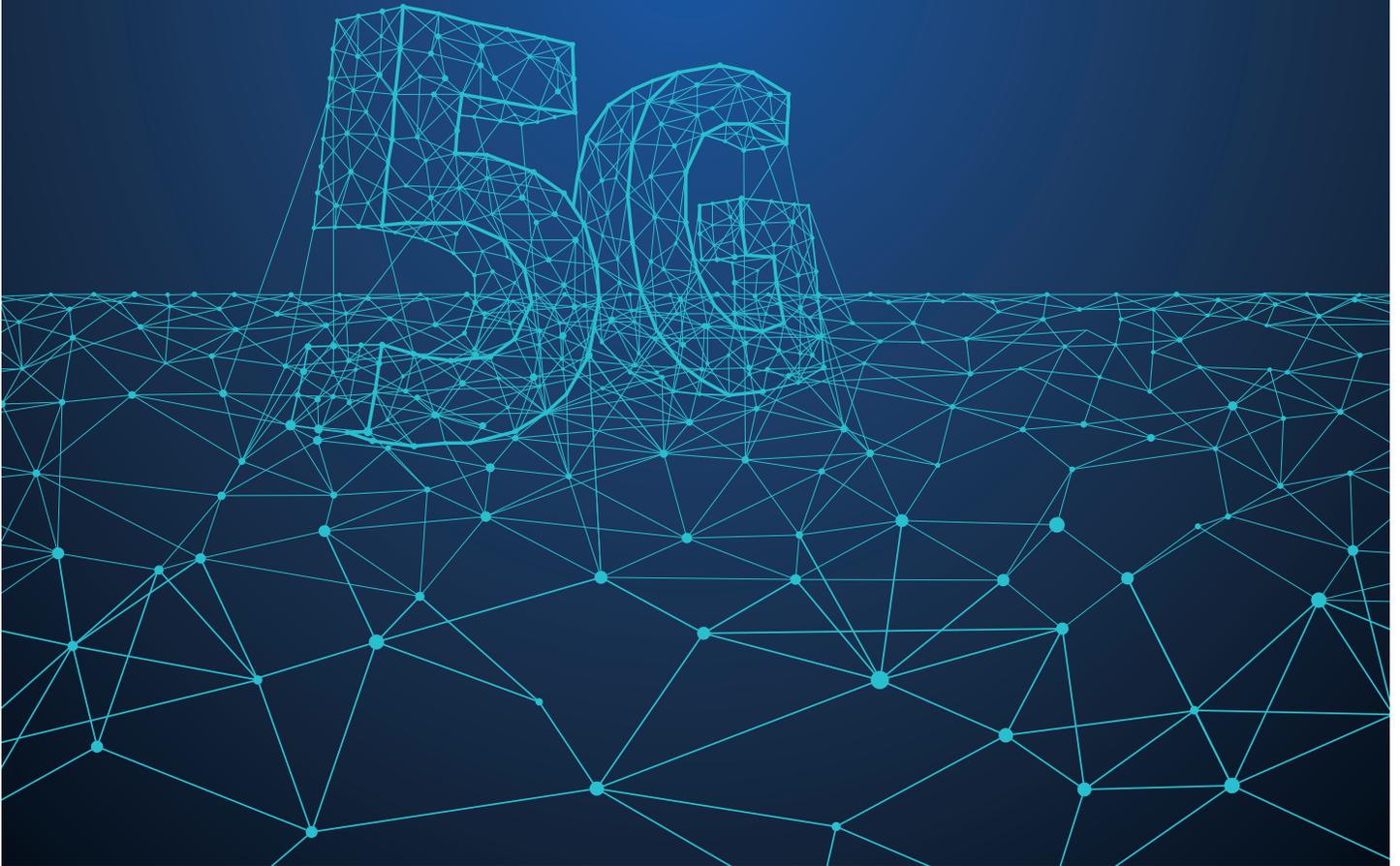
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FCC Regulations on 5G Infrastructure

How will they impact upon New Jersey Municipalities?

XIAOSONG "LARRY" LI, Esq. and RAYMOND STINE, Esq., attorneys with Shain Schaffer PC



On September 26, 2018, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted a Declaratory Ruling and Third Report and Order (the Order), which sweepingly overrides and preempts State and local land use law with respect to 5G wireless infrastructure applications. The Order, together with another FCC order issued in 2020, would force municipalities to change their review procedures and fees, and amend their ordinances relating to such applications.

Once fully implemented, 5G will offer increased bandwidth and faster speeds than previous generations of mobile technology. Rather than single towers, the 5G network employs numerous “small wireless facilities (SWF)” placed close together to relay signals across longer distances and around obstacles. These SWFs can be as small as a backpack and can be installed on structures such as street lights, utility poles, or buildings.

The FCC issued the Order to remove state and local “regulatory barriers” to the deployment of SWFs. The Order, among others, limits fees local governments may assess on telecommunications carriers for the placement, construction, or collocations of SWFs. It also preempts various local non-fee requirements related to the deployment of 5G infrastructure. In addition, it sets time frames (shot clocks) for municipalities

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to review the related applications.

The Order went into effect on January 14, 2019, despite the legal challenges to its validity. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has recently upheld all the provisions in the Order except the rule preempting local aesthetic regulations.

The FCC issued the Order to remove state and local “regulatory barriers” to the deployment of SWFs.

Fee Limitations

Three-part test for fees. The Order adopted an all-encompassing “material inhibition” legal standard that a local law is preempted if it “materially limits or inhibits the ability of any competitor or potential competitor to compete” fairly in providing telecommunication services.

Consequently, the FCC declared that state or local fees for deployment of SWFs violate federal law unless they:

1. Are a reasonable approximation of the state or local government’s costs
2. Only factor in costs that are “objectively reasonable”
3. Are no higher than fees charged to similarly situated competitors.

These fees include right-of-way (ROW) access fees, fees for the use of government property in the ROW, as well as application or review fees and other similar fees imposed by local governments.

Safe harbor and presumptively-permitted fees. In addition to setting out the three-part test, the Order identifies specific fee limits that are presumptively allowed. For non-recurring fees, such as up-front applications for small cell site installations, municipalities may charge up to \$500, subject to certain exceptions. For recurring fees, such as access fees, municipalities may charge up to \$270 per year. Municipalities may charge fees above these amounts by showing that they nonetheless comply with the three-

part test due to local cost variations.

In addition, if a city provides not just the right to place antennas on city-owned poles, but ancillary facilities or services (such as access to electricity, existing underground ducts and underground casements at each pole), these guidelines do not apply and the city can set the usage fees differently.

Limitations upon three types of local regulations

Moreover, the Order applies the “materially inhibits” standard to override three types of local non-fee regulations, including aesthetic requirements, undergrounding requirements (i.e., burying the network infrastructure underground), and minimum spacing requirements.

The Order articulates another three-part test, declaring that these local restrictions are preempted unless they are: “(1) reasonable, (2) no more burdensome than those applied to other types of infrastructure deployments, and (3) objective and published in advance.” Notably, due to the Ninth Circuit Court’s recent decision, local governments no longer need to follow the aesthetic requirements set forth in the Order.

Specifically, the Order preempts local laws requiring all wireless facilities be deployed underground. Furthermore, a municipality cannot promulgate a new minimum spacing requirement that, in effect, prevents a provider from replacing its preexisting facilities or collocating new equipment on a structure already in use.

Shot clocks

Under the shot clocks established in the Order, state and local governments must approve or deny applications within 60 or 90 days, depending on whether the installation will be on an existing structure or new structure. The Order states that the shot clock that applies to the batch applications is the same as one that would apply had the applicant submitted individual applications.

Should a batch application include both collocated and new construction of SWFs, the longer 90-day shot clock will apply. All relevant permits are subject to the shot clocks. Mandatory

In Your Town: What should New Jersey Municipalities do?

To prepare for the sweeping changes, New Jersey municipalities should expeditiously amend their land use ordinances, procedures and fee schedules for 5G wireless applications to comply with the FCC orders and better protect their citizens’ interests.

They should also enact:

- Local aesthetic requirements
- Undergrounding requirements
- Minimum spacing requirements for SWFs.

pre-application procedures and requirements (pre-approval reviews) do not toll the shot clocks.

The FCC declined, however, to adopt a “deemed granted” remedy, which would automatically deem an application granted whenever the municipality fails to rule on it within the shot clock periods. The FCC explains that in situations where a jurisdiction misses the shot clock deadline, the applicant should, in most cases, be able to obtain expedited relief in court.

The FCC retains the existing 90-day shot clock for collocations not involving SWFs. The Order also codifies the existing 150-day shot clock for new construction applications that are not for small wireless facilities.

2020 FCC Infrastructure upgrade order

On June 9, 2020, the FCC, with two commissioners dissenting, adopted a Declaratory Ruling and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, also known as the Upgrade Order, which focuses on clarifying the FCC’s 2014 rule streamlining local approval processes for certain eligible collocations and modifications

to existing wireless structures.

The Upgrade Order clarifies when the 60-day shot clock for local review starts ticking under the 2014 rule, i.e., when an applicant takes the first procedural step required by the local government and states in writing why the project qualifies for the expedited review.

The ruling also clarifies how certain aspects of proposed modifications—height increases, equipment cabinet additions, and impact on concealment elements and aesthetic conditions—affect eligibility for streamlined review.

New Jersey's Proposed Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act

The proposed Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Act was introduced in the Assembly on January 14, 2020. It has been referred to the Assembly Telecommunications and Utilities Committee and Senate Economic Growth Committee.

As proposed, it broadly limits the

ability of a local authority to prohibit, regulate or charge for the collocation of SWFs in the State for a period beginning with the effective date of the bill and ending on July 1, 2022. The legislation, among others, would require that SWFs be classified as permitted uses

and subject to administrative review in accordance with the Act. 

@ For more information, please contact the authors at Shain Schaffer PC, 908-953-9300 or lli@shainlaw.com.

For more information, attend the joint session with NJPO and JAG:

What's New with the FCC - 5G and More

Tuesday, November 17,
at 3:15 p.m.

As well as the session with a Washington, D.C., perspective:

Federal Legislative Update: CARES, 5G, and More

Wednesday, November 18,
at 11:00 a.m.



Speaker: Mark Shourds, County Engineer, Atlantic County



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COPE Program

Highland Park's new provides a lifeline during COVID-19 crisis



HARRY GLAZER, *Aide to Mayor/Public Information Officer, Highland Park*

As the reality of the coronavirus pandemic began to settle in on leaders of Highland Park in March, they promptly pivoted their thinking and adapted to unheard of scenarios. Public buildings were soon closed to residents and all non-essential workers. Public events were all cancelled or moved online, schools were closed indefinitely, residents were repeatedly urged to stay home, and the major overriding focus of government became public health.

Amidst all of the upheaval, the town's leaders kept in mind some of those most vulnerable in the current crisis and created a new program to serve them safely and effectively.

COPE Program

The Borough's COVID-19 Task Force, formed by Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler (an NJLM Executive Board Member) and led by Jim Polos, Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Coordinator and a former mayor and county freeholder, developed the Civilian Outreach Program Exercise (COPE) program to assist residents stuck at home due to the COVID-19 and unable to provide for some of their own basic needs. The COPE program was assigned to the Borough's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Department of Community Services for day-to-day management.

All residents are eligible to request COPE services, which include shopping for food and other essentials as well as wellness telephone check-ins. Every household in the Borough received a postcard in late March making them aware of the COPE program and providing contact information for anyone needing assistance. The Borough, Public Library, Public Schools, and Department of Community Services also shared the program via their email lists and social media channels. All requests for assistance are received by the Department of Community Services and shared with CERT leadership.

Dr. Elissa Kaplan, an experienced psychologist in private practice, chairs the COPE program. Why did she take on such



a big and demanding role in the middle of a pandemic? She states: "I accepted the role of COPE Director because I love our town. I love its small town feel and cosmopolitan flair. I love the diversity of its citizens. I'm thrilled to have an opportunity to use my organizational skills and expertise in mental health to support my community in any way that I can."

"We at Community Services deeply appreciate the work of the COPE and their dedicated volunteers," said Andrea Costas-Baay, Recreation and Arts Coordinator for the Borough. "COPE's team effort has allowed us to assist so many more residents who are not able to leave their homes during this time. They are truly providing an essential service."

Volunteers answer call

To date, the COPE program has 85 volunteers providing food and essentials shopping for about 50 Borough residents. COPE volunteers have also taken on the county's Meals on Wheels deliveries for nearly 20 residents since the county had to temporarily suspend the service. Additionally, at the request of the school district, COPE volunteers have also assisted in delivering food to the homes of students in need.

COPE volunteers received thorough online training from OEM and CERT on how to stay safe and healthy while performing these essential services for their neighbors. Training included standard operating procedure and proper use of PPE.

Downtown Haddonfield

A 2020 community success story

SUSAN HODGES, *Chair, Partnership for Haddonfield*

Business is booming in Downtown Haddonfield, located in the heart of southern New Jersey's Camden County. Home to over 200 businesses, Downtown Haddonfield has launched several campaigns in 2020 to counterpunch the COVID-19 crisis and maintain our position as a place where friendly smiles, local camaraderie, and relaxing fun are always in business.

Keeping the downtown top-of-mind during the midst of a pandemic didn't just happen on its own. It required the cooperation and attention of local government, volunteers, businesses, and the Business Improvement District (BID), which is managed by the Partnership for Haddonfield (PfH). The mission of PfH is to provide leadership that produces the best Downtown in the region by creating and promoting a superior business mix and enhancing the image of Haddonfield in the marketplace.

It has certainly helped that our shops and restaurants—which are nestled into well-preserved colonial buildings and offer distinctive merchandise and outstanding food choices—have always been known for delivering a curated selection of goodies along with personalized customer service.

The support of these independently and locally owned small businesses has always been strong throughout the Haddonfield community and the Delaware Valley area. After all, walking into one of Haddonfield's shops is like walking into someone's home—setting our Downtown experience apart from malls and other downtown destinations.



The Haddonfield 'Open for Business' campaign showcased the ways to safely shop and dine in the Downtown during the pandemic, whether online for retail or by curbside pickup/takeout at restaurants.

Open for Business campaign

While many of our businesses independently changed their response as the crisis evolved, the PfH, working with public relations firm, Suation Communications Group, developed plans for promoting the Downtown as whole with our Open for Business campaign.

The campaign showcased the ways to safely shop and dine during the pandemic and included a designated page on our website, <https://DowntownHaddonfield.com>, listing those businesses that offered online shopping options as well as those restaurants offering curbside pickup. A link to purchase town-wide gift certificates was also included on the webpage, as well as ongoing updates on planned events as well as ever-evolving safety and health protocols.



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Downtown Haddonfield

Additional campaign initiatives included distributing on-going press releases and pitching media for successful story coverage; a robust social media campaign; and Google AdWords and digital retargeting campaigns. Whether shopping online for distinctively wrapped gifts from a favorite shop's website; purchasing a town-wide gift certificate via the website;

**Thus far in 2020,
nearly two dozen
new businesses
have joined or
expanded in
the Downtown.**

or ordering delicious cooked-to-order meals for delivery or take-out, the Open for Business message infiltrated our target markets with the message that our



Perhaps the most significant illustration of Downtown Haddonfield's success story during the pandemic is the new stores and restaurants that have opened or expanded. Photo Credit: Suasion Communications Group

businesses stood ready to safely serve.

In mid-May, the reopening of non-essential retail businesses for curbside pickup services was announced. In order

to facilitate curbside pickup, takeout, and delivery for businesses, new stopping zones were introduced. Vehicles could stop at any red meter bag for a limit of 5 minutes for curbside pickup. As in-store shopping and al fresco dining opened in mid-June, the Open for Business campaign continued to evolve with updated messaging regarding safety protocols, additional openings, and other pertinent information to assure shoppers that spring and summer were still happening in the Downtown.

Haddonfield Cares

As our everyday lives continue to be altered, Haddonfield businesses continue to adjust to the new normal by providing ways to safely shop in-store, online, and with contactless curbside pick-up; and to safely dine outdoors or use takeout and delivery services.

As a means to reassure visitors that Haddonfield cares deeply about their safety and well-being, we launched our Haddonfield Cares informational campaign, highlighting measures to keep everyone safe while shopping and dining. The Downtown is adhering to



The 'Haddonfield Cares' information campaign highlights measures being taken by Downtown businesses so that visitors may safely shop and dine in the Downtown. Photo Credit: Suasion Communications Group



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Downtown Haddonfield

state guidelines by requiring visitors to wear masks indoors and outdoors, when six feet of distance cannot be maintained.

New and expanded 2020 businesses

Perhaps the most significant illustration of Downtown Haddonfield's success story during the pandemic is the new stores that have opened or expanded. Thus far in 2020, nearly two dozen new businesses have joined or expanded in the Downtown. From hair and nail salons to new dining options, to photographers, and even a winery tasting room, Haddonfield continues to grow and experience a banner year by meeting each challenge with a strategic marketing assault and the amazing support of a loyal customer base and community and some of the hardest working business owners Haddonfield has ever seen. We hope you will come visit our beautiful Downtown. 📍

@ To learn more about our efforts or to plan a visit, go to www.downtownhaddonfield.com.



August's Super Summer Sale, formerly the Summer Sidewalk Sales, is an annual one-of-a-kind shopping event featuring exciting specials throughout the beautiful Downtown business district. Photo Credit: Suasion Communications Group

Successful Events



The Downtown is adhering to state guidelines by requiring visitors to wear masks indoors and outdoors, when six feet of distance cannot be maintained. Photo Credit: Suasion Communications Group

The PfH launched its Haddonfield Rewards promotion in late June, not only as a way to incentivize sales, but to reward shoppers for supporting our small businesses and restaurants with 20% back (up to \$100) on their purchases during a limited time in the form of a Haddonfield town-wide gift certificate mailed to their homes. The program resulted in the issuance in thousands of dollars in certificates, which can be used in person at almost any shop, service, or restaurant.

The Downtown also hosted its August Super Summer Sale. Formerly the Summer Sidewalk Sale, this annual shopping event has become one of the most anticipated events in the Downtown. Heating up Haddonfield's fine shops and boutiques were exciting specials throughout the beautiful Downtown business district along Kings Highway and our charming side streets. Masks were worn, social distancing was practiced, and fun was had by all.

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Environmental Justice Concerns Reach the Mountaintop



BEN DWORKIN, PH.D., *Director, Rowan University Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship (RIPPAC)*

Though seemingly lost among the high-volume, daily battles over how to best manage COVID-19 in New Jersey and the back-and-forth of the presidential race, Governor Phil Murphy signed one of the most significant pieces of legislation of his tenure in mid-September.

The new law requires the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to evaluate certain permit requests for potential polluters on the basis of the cumulative effects of all pollution in a community. Previously, a new manufacturing, recycling, or energy plant, as just some examples, was judged for permits simply based on its own output of pollutants. Regulators did not consider what other negative environmental impacts were already going on in a particular neighborhood.

Under the new law, however, past economic development decisions that may have saddled a community with brownfields, leaking storage tanks, and poor air and water quality, etc., must now be taken into consideration before anything new is approved in the area, and potentially, before any current facility's permits are renewed.

According to the governor's office, New Jersey is the first state in the nation to mandate that permits be denied "if an environmental justice analysis determines a new facility will have disproportionately negative impact on overburdened communities."

Interestingly, the definition of "overburdened community" in the new law does not specify any environmental or health standards that must be met before this new standard is imposed. Rather, the legislation says the communities—broken down by U.S. Census tracts—that will be protected by the law are those that have any one of the following:

- At least 35% of households qualifying as low-income.
- At least 40% of households are racial minorities.
- At least 40% of households have limited English proficiency.

About 310 municipalities, representing 4.5 million people, in New Jersey are likely to come under this definition.

The fight for environmental justice in New Jersey is not new. A version of the bill that was just passed was introduced originally in 2008. In their pursuit of votes in the legislature, advocates have pointed repeatedly to the concentration of heavy manufacturing and other potential polluters in neighborhoods that disproportionately include residents who are poor, people of color, or immigrants—and often a combination thereof. They have linked these past development decisions to the poor health conditions often found among those same communities.

And though the state already requires a host of environmental standards for new site approvals, and counties and municipalities have their own site approval processes, each new facility added to what was already on (and sometimes in) the ground.

For environmental justice proponents, enough was enough.

Key factors to passage

Still, passage in 2020 came about largely because of the alignment of several key factors.

First, Senator Cory Booker made environmental justice a centerpiece in his unsuccessful campaign for the presidency and his subsequent bid for re-election as United States Senator. His ability to generate publicity around the issue helped galvanize support.

Second, while lawmakers have been raising environmental justice concerns for over a decade, in 2020, a growing chorus of legislators, led by the prime sponsors Senator Troy Singleton and Majority Leader Loretta Weinberg, sensed the opportunity and pushed even more aggressively for passage.

Third, Murphy himself came out with a pre-passage endorsement of the legislation on Juneteenth, the holiday commemorating the end of slavery, thereby linking the bill explicitly to the ongoing fight for civil rights.

Finally, the killing of George Floyd and the social justice protests that have been a part of American life since then, along with the clear disparate effects that COVID-19 has had on the poor and people of color, have heightened general awareness of the brutal inequalities between rich and poor, white and black, that were all too often unseen or ignored.

When all of these factors were mixed in together, the sponsors and grassroots environmental justice advocates were able to find a successful path getting the new law passed.

The views expressed and the data presented by contributors are theirs and are not necessarily shared by the League.

Controversy

The new law is not without controversy.

For some in the business community, the environmental justice assessment that the NJDEP is now charged with making lacks any scientific guidance. How will the state government add up different environmental stressors that exist in a community, so that a determination on whether to allow something new can be made? For example, what value does a leaky underground oil tank get in the equation? How about a brownfield? For industries that are seeking stability and predictability in their site management, the new law introduces exactly the opposite.

Proponents are confident that the law will, in fact, lead to new opportunities for growth and development, even as some construction may be hamstrung by decisions made by long-gone officials who allowed other polluting facilities to build in these neighborhoods in years past.

That, in fact, is exactly the point, argue the advocates for the new law. It

is time to consider industrial site placement holistically, taking everything that is already in the area—and their negative environmental effects on the population—into consideration, before imposing one more on the community.

Governor Phil Murphy signed one of the most significant pieces of legislation of his tenure in mid-September.

Moving forward

Exactly how this will all play out is still unclear. The NJDEP will probably need to spend at least a year, if not more, developing, proposing, and finally approving new rules to govern exactly how this will work.

The irony of this entire effort is that it seemingly runs counter to the state's focus in recent decades to protect open space

by encouraging development in the same already-urbanized areas that are most likely to be protected under this law.

This is why the overall social context of the new environmental justice law needs to be appreciated. A bill that never quite made it to the governor's desk for more than a decade got there in 2020—and that was no coincidence.

While some have called this new law the “holy grail” for the environmental justice movement, it is not likely to be the end of the quest for advocates. As the definition of “overburdened communities” is refined through regulations and probably the courts as well, there will be additional attempts to use it in new legislation.

Keeping environmental justice concerns on the back burner in an effort to bring in jobs, revitalization funds, and new industrial taxpayers to replace abandoned or otherwise available lots, is no longer acceptable. Mayors, councils, and other local officials will need to adapt—if they haven't already. 

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Tax Sales: Continuing Vital Revenue Collections

DANIELLE C PEACOCK, CTC, Tax Collector, Hamilton Township

The tax collector is charged with the duty of collecting the entire amount of the tax levy. When, at the end of any given year there are still open taxes which have not been paid, the collector is required by law to enforce the lien by selling the delinquency at a tax sale. *N.J.S.A. Title 54:5* is commonly known as the Tax Sale Law. The process of enforcement through tax sale begins on the 11th day of the 11th month in every town.

Each town must choose whether to hold either an accelerated sale or a standard sale. An accelerated sale is held prior to the close of the fiscal year, in other words current year delinquencies are sold in the current year (CY). This process requires a resolution by the governing body and the sale **MUST** be completed by December 31 (CY) or June 30 (State Fiscal Year-SFY) of the current year.

In a standard sale, the tax collector is selling the prior year delinquency in the subsequent year. This sale must be completed by the end of the following fiscal year.

Once the choice of the type of sale is determined, the process starts by creating the Tax Sale List. This is permanent record of the tax office and must be kept in a bound book. In an accelerated sale, this list is generated starting the 11th day of the 11th month. In a standard sale, this list is generated 50 days prior to the date of the sale. The list consists of the total taxes, interest, certified utility amounts, statutory 2% costs of sale, and “In Lieu of mailing” fees, if authorized by resolution of the governing body. These amounts are calculated to the date of the tax sale.

This list is then posted in five of the most public places within your municipality. In these Covid times, if your buildings are still closed to the public, please make sure the notices are posted on outside doors for public view. The list must also be advertised once in each of the four weeks prior to the week of the sale. In the event that the governing body authorized the in lieu of mailings, you can substitute two of the ads for two mailings to the owners. These in lieu of mailings can be charged a fee of up to \$25 each. In addition to the required mailings above, a separate notice of the sale **MUST** be sent to the owner listed in the last printed tax duplicate.

Once you have determined the type of sale (Standard vs. Accelerated), a municipality can then choose the method of the sale.

A traditional call out sale is an open public auction where each property is sold for as advertised for the unpaid balances. Bidding begins at the statutory max interest of 18% and is bid down. Bids that reach 0% then go to a premium bid. The certificate is sold to the lowest percentage of redemption interest bid or the highest premium bidder.

When, at the end of any given year there are still open taxes which have not been paid, the collector is required by law to enforce the lien by selling the delinquency at a tax sale.

If the choice of the municipality is to use the online auction method, there are additional requirements. LFN 2018-08-Adoption of NJAC 5:33-1.1 created regulations for longstanding PILOT program for internet-based tax sales. This legislation established requirements for a municipality to contract with a vendor to conduct a sale on behalf of the tax collector by quotations or public bids. The process to follow depends on the estimated contract amount, the bid threshold of the municipality, and whether the municipality has a qualified purchasing agent on staff.

At the conclusion of the sale, the tax collector must issue all certificates within 10 days. Lienholders should record these certificates with the county clerk within 90 days. Once a tax sale certificate is two years old, a lienholder may start a foreclosure action “In Personam” by filing such action with the Superior Court. If any tax sale certificate was not sold at sale and subsequently struck off to the municipality, an In Rem foreclosure may be commenced after six months from the date of the sale as long as there is at least one delinquent part of the certificate over 21 months old.

Tax sale is the final step of enforcement and collection for a tax collector. He/she should always communicate with the finance department and the governing body to determine the right method for the town and discuss the budgetary needs. Especially in these unprecedented and difficult times, tax collectors have many options to fulfill their statutory functions. They will continue the collection of revenues for municipalities which is vital to keeping government moving forward. 



Mayors Committee on Life Sciences

A partnership of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities
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Mayor, East Hanover Township,
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LABOR RELATIONS



A Sigh of Relief For New Jersey Municipalities

JOSEPH M. HANNON, ESQ.,
Genova Burns, LLC,
NJLM Labor Counsel

As municipalities and counties across the nation grapple with an unexpected decline in revenue caused by the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy recently signed the “Coronavirus Relief Bonds” bill (A3971) into law to help address this very concern. The recently enacted law authorizes local municipalities and counties in New Jersey to borrow funds for the purposes of offsetting their loss revenue or paying for expenses that are directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic, including labor costs associated with unemployment benefits.

Though treated as a bond, local governmental units do not have to follow certain mandates of the Local Bond Law to issue the coronavirus relief bonds. For example, the Local Finance Board can extend a local unit’s repayment period up to a total of 10 years if the local unit’s application demonstrates “significant fiscal distress.” A municipality that is forced to levy taxes over 2% would demonstrate the requisite fiscal distress, for purposes of extending the repayment period.

Another key difference of the Coronavirus Relief Bonds Law is that certain local units are exempt from having their annual budget approved by the Local Finance Board. For instance, approval is not needed if the Director of the Division of Local Government Services concludes the local unit is fiscally sound and the unit’s practices comply with both the law and sound administrative practices. Local units may be required to comply with the Local Budget Law, however, if the director finds that an exemption would impair the fiscal integrity and solvency of the municipality.

There are prerequisites the local units must satisfy prior to borrowing the funds. Specifically, the chief financial officer of the local unit must certify that the funds will be used to offset an operational deficit that is directly attributable to COVID-19. The new law also requires local units to first apply for financial assistance from other sources, such as the federal government and state government, for assistance in addressing the coronavirus-related deficit. Funds received under this law cannot be duplicative of the financial assistance that the local unit previously received from another source. Local units are also required to adopt a resolution setting forth the amount of funds appropriated and the provisions for borrowing money.

Prior to the adoption of a resolution or ordinance, the Local

Finance Board may waive the application and review procedures when the project financing will result in debt service savings for the municipality. To determine whether the project financing will result in debt service savings, the Local Finance Board will consider the following six factors:

1. The purpose and scope of the proposed project financing.
2. The engineering and feasibility studies prepared in connection with the project financing.
3. The terms and provisions of the proposed service contracts.
4. The estimate and impact of the proposed schedule of debt service payments.
5. The estimate of the annual cost of operating and maintain the project.
6. The initial rate, rent, fee, or charge schedule proposed by the authority to finance the operations.

To examine the six factors, the Local Finance Board is statutorily authorized to require the production of documents, interview witnesses, and conduct audit investigations.

According to the recently signed law, local units may also adopt an ordinance to authorize special emergency appropriations for various purposes. For example, local units may appropriate funds to revise and codify ordinances, prepare drainage maps for flood control purposes, engage special consultants, conduct preliminary engineering studies, reimburse liabilities incurred to the Department of Labor for unemployment benefits paid to former employees, along with other purposes. Local units, however, must first file a copy of all ordinances and/or resolutions regarding the special emergency appropriations with the Director.

The Coronavirus Relief Bonds Law generally requires the Director to provide a form, application, schedule, and process for review for municipality to follow. Regarding the review process, the Director must render a written decision on the unit’s application within 45 days. If a written decision is not rendered within 45 days, the application will be deemed approved and the local unit may adopt the appropriate resolution. If an application is denied, the local unit may submit a revised application subject to the same submissions and review procedures as the original application.

The Coronavirus Relief Bonds was signed into law on August 31, 2020, and the bonds are currently available to local municipalities. For additional guidance on how to apply and issue coronavirus relief bonds, please contact counsel. 

The author would like to thank Daniel Pierre, Esq., for his assistance in drafting this article.

The views expressed and the data presented by contributors are theirs and are not necessarily shared by the League.



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Parking Closer to Intersections; Rent Control Ordinances

FRANK MARSHALL, ESQ., NJLM Associate General Counsel



Within the last few months the cost of rent in our municipality has increased at an alarming rate. In response, we are looking to create a rent control ordinance but fear the costs are already too high. Can a rent control ordinance be applied retroactively?



A rent control ordinance may be applied retroactively, provided sufficient rational exists not only for the need of a rent control ordinance but also for retroactive application. The need for sufficient rational is imperative as there is no specific state legislation permitting the practice of rent control. Instead, municipal authority to adopt rent control regulations comes from the general police powers under *N.J.S.A. 40:8-2* which authorizes a municipality to adopt ordinances for the preservation of the public health, safety, and welfare of the municipality and its inhabitants.

Inasmuch, rent control ordinances would be considered emergency legislation. The need for which comes from a scarcity of adequate housing in the rental market and the fact that unscrupulous landlords may seek to take advantage of the scarcity by raising rents, threatening the public interest. So while it may not be necessary for an exhaustive study or hearings to be held to examine the availability of housing within a municipality, it is wise to include clear reasoning with examples of empirical data in any rent control ordinance.

Similarly, because of the emergency nature of such regulations, rent control ordinances should contain a sunset clause or a timeframe in which their need will be reexamined.

With the threshold issue of the need for a rent control ordinance addressed, we can examine the retroactive application of the ordinance. New Jersey courts specifically have addressed the issue of whether a rent control ordinance may be applied retroactively, even if the ordinance interferes with existing contract rights. However, retroactive application has only been upheld only under the most stringent circumstances.

Much like a rent control ordinance itself, for retroactive applicability of the ordinance to be sustained there must be a rational public purpose. For example, case law shows that retroactive application of rent control ordinance will be permitted when there is evidence that landlords had increased their rent in anticipation of rent controls being implemented.



Street parking in our municipality is hard to come by and we are looking for ways to increase the number of available spots. Isn't there a provision in the law authorizing municipalities to allow parking closer to intersections and crosswalks than what State law provides?



You are correct. Municipalities are authorized to pass an ordinance allowing vehicles to park closer to crosswalks and intersections than what the law would otherwise generally provide. *N.J.S.A. 39:4-138* sets out places where parking is prohibited—including, within 25 feet of the nearest crosswalk or side line of street or intersecting highway, and within 50 feet of a stop sign. However, P.L. 2009, c.257, codified as *N.J.S.A. 39:4-138.6*, provides that a municipality may, by ordinance, change the permissible parking distances from a crosswalk, side line of a street or intersecting highway, or stop sign.

Municipal authority to set permissible parking distances for these instances is not completely unfettered. The statute goes on to limit a municipality's authority to set permissible parking distances in school zones when school is in session, requiring the parking distance set out in *N.J.S.A. 39:4-138* be maintained.

Unlike other traffic control regulations that allow for municipal discretion—such as with changes to speed limits—prior approval or submission of changes to the State Department of Transportation is not required when altering permissible parking distances.

This isn't to say, however, that careful consideration of pedestrian and motorist safety should be ignored. It is wise to review any plans to alter permissible parking distance with your municipal engineer. 🇯🇵

SHOW OFF YOUR CITY!

→ Enter to win!

Send us photos of your municipality! Help us showcase our beautiful state by sending photos of your tourist attractions, downtown areas, economic development initiatives, parks, city halls, community groups and new projects.

Entries will be posted on the League's Facebook page, website and some featured in the April issue of *NJ Municipalities*, and possibly other issues. A winner will be chosen and receives a free League publication of their choice!

Photos should be high resolution JPEGs, at least 1MB in size. Please provide photo credit if necessary.

Photos can be submitted to aspiezio@njlm.org, or mailed on CD or flash drive to 222 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608.

Deadline to submit is February 3.

Entry details: Unfortunately stockphotos and images that are too low resolution will not be considered. By submitting a photo you are agreeing that you own the rights to the photo and that NJLM has permission to use the photo in *NJ Municipalities*, on NJLM's social media and website, and on other printed materials. A winner will be chosen on February 14. Please include your Facebook profile name and we will tag your photo on Facebook!



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NJLM Virtual Conference 105th Annual
November 16-20
#njleague

Conference Program Schedule & Exhibitor Listing



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Welcome to the 105th Annual NJLM Conference-Presented Virtually!



November 16, 2020

Dear Conference Delegate:

Every year is a year unlike any other. But this year has been something else, again. After all the challenges that all of us have faced since last we met in Atlantic City, I'm very happy, very thankful, and more than a little relieved to say ...

Welcome to the 105th Annual Conference of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.

In a lot of ways, this promises to be a Conference unlike any other. But the League Officers, our Executive Board, the League staff, and the leadership of our affiliate organizations have worked hard to deliver the same high-quality educational sessions and learning experiences that have been the hallmark of every Annual Conference for over a century.

Throughout the planning process we have been guided by one great principle: Safety first. We think we've been able to hold to that tenet without forfeiting the Conference's usual program quality. In Don Quixote, Cervantes wrote, 'All these squalls to which we have been subjected are signs that the weather will soon improve and things will go well for us, because it is not possible for the bad or the good to endure forever, and from this it follows that since the bad has lasted so long, the good is close at hand.'

As we begin a new decade with a focus on the future, we hope that this year's Conference helps to provide you with the knowledge and the tools that you can use to seize the opportunities and surmount the challenges ahead.

On behalf of the League's Officers, Executive Board, and staff, I want you to know how much we appreciate all you do throughout the year to hold true to your duty to your fellow citizens and sacrifice for the good of others. Every day you serve in municipal government, you make those sacrifices out of love for your hometowns. Of course, we thank you for that. We also thank you for committing this week to learning as much as you can to make your hometowns the best that they can be.

Sincerely,

James J. Perry Sr.

Committeeman, Hardwick Township

Program Notes



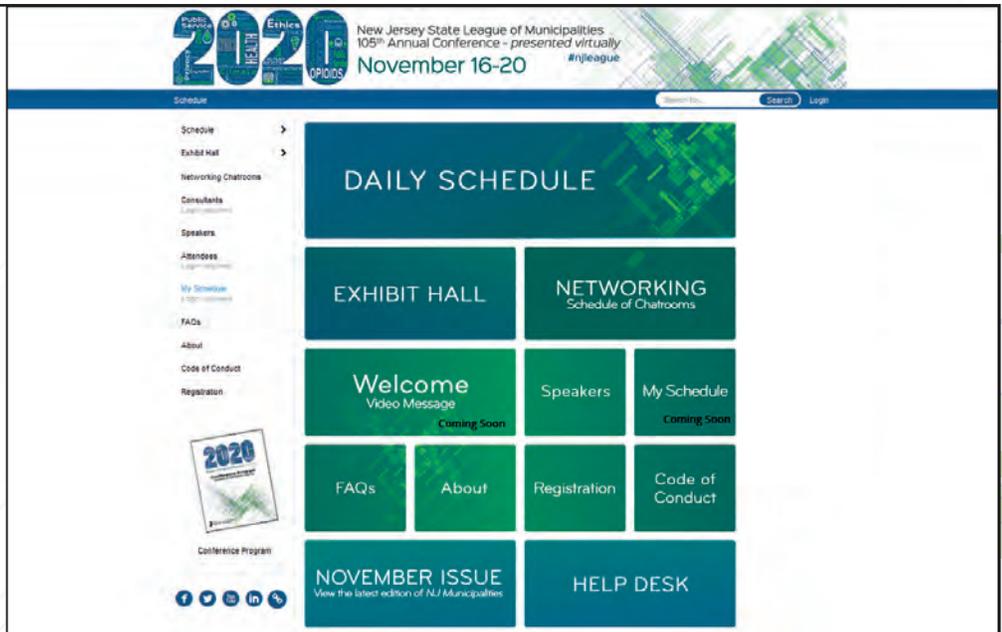
Navigating the Virtual Conference

This may be a new format, but the Conference platform is easy to navigate and you'll be up and running in no time. Here are some how-to highlights.

Main Screen Tiles

Each tile will be labeled to reflect its functionality within the virtual event space. Features include:

- Daily Schedule
- Exhibit Hall
- Networking (Schedule of Chatrooms)
- Welcome Video Message
- Speakers
- FAQs
- About
- Code of Conduct
- Registration
- My Schedule



Search for...

Logging In

Certain features or functionality on the website will only be accessible to confirmed registrants. To log in, you can click in the upper right corner of the main screen, and enter the access key that was emailed to you. If you do not recall your password, click the Forgot Password link for assistance.

- Schedule >
- Exhibit Hall >
- Networking Chatrooms
- Consultants
Coming Soon
- Speakers
- Attendees
Login required
- FAQs
- About
- Code of Conduct
- Registration

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User Support Area

At the very bottom of the page, you will find a collection of links that may be of interest if you are having trouble with the site. You can click Technical Support to connect with a member of our team.

Left-hand Menu Items

The vertical menu on the left side of the screen will give you options for browsing the materials associated with the event. This includes items such as: Speakers, Consultants, or Exhibitors.



It's important to stay informed on what is happening in municipal government...

stay current with **New Jersey Municipalities** magazine

NJ Municipalities is a monthly magazine that has been providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and information for more than 100 years on municipal affairs. Timely articles feature topics relevant to local government in New Jersey.

Isn't it time you subscribed?



nj municipalities

Official Publication of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities

Reading NJ Municipalities provides me with inspiration for tackling problems in Old Bridge Township. It is a quality publication filled with relevant topics for understanding local government and how we can make improvements in our towns!"

*Edina Brown,
Councilwoman, Old Bridge*

I find NJ Municipalities to be a reliable source for local officials, and it has a great reputation among my colleagues. I read every issue and will continue to be a loyal subscriber for many years to come."

*Jerrell Blakeley,
Councilman, Trenton*

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Municipality/Company: _____

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Phone: _____ Email: _____

of Subscriptions: _____

Rates:

*This year a combined subscription features print issues October to June and digital access to the past three years. Please include emails with subscription.

Subscriptions
 \$25 members
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www.njlm.org/subscriptions

For more information, contact Thomas Fratticcioli at tfratticcioli@njlm.org or 609-695-3481, Ext.117.

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Exploring the Virtual Exhibit Hall

This year, enjoy a whole new Exhibitor experience with the opportunities to connect that you've come to expect from the League Conference. For 2020, the Exhibit Hall is always open—visit booths at your convenience and stop back during Conference hours to speak "live" with exhibitors.

Q&A

Will there be opportunities to learn from the Exhibitors?

Yes, once again you'll have the opportunities to learn from the professionals. Exhibitors are valued educational resources at the conference. Expand your education past the sessions by checking out virtual exhibitors with the products and resources and Exhibitor Learning Sessions.

Will the Exhibit Hall open and close each day?

A true advantage of the virtual event is that the Exhibit Hall never closes. While one-on-one facetime is only available during the Conference hours, you can explore the booths at your leisure, discovering the latest and most useful information and services. Then visit during Conference hours for more in-depth discussions with exhibitors—it's a great way to use your time most effectively.

Will the Exhibitors' booths disappear at the end of the Conference?

Just like the education sessions, this year's exhibitor information will be available throughout the year to come, making the conference platform a tool that serves until the next Conference.

MEET YOUR EXHIBITORS

Exhibitors will be accessible in many ways to provide attendees with information about the products and services they need for successful local governments.

- Explore the Exhibitors with a searchable listing of exhibitors.
 - By company name
 - By product category
 - By logo on the logo wall
- "Step" into Exhibitor's booths for a variety of interactive opportunities.
- The basics will be there to view, just like you've stopped by the Exhibit Hall, with an **About** tab providing company and product information as well as contact information.
- The **Video Chat** tab allows you to view the booth staff, their availability, and have direct one-on-one contact with informative vendors.
- Read it now or take it home. PDFs, slideshows, videos, and website links will be available under the **Resources** tab. Downloads of product and service information have some benefits:
 - Digital information/materials save paper, benefitting the environment
 - Delegates are spared the effort of sorting through and carrying materials back to the office.



TECH TIPS

Maximizing Your Session Attendance

We've all gotten used to digital meetings and webinars this year, so attending sessions at the League Conference will be familiar. Sessions will open 15 minutes before the scheduled start time. Arrive early to ensure you're set up and ready to go and try these tips for your best experience.

Joining the Livestream

If you are participating in a livestream, you will want to find the corresponding tile on the main screen, and click into it. Once you have entered the livestream viewer, take a moment to familiarize yourself with the icons that are available.



Ascending Vertical Bars: these will control the volume of your livestream.

Click a box and turn it blue to increase the volume, or gray to decrease the volume.

Expanding Arrows: this will control the size of your screen.

Click once to enter full-screen viewer, or click again to return to original size.

Interaction

Polling Questions: As with all League webinars, the sessions will feature polling questions to ensure participants are getting the most from the content. You must answer to be eligible for CEUs.

Discussion Board: Attendees can interact and converse with each other during a presentation.

Question Area: You can pose questions to the presenter using the “Ask Question” button. Type in your question, and hit Enter. Other attendees will be able to see your question, and vote-up questions that they find most relevant. As your question accrues points, it will move to the top of the list.



Live Q&A: The last 15 minutes of each session will be a live Q&A period. The questions submitted through the Ask Question button will be the first answered by panelists.

Need Help? Just click the HELP tab to the far left for some quick-tips if you are unsure of a particular function within the interaction area.

Troubleshooting the Livestream:

- If you are unable to hear any sound at all, be sure your speakers are turned on, and you are not set to Mute within the live stream window. When the stream begins, you may see a message that says something like “Click here to unmute.”
- If the slides or speaker appear blurry at any point, it may be an internet connectivity issue. If you know that your connection is good, and you refresh your screen, but the images are still distorted, the issue is with the speaker’s connectivity. It will be up to them to remedy that issue.
- If you are having trouble with the video feed, or are not seeing any video at all during the time of the livestream event, try refreshing your browser. You can do this by clicking the circular refresh icon beside the URL or holding down Ctrl + R buttons on your keyboard on a desktop/laptop.
- You can also increase/decrease the resolution value of the stream. In the bottom right corner, you may see a number like 1080p. This is the highest resolution, and most recommended. If you see a number lower than 1080p, click on the number to adjust the resolution.



TECH TIPS

Chatrooms

Throughout the Conference you will have opportunities to participate in networking chatrooms. Chatrooms are topic specific, and provide an opportunity to share ideas and network with peers. These are indicated on the Conference site and in this program. Here are a few tips to maximize your participation.



Joining a Video Chatroom

From the schedule viewer, you can click the button to join a chat. If you plan to actively participate, please be sure either your webcam, microphone, or both, are on and functional.

Chatroom capacity is 75 people. If the maximum is reached, you will not be able to enter the chatroom.

There will be several chatrooms held during the course of the Conference. Please see the session schedule for details.

Video Chat Controls

Once you have launched the chat, take a moment to familiarize yourself with the tools and features available:

a) Bottom Left Corner:

Computer Icon: This will allow you to share your screen with other participants

Hand Icon: Allows you to digitally “raise your hand” and alert the chat that you have a question

Speech Bubble: You can send messages within the video chat to other participants

b) Bottom Center:

Microphone Icon: You can mute/unmute the microphone on your device

Red Phone Icon: Clicking this will “hang up” the chat, and users will see that you have left the room

Camera Icon: This will allow you to turn the camera on your device on/off

c) Bottom Right:

Four Squares Icon: You can click this to toggle the orientation of how the users appear in your window

Three Vertical Dots Icon: This will open up to a menu with additional options such as blurring your background, adjusting the resolution, and more.

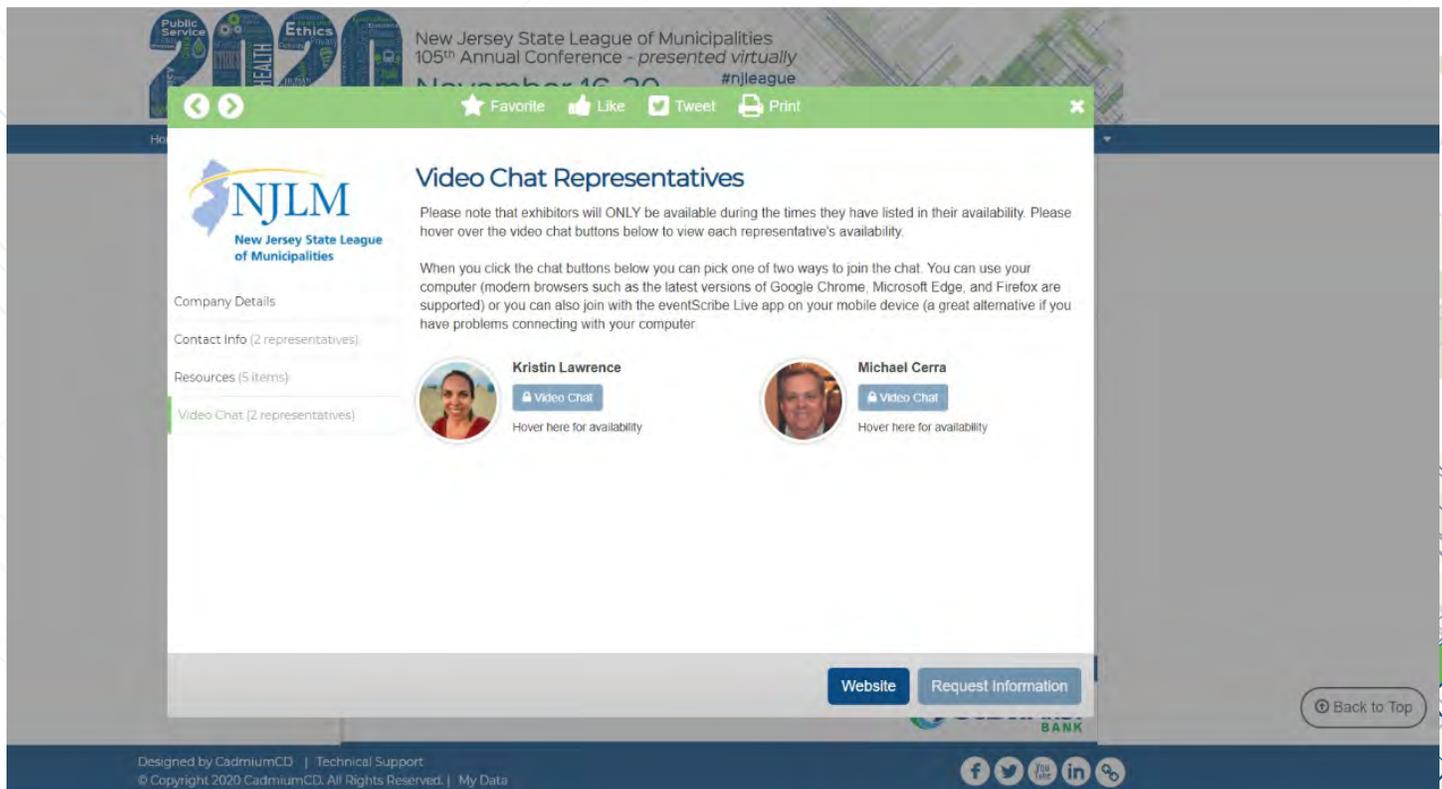
TECH TIPS



Live Video Chat with Exhibitors

Over 100 exhibitors will be available during the conference week via a live video chat to answer your questions and provide their expertise! Extend your learning outside of the sessions by exploring the valuable resources and information the exhibitors provide.

When you enter an exhibitor booth, click on the Video Chat tab and it will display the exhibitor representatives. Hover under their name to see the specific hours for each staff member. When you are ready to connect – simply click the blue video chat button and you will instantly enter their video chat!



Once you are in the video chat you will have the same controls and features as a standard video screen. If you don't want to be on camera you can simply enter the video chat with your camera off and use the audio or text feature.

Be sure to utilize the video chats during the conference week since they will not be available after!

Exhibitor Video Chat Hours:

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Monday, November 16 – Friday, November 20, 2020



CEU Procedures & Information

CEU and Attendance Verification Procedures

CEU credits are only available for sessions viewed live during the 2020 Virtual Conference. Sessions viewed on-demand after their scheduled time during the conference week are not eligible for CEU credits.

Attendance Verification Instructions:

1. Attendees will log onto the session at the start time and will remain signed in until the end.
2. During the session, attendees will be required to answer a Poll Question.

PLEASE NOTE: Attendees must remain in the session for the entire duration and answer the poll question in order to qualify for CEU credit.

How to Print Your CEU Certificates:

CEU certificates will be accessible online beginning Monday, November 30, 2020 and available until May 1, 2021.

Printing Instructions:

1. Login to CEU Tracking System website via the link www.njlm.org/confceu.
2. Enter your Registrant ID or your last name and zip code.
3. When prompted Enter in Your License Number (if applicable).
4. Complete the Evaluation form for the first session you attended by clicking "Take Eval."
5. Once you have completed the evaluation form hit "submit." This will take you back to the main session page.
6. Once you have taken the evaluation you can print your certificate by hitting "Print."
7. Once on the print screen you have the option to "Print My Certificate" or "Email My Certificate." *
 - a. Hitting "Print My Certificate" will take you to a print screen where you can print your certificate. Please note, certificates may be printed more than once
 - b. Hitting "Email My Certificate" will email the certificate to your email address. If your email address is not in the system, you will be asked to provide it
8. After you print or email your certificate the screen should return to the session list. If it doesn't, simply click the "View Credits" tab at the top right of your screen.
9. Repeat steps 3-7 for each session you have attended.

***Certificates will available for printing STARTING Monday, November 30, 2020**



Local Government Leadership Program

The League is proud to offer the Local Government Leadership Program, voluntary recognition system that honors Elected Governing Body Members who complete additional training and advocacy.

The program has three tiers:

- Municipal Leader
- Municipal Innovator
- Municipal Pioneer.

Each tier has an assigned number of points. Once an Elected Governing Body Member has earned the required points, they are awarded one of these tiers. The award is a certificate of completion mailed to them and recognition at the Orientation Session at the Annual Conference in Atlantic City.

Elected Governing Body Members can achieve each level by attending training, seminars, writing articles for the magazine, and advocating for municipal interests. When an Elected Governing Body Member has completed an eligible activity, they will receive confirmation indicating the points earned. Once an Elected Governing Body Member has acquired the necessary amount of points, they complete an online application form and receive a Local Government Leader certificate in the mail.

More information on this program is available on the LGLP webpage, www.njlm.org/lglp

Earn Points Towards Being a Municipal Pioneer!



Attend the Annual Conference and earn points for the Local Government Leadership Program!

The Local Government Leadership program is a voluntary recognition program that recognizes Elected Governing Body Members who complete additional training and advocacy.

For more information on the Local Government Leadership Program, visit www.njlm.org/lglp

This year the Virtual Conference is offering more than 20 sessions that delegates can take to earn credits toward the levels of the Local Government Leadership Program.

Session choices range from the basics of local government operations to the hot button topics of the day.

Please look through the session listings at www.njlm.org/2020conference for sessions with the LGLP icon.



For a complete list of sessions please visit the Local Government Leadership website at www.njlm.org/lglp



Participating Consultants

The League's participating consultants offer a chance for attendees to connect with State program directors, experts, and grant-givers, providing a valuable service.

Attendees are encouraged to schedule meetings with State program directors, area experts, and grant givers during Conference week or beyond.

Brownfield Development

Rick Shoyer, President

Brownfield Coalition of the Northeast

856-354-2273 x301; 856-905-2218

rshoyer@montrose-env.com

Demographic Statistics

David Kraiker, Data Dissemination Specialist

Census Bureau

202-740-2909

david.j.kraiker@census.gov

Fire/EMS/Public Health

Paul D. Roman, President

NJDF+EMSI. NJ Board of Health

732-747-3567

PaulRoman@mail.com

NJ Site Remediation/ISRA/LSRP

Kathi, Stetser, LSRP

LSRPA and GEI Consultants

Environmental Remediation

856-625-3056

kstetser@geiconsultants.com

State Plan/State Planning

Donna Rendeiro, Executive Director

Office of Planning Advocacy, Department of State/NJ Business Action Center

609-292-7156; 609-775-1907

donna.rendeiro@sos.nj.gov

Monday, November 16

105th Annual League Conference - Presented Virtually



Programs At A Glance

Continuing Education Credits

Start Time	Event Name	Page	Organization	CEUs
9:00 AM	Chatroom: League Conference Orientation	21	NJLM	
	CMR Changes	21	Registrars	●
	Compliance with Wage and Hour Laws	21	Recreation	
	Staying Out of Trouble	21	NJPO	●
	The Autonomy and Continuity of the Assessor Position	21	AMANJ	
	Sustainable Jersey Program Update: New Actions & Initiatives	21	NJLM	●
10:00 AM	Chatroom: Liquor License Reforms	22	NJLM	
	Chatroom: Jersey Shore Mayors	22	NJLM	
	Chatroom: River Towns Mayors	22	NJLM	
11:00 AM	Elected Officials Primer: Budget and Purchasing	22	NJLM	●
	Emerging Issues in Procurement	22	NJLM	●
	Liquor Licensing Amid the Pandemic	23	NJLM	●
	Responding to Climate Change: Initiatives Underway at NJ DEP	23	NJLM	●
	Sexual Harassment and Misogyny: It's Everywhere, It's Everything	24	NJLM	●
12:30 PM	Infrastructure Upgrade Incentives for Municipal Buildings and Home Offices	24	Exhibitor Learning Session	
	"Moving the Iceberg": Asset Management Strategies for Counties	24	Exhibitor Learning Session	
	Reducing SARS-CoV-2 Exposure: Indoor Air Quality Controls	24	Exhibitor Learning Session	
1:30 PM	Addressing Mental Health and Burn Out of Emergency Management Personnel	25	NJLM	
	DLGS Director's Update	25	NJLM	●
	Municipal Emergency Management in the Age of COVID-19	25	NJLM	
	Energy Master Plan	25	NJLM	●
	Laughter & Leadership: What We Need in a Time of Crisis	25	NJLM	
	New Jersey Census	25	NJLM	●
3:00 PM	NJLM Resolutions Committee Meeting	26	NJLM	
3:15 PM	Legislative Update For NJLM Affiliates	26	NJLM	●
	Effective Management of Municipal Water Resources	26	NJLM	●
	Safer Communities: New Jersey's Roadmap to Collective Justice	26	NJLM	●
	Continuing Communication During a Crisis	26	NJLM	●
	A Primer on Commercial Property Tax Appeals	26	NJLM, NJILGA, AMANJ	●

For the most current CEU information, visit www.njlm.org/2020conference



Tuesday, November 17

105th Annual League Conference - Presented Virtually

Programs At A Glance

Continuing Education Credits

Start Time	Event Name	Page	Organization	CEUs
9:00 AM	Chatroom: Coffee with the Senate President	27	NJLM	
10:00 AM	Ask OVSR	27	Registrars	●
	Municipal Waste Reduction Strategies	27	NJLM	●
	NJ Public Sector Law Update	27	NJILGA	●
	Planning Post-Pandemic	27	NJLM, NJPO	●
	Ethics: Professional Planners	27	NJPO	●
	Coffee with the DEP Commissioner	28	NJLM	
11:00 AM	Borrowing for COVID: Overview of the New Law	28	NJLM, GFOANJ	●
	Recent OPRA Decisions	28	NJLM	●
	The Future for Urban Enterprise Zones	28	NJLM	
	Water Infrastructure: Lessons Learned and Looking Forward	28	NJLM	●
12:30 PM	Embracing Technology To Do More With Less	28	Exhibitor Learning Session	
	Holding Big Oil Accountable for Climate Damages in New Jersey	29	Exhibitor Learning Session	
	Inclusive Outdoor Gym Strategies for Greatest Impact	29	Exhibitor Learning Session	
1:30 PM	Elected Officials Primer: Ethics, OPMA, OPRA & Civility	29	NJLM	●
	Local Film Production: A Means of Economic Development	29	NJLM	●
	Marijuana in the Mile High City—A Collaborative Approach	30	NJLM	●
	Stormwater Management: Green Infrastructure	30	NJLM	
3:15 PM	Modernizing the Election Process	30	NJLM	●
	What's New with the FCC: 5G and More	30	NJLM, NJPO, JAG	●
	2020: A New Normal for Urban New Jersey	31	NJLM	●
	Community Revitalization – Tools for a Greener, Fairer New Jersey	31	NJLM	●
	Renewable Energy	31	NJLM	●

For the most current CEU information, visit www.njlm.org/2020conference

Wednesday, November 18

105th Annual League Conference - Presented Virtually



Programs At A Glance

Continuing Education Credits

Start Time	Event Name	Page	Organization	CEUs
9:00 AM	Advancing Sustainable Energy Communities	32	NJLM	●
	Mental Health First Aid	32	Recreation	
	Moving Back to the Future: Changes in Municipal Operations	32	NJILGA	●
	Real ID	32	Registrars	●
	Variances: Proofs and Case Law	32	NJPO	
10:00 AM	Chatroom for Mayors of Rural Communities	33	NJLM	
	Chatroom for Mayors of Urban Communities	33	NJLM	
11:00 AM	Bringing Health to the Community at the Mayors Wellness Campaign	33	NJLM	●
	Exploring the Plastic Ban Legislation	33	NJLM	●
	Federal Legislative Update: CARES, 5G, and More	33	NJLM	●
	State and Local Governments Financial State of Affairs	33	NJLM	●
	Affordable Housing Update	33	NJLM, NJPO	
12:30 PM	Financial & Revenue Software Best Practices During & Post COVID-19	34	Exhibitor Learning Session	
	NJ's Life Sciences and the Fight Against COVID-19	34	Exhibitor Learning Session	
	PFAS, Regulations, Treatment and Community Impacts	34	Exhibitor Learning Session	
1:30 PM	Interest Arbitration & Negotiation Update 2020	34	NJLM	●
	Keeping Protests Peaceful	35	NJLM	●
	Legislative Leaders: What the Heck Happened? What Happens Next?	35	NJLM	●
	Roles and Powers of Government Officials in Dealing with Disputes Among Governing Body Members	35	NJLM, NJILGA	●
	Municipal Fleet Management and Encouraging EVs in Your Community	36	NJLM	●
3:15 PM	Potential State and Local Solutions to the Opioid Crisis	36	NJLM	●
	Annual Risk Management	36	NJLM	●
	Managing Litter During a Pandemic	36	NJLM	●
5:15 PM	NJPO Annual Board Meeting	36	NJPO	

For the most current CEU information, visit www.njlm.org/2020conference



Thursday, November 19

105th Annual League Conference - Presented Virtually

Programs At A Glance

Continuing Education Credits

Start Time	Event Name	Page	Organization	CEUs
9:00 AM	Economic Recovery in the Wake of COVID-19	37	NJLM	●
	William M. Cox Symposium	37	NJPO	●
10:00 AM	Chatroom for Newly Elected Officials	37	NJLM	
11:00 AM	Business Roundtable: What Are the Steps for Recovery?	37	NJLM	
	Local Public Contracts Law Update	38	NJLM	●
	Shared Services Update with the Czars	38	NJLM	●
	Status of Public Health in New Jersey	38	NJLM, NJACCHO	●
	Status of the Solid Waste and Recycling Market	38	NJLM	●
12:15 PM	Governor Murphy Keynote & Awards Presentation	38	NJLM	
12:30 PM	GIS Program Benefits - Union (Union County) and City of Elizabeth	38	Exhibitor Learning Session	
1:30 PM	Holland Ethics-Exercising Political Courage	39	NJLM	●
	Flood Mitigation: Rethinking Land Use and Development	39	NJLM	●
	Reinventing Your Downtown After Economic Upheaval	39	NJLM	●
	SHBP/PERS Update	40	NJLM	
	Technology to the Rescue: Resiliency during Social Distancing	40	NJLM	●
3:15 PM	Municipal Law Update	40	NJILGA	●
	Personnel and Labor Law Updates	40	NJLM	●
	School-Municipal Cooperation: Responding to COVID-19	40	NJLM	●
4:45 PM	NJILGA Business Meeting	40	NJILGA	
5:30 PM	NJILGA 2020 Social Event	40	NJILGA	

For the most current CEU information, visit www.njlm.org/2020conference



Programs At A Glance

Continuing Education Credits

Start Time	Event Name	Page	Organization	CEUs
9:00 AM	Legislative Update for Elected Officials	41	NJLM	●
10:30 AM	Chatroom for Elected Officials of North Jersey	41	NJLM	
	Chatroom for Elected Officials of Central Jersey	41	NJLM	
	Chatroom for Elected Officials of South Jersey	41	NJLM	
11:00 AM	Your Reputation Precedes You: Public Service & Personal Integrity	41	NJLM	
12:30 PM	Fairleigh Dickinson University: Advancing Careers	41	Exhibitor Learning Session	
1:30 PM	Splashpad 101 – Designing a Successful Splashpad	41	Exhibitor Learning Session	
2:00 PM	Annual NJLM Business Meeting	41	NJLM	

For the most current CEU information, visit www.njlm.org/2020conference

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105th Annual
November 16-20

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the pandemic**



www.njlm.org/2020registration

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



Monday, November 16

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

Enjoy a whole new Exhibit experience and visit 100+ booths in the Virtual Exhibit Hall

9:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.

Networking Chatroom

League Conference Orientation

Are you new to the League? New to the Conference, virtual or not? Meet the League's leadership, learn the policy process and what to expect at the virtual Conference and beyond.

Speakers: James J. Perry, Sr., *President, NJLM; Committeeman, Hardwick Township*
Janice Kovach, *Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM*
Michael F. Cerra, *Executive Director, NJLM*
Lori Buckelew, *Assistant Executive Director, NJLM*

9:00 a.m.- 10:15 a.m.

Affiliate Session: Registrars

CMR Changes

An update for Registrars on changes that have recently taken place in Vital Statistics.

CEUs: RMC-1.5 Rec, Registrar 1.0

President: Lynn Minetti, *President, RANJ*

Speaker: Vincent J. Caffarello, *Program Specialist, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry*

Affiliate Session: Recreation

Compliance with Wage and Hour Laws

A discussion of compliance with Federal and State wage and hour laws, including the Fair Labor Standards Act, and the New Jersey Wage and Hour laws, including the Wage Theft Act. This will cover how the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the work environment and impacted how some workers should be classified (e.g. an independent contractor vs. an employee) and why a worker's classification matters for wage and hour compliance.

President: DJ Salvante, *Director, Scotch Plains Parks & Recreation; President, Community Recreation Society of NJ*

Speakers: Craig Harley, *Senior Ranger/Senior Educator, Plainsboro*
Debbie Millar, *Director, Community Wellness & Engagement, Penn Medicine Princeton Health*

Affiliate Session: NJPO

Staying Out of Trouble

How to avoid court challenges to board decisions and to individual members; conflicts of interest; ethics; voting requirements for those board members not recused; lawsuits; resolutions; liability insurance coverage; what to say and what not to say at hearings. Don't get caught thinking you are right-be right. CEUs are free to NJPO members; non-members' all-inclusive NJPO conference fee is \$50. Courses require registration with both NJPO and NJLM.

Speakers: Steven Warner, Esq., *NJPO Associate Legal Counsel, Ventura, Miesowitz, Keough & Warner, PC, Summit*
Joseph Burgis, *Professional Planner; Burgis Associates, Inc., Westwood*

Robert Gaccione, Esq., *NJPO Associate Legal Counsel, Gaccione Pomaco, P.C., Belleville*

Robert Fineberg, Esq., *NJPO Associate Legal Counsel, Cape May Courthouse*

Affiliate Session: Assessors

The Autonomy and Continuity of the Assessor Position

A thorough and informative retrospective of the position of the Tax Assessor in New Jersey and a prospective discussion in light of recent legislative efforts and tax appeal case law.

President: Patrick Wilkins, *Tax Assessor, Mahwah Township*

Speakers: John Lloyd, *Practice Group Leader; Property Taxation Group, Chiesa, Shahinian & Giantomasi PC*
William Schuber, *Assistant Professor, School of Administrative Science, Fairleigh Dickinson University*

League Session

Sustainable Jersey Program Update: New Actions & Initiatives

Sustainable Jersey strives to help communities become more sustainable, save money, and improve the quality of life in New Jersey. Whether your municipality is currently certified, working toward certification, trying to organize an effort, or exploring the possibility of registering for the program, find out what's new to help you get where you want to go. Join us to learn about new actions, opportunities for grants and other assistance, and strategic initiatives. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Fin//Debt, CPWM-1.5 GOVT, RMC-1.5 Fin, QPA-1.5 Green Purchasing, CPA-1.5 Fin, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, CRP-1.25, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Randall Solomon, *Executive Director, Sustainable Jersey*

Speakers: Renee Haider, *Deputy Director, Sustainable Jersey*
Lauren Skowronski, *Program Director for Community Engagement, Sustainable Jersey*



Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

Affiliate Sessions

For full program descriptions, please see the session schedule.

Assessors – AMANJ

Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey

November 16

9:00 a.m. The Autonomy and Continuity of the Assessor Position

3:15 p.m. A Primer on Commercial Property Tax Appeals

Attorneys – NJILGA

New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys

November 16

3:15 p.m. A Primer on Commercial Property Tax Appeals

November 17

9:00 a.m. NJ Public Sector Law update

11:00 a.m. Recent OPRA Decisions

November 18

9:00 a.m. Moving Back to the Future: Changes in Municipal Operations

November 19

3:15 p.m. Municipal Law Update

4:45 p.m. NJILGA Business Meeting

5:30 p.m. NJILGA 2020 Social Event

Finance Officers – GFOANJ

Government Finance Officers Association of New Jersey

November 17

11:00 a.m. Borrowing for COVID: Overview of the New Law

Health Officers – NJACCHO

New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials

November 19

11:00 a.m. Status of Public Health in New Jersey

10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Networking Chatroom Liquor License Reforms

This networking session is for elected officials interested in discussing potential liquor license legislation and its possible use as an economic development tool.

Speaker: Sheena Collum, *Mayor, South Orange*
Courtney Mercer, *Executive Director, Downtown NJ*

Networking Chatroom Jersey Shore Mayors

Networking Chatroom River Towns Mayors

11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

League Session Elected Officials Primer: Budget and Purchasing

For new and veteran officials, the latest on local budgeting and purchasing laws and regulations, presented by two Division of Local Government Services area experts. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: LGLP-3.0 points

President: James Anzaldi, *Mayor, Clifton; NJLM Past President*

Speakers: Cynthia Lindsay, *Assistant Director, Financial Regulation, DLGS, NJ DCA*
Michele Meade, *Municipal Technical Advisor & Procurement Specialist, DLGS, NJ DCA*

League Session Emerging Issues in Procurement

If the current public health emergency has shown us anything it is the increasing need and use of e-procurement. As municipal officials began, and continue, to respond to the COVID-19 public health crisis emergency procurement processes came to the forefront. And, with social distancing precautions in place, e-procurement became more necessary. At this session, expert panelists will discuss these and other emerging issues in procurement.

CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

Speakers: Michele Meade, *Municipal Technical Advisor & Procurement Specialist, DLGS, NJ DCA*
Marc Pfeiffer, *Assistant Director, Bloustein Local Government Research Center, Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University*

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



League Session

Liquor Licensing Amid the Pandemic

After the shutdown, alcoholic beverage licensees and municipalities navigated new rules in the new normal. What worked? What didn't? And what could all this tell us about the need for ABC reforms that can both be business-friendly and promote local economic recovery and development in the long term? This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, RMC-1.5 Lic, CPA-1.5 PD, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

President: John Ducey, *Mayor, Brick Township*

Speakers: Joe Danielsen, *Assemblyman (District 17), Chair, Assembly Oversight & Reform Committee, NJ General Assembly*
Samuel "Skip" Reale, *League Associate Counsel*
Bob Wagner, *Owner, Braddock's Tavern*

League Session

Responding to Climate Change: Initiatives Underway at NJ DEP

Climate change poses a real, immediate, and growing threat to NJ's future. NJ DEP is working to address and mitigate its impacts. Learn more about the key findings in the state's first Scientific Report on Climate Change, and what climate changes we can expect to see. Hear how NJ is leading resilience and adaptation efforts with an overview and schedule of potential land use regulatory reforms designed in response to climate change. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Green Purchasing, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Tech, Land Use-1.25 Tech, CRP-1.25, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Gayle Brill Mittler, *Mayor, Highland Park; Member, NJLM Executive Board*

Speakers: Sean Moriarty, *Chief Advisor, Regulatory Affairs, NJDEP*
Dave Rosenblatt, *Chief Resilience Officer and Assistant Commissioner for Climate and Flood Resilience, NJDEP*
Vincent J. Mazzei, Jr., *P.E., Assistant Commissioner, Watershed & Land Management, NJDEP*

Affiliate Sessions

Jersey Access Group – JAG

November 17

3:15 p.m. What's New with the FCC-5G and More

Planning Officials – NJPO

New Jersey Planning Officials, Inc.

November 16

9:00 a.m. Staying Out of Trouble

November 17

9:00 a.m. Planning for the Post-Pandemic

November 20

9:00 a.m. Ethics: Professional Planners

3:15 p.m.

What's New with the FCC-5G and More

November 18

9:00 a.m. Variances: Proofs & Case Law

11:00 a.m.

Affordable Housing Update

5:15 p.m.

NJPO Annual Board Meeting

November 19

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. William M. Cox Symposium

Recreation

Community Recreation Society of New Jersey

November 18

9:00 a.m. Mental Health First Aid

Registrars – RANJ

Registrar's Association of New Jersey

November 16

9:00 a.m. CMR Changes

November 17

9:00 a.m. Ask OVSR

November 18

9:00 a.m. Real ID

Monday, November 16



Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

League Session

Sexual Harassment and Misogyny: It's Everywhere, It's Everything

In August 2020, NJCASA released its survey on harassment and misogyny in NJ politics. Over 500 respondents completed the survey, sharing their experiences and observations. The report lays bare the need to create lasting, cultural change in the NJ political realm. This program will explore the report's findings, recommendations, and next steps we all can take to create safer, more respectful workspaces for all of us. This session is part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: LGLP-3.0 points

President: Janice Kovach, *Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM*

Speakers: Patricia Teffenhart, *Executive Director, NJ Coalition Against Sexual Assault*
Marissa Marzano, *Communications Manager, NJ Coalition Against Sexual Assault*

12:30 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.

Exhibitor Learning Session

Infrastructure Upgrade Incentives for Municipal Buildings and Home Offices

This session is produced by New Jersey's Clean Energy Program and is open to all conference delegates. Is your municipality interested in free building audits, incentivized facility upgrades, and lower utility bills? There are many ways that municipalities can utilize the funding programs available through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program which is administered by the Board of Public Utilities. Join us as we show examples of completed municipal projects and how the programs drastically shortened their payback. The State of NJ additionally offers a funding mechanism for municipalities to use for financing and has up to double the incentive levels for municipalities to assist in their financial decision making. For municipalities who have remote staff, incentives for your homes will also be included!

Speakers: Tony O'Donnell, *C&I Account Manager*
Michele Calabrese, *Account Manager, New Jersey's Clean Energy Program*

Exhibitor Learning Session

"Moving the Iceberg": Asset Management Strategies for Counties

This session is produced by Geospatial Analytics and is open to all conference delegates. It will explore how an enterprise approach to asset management can be beneficial to County Governments, their stakeholders, and the populations they serve. The session focuses on Bergen County's (NJ) work with Geospatial Analytics to migrate its real estate portfolio data from analog to digital, including data collection and analysis. The County is implementing cutting-edge technologies, including mobile inventory inspections and predictive analytics, to improve operational efficiency, return on investment (ROI), and value.

Speakers: Dannielle Leigh, *Internal Commercial Real Estate (CRE) Consultant, Bergen County*
Gerald Reiner, *Procurement Officer, Bergen County*
Michael Chadwick, *VP of Customer Success, Geospatial Analytics, Inc.*
Mike K. Jackson, *Chief Sales Officer, Geospatial Analytics, Inc.*

Exhibitor Learning Session

Reducing SARS-CoV-2 Exposure: Indoor Air Quality Controls

This session is produced by T&M Associates and is open to all conference delegates. There is growing evidence that SARS-CoV-2 virus can remain airborne for longer times and further distances than originally thought. The layout and design of a building, as well as occupancy and type of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system, can all impact potential airborne spread of the virus. The T&M team will discuss the various administrative, operational, and engineering controls that can be implemented to reduce viral load indoors.

Speakers: Thomas Burgess, *Certified Industrial Hygienist, Principal Technical Advisor, T&M Associates*
Elaine Dasti, *Group Manager MEP Services, T&M Associates*
Ashly Insko, *Health & Safety Practice Leader, T&M Associates*
Mark Worthington, *Group Manager Health & Safety, T&M Associates*

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

League Session

Addressing Mental Health and Burn Out of Emergency Management Personnel

COVID-19 is just the latest emergency that has drained resources and manpower, overtaxing the emergency management team. Just like first responders, elected officials are on the front line during an emergency and both work together. This session addresses the mental health challenges faced by emergency management personnel during a prolonged emergency and discusses available resources so all can help each other identify resources through a challenging and difficult time.

President: Raymond Heck, Mayor, Millstone Borough; Member, NJLM Executive Board

Speakers: Chief Harry Earle, (Retired), Safety Directors Office, New Jersey Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund

Lt. Bertha Lowery, New Jersey Department of Corrections Resiliency Officer

Steve Crimando, Director of Training, Disaster and Terrorism Branch; Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services; Department of Human Services

League Session

DLGS Director's Update

During this must-attend session, Division of Local Government Services Director Melanie Walter will provide an update on the Division's response to COVID-19 and an outlook on the changes for 2021.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CTC-1.5 Gen/Sec, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Off Admin, CPA-1.5 PD, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

Speaker: Melanie R. Walter, Director, DLGS, NJ DCA

League Session

Municipal Emergency Management in the Age of COVID-19

COVID-19 has brought emergency management to the forefront once again. We will discuss preparedness, mitigation, continuity, response, and recovery as it relates to COVID-19 and future disasters. We will also discuss the current roles and capabilities of emergency managers and what the future looks like for emergency management in New Jersey.

President: Sean Elwell, Mayor, Elsinboro Township; Member, NJLM Executive Board

Speaker: Barry Eck, President, New Jersey Emergency Management Association
Joseph Allen, NJCEM Administrator, NJ Emergency Management Association

League Session

Energy Master Plan

The 2019 Energy Master Plan sets forth NJ's vision for the future of production, distribution, consumption, and conservation of energy in NJ; while the Global Warming Response Act Recommendations Report builds on that vision to ensure timely and equitable implementation of a clean energy future. To meet these goals, NJ is planning to deploy renewable sources, decarbonize our system, and support community energy planning in underserved communities. Panelists will provide an overview of these efforts and their impact on local communities. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Prof Devel, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Tech; Land Use-1.25, CRP-1.25, LGLP-3.0 points

Speakers: Paul Baldauf, Assistant Commissioner of Air Quality, Energy, and Sustainability, NJDEP
Christine Sadovy, Chief of Staff, NJBPU

League Session

Laughter & Leadership: What We Need in a Time of Crisis

We're all ready to put 2020 in the rearview mirror. But the pandemic and the resulting implications are not going away yet. What's needed now is leadership to make life-saving, critical decisions in a sober and rational manner. We do not want to forget, though, that humor is about more than getting a good laugh...it's about relationship building, it's about consensus building, and it's about demonstrating grace under pressure, good humor, and leadership.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CTC-1.5 Gen/Sec, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Off Admin, CRP-1.25, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Admin, Land Use-1.25 Admin

President: Brian Carlin, Mayor, Burlington Township

Speakers: Joey Novick, Former Councilman, Flemington; Comedian
Jon M. Bramnick, Assemblyman (District 21), Republican Leader, NJ General Assembly

League Session

New Jersey Census

A panel of experts will explore how to use the 2020 census data to appropriately benefit municipalities. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 PD, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Admin, Land Use-1.25 Admin, LGLP 3.0 points

President: Andre Sayegh, Mayor, Paterson

Speakers: Peter Chen, Policy Counsel, Advocates for Children of New Jersey
David Kraiker, Data Dissemination Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau



Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

Monday, November 16

3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

**League Meeting
NJLM Resolutions Committee Meeting**

The Resolutions Committee meeting is open to all delegates. Municipal officials are encouraged to attend and comment upon proposed resolutions. Only members of the committee may vote at the committee meeting.

President: Janice Kovach, Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM

Parliamentarian: William J. Kearns, Jr., Esq., General Counsel, NJLM

3:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

**League Session
Legislative Update for NJLM Affiliates**

An update, geared towards certified professionals, on the legislative issues in the State of New Jersey.
CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 MGMT, CTC-1.5 Leg, CPWM-1.5 GOVT, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Off Admin/Gen, CPA-1.5 PD, CRP-1.25, Planning/Zoning -1.25 Tech, Land Use-1.25 Tech, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

Speakers: Keith A. Bonchi, Esq., TCTANJ Legal Counsel; Goldenberg, Mackler, Sayegh, Mintz, Pfeffer, Bonchi & Gill
Lori Buckelew, Assistant Executive Director, NJLM
Kim-Marie White, Municipal Clerk/Town Manager, Eastampton Township

**League Session
Effective Management of Municipal Water Resources**

Chart a path for managing water resources holistically to sustain and improve the overall quantity, quality, and utilization. Case studies on preparing a municipal water story to highlight the water resources, water governance, and water issues specific to a local community as well as timely advice on how to update stormwater management ordinances to address common issues will be shared.

CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Anne Heasley, Program Manager, Sustainable Jersey

Speakers: Michael Pisauro, Policy Director, Watershed Institute

Kandyce Perry, Director of Stormwater, New Jersey Future
Donna Liu, Sustainable Princeton; Environmental Steward, Rutgers University

**League Session
Safer Communities: New Jersey's Roadmap to Collective Justice**

New Jersey's roadmap to collective justice has never been tested more than in 2020. Amongst this year's challenges, we have been faced with a national uptick in violence, a call to action to reimagine public safety, spotlights on police policies and needs for reform. This panel will include leaders across our State who are working collectively to ensure smart community-based policy that protects the rights of ALL residents through local and statewide legislation. This discussion will highlight these policies as well as discuss strategies and explore evidence-based programs that protect and enhance New Jersey's communities. This collective work and comprehensive approach will catapult New Jersey to the forefront as a State that is creating and implementing some of the most progressive policies to ensure safer communities.
CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 PD, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Ras Baraka, Mayor, Newark; Member, NJLM Executive Board

Speakers: Ryan Haygood, NJ Institute for Social Justice
Angela McKnight, Assemblywoman (District 31), NJ General Assembly
Steve Fulop, Mayor, Jersey City; Member, NJLM Executive Board
Frank Moran, Mayor, Camden
Gayle Brill Mittler, Mayor, Highland Park; Member, NJLM Executive Board
Dwayne D. Warren, Mayor, Orange Township

**League Session
Continuing Communication During a Crisis**

Social distancing has created challenges for municipalities continuing the flow of communications while residents are harder to reach. Tasked with broadcasting a large amount of information, sometimes daily, to keep residents informed and safe, many municipalities got creative and utilized existing technology in new ways.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 IT, CCFO-1.5 IT, CPWM-1.5 IT, RMC-1.5 IT, QPA-1.5 IT, CPA-1.5 Tech, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, Planning/Zoning-1.5 Admin, Land Use-1.5 Admin, CRP-1.5, LGLP-3.0 points

President: John Ducey, Mayor, Brick Township

Speakers: Ziad Andrew Shehady, Administrator, Red Bank
Robert Conley, Mayor, Madison Borough

**Joint Session with NJLM, NJLGA, Assessors
A Primer on Commercial Property Tax Appeals**

An exploration of the implications that COVID-19 might have on next year's commercial tax appeals. The expert panelist will explain the commercial process and provide insights on how your municipality can prepare.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Bud, CCFO-1.5 Bud, CTC-1.5 R/B/C, RMC-1.5 Fin, CPA-1.5 Tax, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

Speaker: Dominic P. DiYanni, Esq., Eric M. Bernstein & Associates, LLC

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



Tuesday, November 17

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

Enjoy a whole new Exhibit experience and visit 100+ booths in the Virtual Exhibit Hall

9:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.

Coffee with the Senate President

Grab a cup of coffee and have an informal conversation with New Jersey Senate President Steve Sweeney on issues of interest to municipal officials.

President: Michael F. Cerra, *Executive Director, NJLM*

Speaker: Stephen M. Sweeney, *Senator (District 3), President, NJ State Senate*

9:00 a.m.- 10:15 a.m.

Affiliate Session: Registrars

Ask OVS

Answers to frequently asked questions from the Office of Vital Statistics.

CEUs: Registrar-1.0

President: Lynn Minetti, *President, RANJ*

Speakers: Vincent J. Caffarello, *Program Specialist, Office of Vital Statistics and Registry*

League Session

Municipal Waste Reduction Strategies

Now more than ever it is important for municipalities to think about strategies to reduce waste from entering landfills. This session will highlight case studies of different municipal waste reduction strategies from across New Jersey. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CPWM-1.5 Tech, CRP-1.25, LGLP-3.0 points

Moderator: Gary Sondermeyer, *Vice President of Operations, Bayshore Recycling*

Speakers: Robert Becker, *Environmental Commission Member, Readington Township*
Elizabeth Peer, *Environmental Commission Chair, Lambertville City*
Brian Blair, *Operations Manager, Trenton BioGas*

Affiliate Session: NJILGA

NJ Public Sector Law Update

Co-Sponsored with NJILGA and NJLM

The public sector faces unique challenges separate from the private sector. The Public Sector Law update will discuss recent developments in New Jersey law and highlight significant cases and legislation affecting the public sector.

CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

Moderator: Matthew Giacobbe, Esq., *Cleary Giacobbe*

Speakers: Gregory Franklin, *Cleary Giacobbe*
Leslie Parikh, Esq., *Gebhardt & Kiefer*

Joint Session with NJLM and NJPO Planning Post-Pandemic

What worked? What didn't? What was legal? or ... not so much? A team of experts will go over the trials and tribulations of planning during a pandemic. This team will discuss the issues of notice requirements to virtual meetings. Did COVID illustrate the weaknesses of the Municipal Land Use Law. Is it time for an Update? This is a joint session with NJPO.

President: Paul Anzano, *Mayor, Hopewell Borough*

Speaker: Donna Holmqvist, *Preferred Planning Group*
Frank E. Scangarella, Esq., *Winne Banta Basralian & Kahn, P.C.*
Edward Buzak, Esq., *NJPO Assistant Legal Counsel; Managing Member, The Buzak Law Group, LLC, Montville*

Affiliate Session: NJPO

Ethics: Professional Planners

A session for professional planners focusing on the standards of ethical behavior according to the code of ethics and professional conduct. Local ethics laws and codes will be discussed, spotlighting a system of principles specific to professional planners. This session is also of value to board members as they experience some of the ethical issues faced by their planners. CM credits are free to NJPO members; non-members' all-inclusive NJPO conference fee is \$50. Courses require registration with both NJPO and NJLM.

Speakers: Dennis Galvin, Esq., *NJPO Assistant Legal Counsel, Davison, Eastman, Muñoz, & Paone, P.A., Freehold*
Barbara Wooley-Dillon, *Professional Planner; Director of Planning & Development, City of Atlantic City*
Robert Bucknam, Esq., *Archer and Greiner, Haddonfield*



Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Coffee with the DEP Commissioner

Grab a cup of coffee and have an informal conversation with Catherine McCabe, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.

President: Michael F. Cerra, *Executive Director, NJLM*

Speaker: Catherine McCabe, *Commissioner, NJ Department of Environmental Protection*

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Joint session: NJLM and GFOA
Borrowing for COVID: Overview of the New Law**

PL 2020 c. 74 allows local governments to issue a special emergency appropriation for the loss of revenue and/or unanticipated expenses directly attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic with appropriate safeguards and Local Finance Board oversight. An overview of this new financing option for local governments.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Fin, CPA-1.5 Fin, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Matthew Moench, *Mayor, Bridgewater*

Speakers: Jon Rheinhardt, *Administrator/CFO, Wharton*
Charles S. Cuccia, *Administrator, Little Falls*
Matthew D. Jessup, Esq., *McManimon Scotland & Baumann*

**Joint Session with NJLM and NJILGA
Recent OPRA Decisions**

Highlights of recent notable OPRA decisions from the courts and Government Records Council. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CTC-1.5 Gen/Sec, CPMW-1.5 GOVT, RMC-1.5 REC, QPA-1.5 Off Admin/Gen Duties, CPA-1.5 PD, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Tech, Land Use-1.25 Tech, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 Points

President: Raymond S. Heck, *Mayor, Millstone Borough; Member, NJLM Executive Board*

Speakers: Frank Caruso, *Executive Director, Government Records Council*
Carl R. Woodward III, *Carella, Byrne; Associate NJLM Counsel*

League Session

The Future for Urban Enterprise Zones

This session is an open meeting of the UEZ Mayors, focused on recent legislative developments, the impact of the zones for the host municipalities and next steps for UEZs.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 Fin, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: J. Christian Bollwage, *Mayor, Elizabeth; Chairman, Urban Enterprise Zone Mayors; NJLM Past President*

League Session

Water Infrastructure: Lessons Learned and Looking Forward

Although we are not anywhere close to where we need to be, NJ is making progress on several important areas of water infrastructure improvement. In this session, experts in the field will discuss on-the-ground lessons learned from the front lines of NJ's effort to repair its aging water systems with a focus on capital planning and construction. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 Fin, CPMW 1.5 Mgmt, LPLG,-3.0 points

President: David Mayer, *Mayor, Gloucester Twp*

Speakers: Dan Kennedy, *Director, Environmental & Utility Operations, Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of NJ*

Kareem Adeem, *Director, Department of Water & Sewer Utilities, Newark*

Gregory Tramontozzi, Esq., *Executive Director, Passaic Valley Sewerage Authority*

Steve Gardener, *Director, LECET-Laborer-Contractor Partnerships That Work*

12:30 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.

Exhibitor Learning Session

Embracing Technology To Do More With Less

This session is produced by Spatial Data Logic and is open to all conference delegates. Getting online is more essential than ever! Faced with tight budgets and limited resources, municipalities cannot afford to waste time and money on antiquated systems and paper-based processes. At Spatial Data Logic, we help municipalities modernize. Our municipal management software has helped over 190 towns in the state of New Jersey streamline workflows, deliver services online and work efficiently from any location. Join us to learn how your town can embrace technology to do more with less.

Speaker: Jack Flood, *Vice President, Spatial Data Logic*

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



Exhibitor Learning Session

Holding Big Oil & Gas Accountable for Climate Damages in New Jersey

This session is produced by Pay Up Climate Polluters NJ and is open to all conference delegates. Across the country, 23 municipalities and states have filed suit against Big Oil & Gas for deceiving the public and policymakers about the dangerous climate impacts their products would knowingly cause. As budgets face increasing pressure during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever that already-vulnerable communities do not continue to pay for climate damages on their own. Learn about climate liability litigation as a growing trend and powerful tool that NJ communities can use to hold polluters accountable, and recover increasing climate change resilience costs.

Speakers: Lauren O'Brien, *Pay Up Climate Polluters NJ Director*
Christopher "Kip" Bateman, *(District 16), Senator, NJ State Senate*
Laurie Huryk, *Councilwoman, Toms River Township*

Exhibitor Learning Session

Inclusive Outdoor Gyms: Strategies for Greatest Impact

This session is produced by Greenfields Outdoor Fitness and is open to all conference delegates. Ready to plan your outdoor gym? These community amenities are rapidly growing in popularity, but with the many options available, it's important to know how to best design a gym to maximize your investment. Learn how to design a fitness zone that engages your community and provides inclusive fitness options to those with disabilities. Then, acquire strategies for funding and marketing outdoor gyms to ensure they're used and enjoyed by the greatest number possible.

Speakers: Sam Mendelsohn, *President, Greenfields Outdoor Fitness*
Allison Abel, *Director of Marketing, Greenfields Outdoor Fitness*
Jennifer French, *Accessibility Advisor, Greenfields Outdoor Fitness*

1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

League Session

Elected Officials Primer: Ethics, OPMA, OPRA & Civility

Up-to-date information for municipal officials on various ethics issues, the Local Public Meetings Act, access to public records, and civility in public discourse. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: LGLP-3.0 points

President: Brian Carlin, *Mayor, Burlington Township*

Speakers: William J. Kearns, Jr., Esq., *General Counsel, NJLM*
Trishka Waterbury Cecil, Esq., *Mason, Griffin & Pierson; Deputy General Counsel, NJLM*

League Session

Local Film Production: A Means of Economic Development

Looking to bring showbiz to your town? This session invites community representatives to learn about the New Jersey film industry and how to become film friendly. Participants will gain a broad understanding of the production industry's standards and best practices; learn how to market their town; create opportunities for local small, minority, and women-owned businesses; discover how film locations are chosen; and explore the use of public property for motion picture and television production. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 Fin, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Tech, Land Use-1.25 Tech, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Janice Kovach, *Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM*

Speakers: Michael Uslan, *Chairman, NJ Motion Picture & Television Commission*
Steven Gorelick, *Executive Director, NJ Motion Picture & Television Commission*
David Schoner, *Associate Director, NJ Motion Picture & Television Commission*

Tuesday, November 17



Some sessions may be added or changed.
 Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

League Session
Marijuana in the Mile High City – A Collaborative Approach

Learn from Denver, Colorado city officials on their collaborative approach to the management of legalized adult use of marijuana, which includes multiple city agencies working together to address marijuana regulation, enforcement, and education. Thanks to the innovative industry, Denver has embraced a management model that is quick, responsive, and nimble that can be replicated by any municipality.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 PD, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Tech, Land Use-1.25 Tech, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Colleen Mahr, *Mayor, Fanwood; NJLM Past President*

Speakers: Ashley Kilroy, *Executive Director, Department of Excise & Licenses, City of Denver*
 Danica Lee, *Director of Public Health Inspections, Department of Public Health & Environments, City of Denver*

League Session
Stormwater Management: Green Infrastructure

Proper stormwater management is essential for controlling pollution and flooding, with municipal governments taking the lead in ensuring federal and state standards for quality and quantity are followed. Panelist will discuss the recent changes to stormwater management standards including “green infrastructure” and groundwater recharge.

President: Richard Bolan, *Mayor, Borough of Maywood*

Speakers: Clay H. Emerson, PhD, PE, CFM, *Director of Stormwater Management & Green Infrastructure Princeton Hydro*
 Gabriel Mahon, *Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control, Division of Water Quality, NJDEP*
 Daniel Van Abs, PhD, *Associate Professor of Practice for Water, Society & Environment, Rutgers University*

3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

League Session
Modernizing the Election Process

Voter access and elections are key elements to our democracy. As we face the ongoing pandemic, a barrier-free election can help ensure participation by potential voters. This expert panel will discuss how to modernize the elections and open access for voters.

CEUs: RMC-1.5 Elec, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Keith Kazmark, *Mayor, Woodland Park*

Speakers: Tahesha Way, *Secretary of State, State of New Jersey*
 Steve Peter, *County Clerk, Somerset County*

Joint Session: NJLM, NJPO, JAG
What’s New with the FCC: 5G and More

The FCC has been busy adopting regulations limiting local authority with respect to telecommunication facilities, small wireless facilities (small cells) and macro sites and cable franchising. Panelists will discuss the recent actions by the FCC and address the current state of the law, litigation updates, and practical suggestions for regulatory oversight.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Off Admin/Gen, CPA-1.5 PD, Planning/Zoning-1.5 Tech, Land Use-1.5 Tech, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Gary Passanante, *Mayor, Somerdale; Member, NJLM Executive Board*

Speakers: Ken Fellman, Esq., *Helmer, Conley & Kasselman, P.A.*
 Nancy L. Werner, JD, *General Counsel, NATOA*
 Mark Shourds, *County Engineer, Atlantic County*

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



League Session 2020: A New Normal for Urban New Jersey

The year 2020 has introduced a myriad of new realities for New Jersey's local leaders as the COVID-19 pandemic overwhelmed our public health systems, and many of the daily operations in the state. Those who manage New Jersey's urban municipalities face new pressures in light of already limited and strained resources. In addition to the coronavirus pandemic, urban mayors are also currently dealing with civil unrest and concerns regarding social justice, public safety, the NJ Supreme Court's recent ruling on Civilian Complaint Review Boards (CCRBs), and the state of policing. In this session elected officials represented in the New Jersey Urban Mayors Association, which is managed by the John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy of Thomas Edison State University, will explore how they plan for a new normal as they manage the aforementioned issues and balance the day-to-day pressures of governing urban municipalities. They will share lessons learned and examine new approaches to governing within a social justice framework.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 PD, CRP-1.25, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Albert Kelly, Mayor, Bridgeton; President, Urban Mayors Association; NJLM Past President

Speakers: Ras Baraka, Mayor, City of Newark; Vice President, NJ Urban Mayors Association; Member, NJLM Executive Board

Ted Green, Mayor, City of East Orange

Wilda Diaz, Mayor, City of Perth Amboy; President Emeritus, New Jersey Urban Mayors Association Executive Board

Adrian O. Mapp, Mayor, City of Plainfield; Central Vice President, NJ Urban Mayors Association

League Session Community Revitalization – Tools for a Greener, Fairer New Jersey

Remediation and redevelopment of environmentally contaminated sites is an important component of NJ's strategy for building a stronger and fairer economy. This initiative supports redevelopment that transforms underutilized and contaminated spaces into community assets to achieve a greener, fairer state. An overview of brownfields and showcase of new tools that can support brownfield redevelopment. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 PD, Planning/Zoning-1.5 Tech, Land Use-1.5 Tech, CRP-1.5, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

Speakers: Elizabeth Limbrick, Senior Brownfields Advisor, NJEDA

Bill Lindner, Administrator, Office Brownfield and Community Revitalization, NJDEP

Colette Santasieri, Executive Director, Center for Community Systems and NJ Brownfields Assistance Center @ NJIT

League Session Renewable Energy

An exploration of renewable energy in the Garden State. Our panel of experts will discuss ongoing and future renewable energy projects, and how this technology can be implemented during a crisis.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-Green Purchasing, CPA-1.5 PD, CRP-1.5

President: Gayle Brill Mittler, Mayor, Highland Park; Member, NJLM Executive Board

Speakers: Kelly Mooij, Director, Division of Clean Energy, NJPBU

Jim Ferris, Bureau Chief for New Technology, Division of Clean Energy, NJBPU

Tuesday, November 17



Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

Wednesday, November 18

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

Enjoy a whole new Exhibit experience and visit 100+ booths in the Virtual Exhibit Hall

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.

League Session Advancing Sustainable Energy Communities

Local municipalities can advance energy sustainability in myriad ways, including best practices from New Jersey's Energy Master Plan, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy's (ACEEE) City Clean Energy Scorecard, and Sustainable Jersey's Gold Star Standard in Energy. Case studies will illustrate high impact strategies and how to implement them using Sustainable Jersey actions. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Fin, QPA-1.5 Green Purchasing, CPA-1.5 Fin, RPP0/RPPS-1.0 M/S, CRP-1.25, LGLP-3.0 points

Moderator: Nancy Quirk, *Program Manager, Sustainable Jersey*

Speakers: David Kois, *Sustainability Director, Hillsborough Township*
Gray Russell, *Sustainability Officer, Montclair Township*
Stacy Ho Richardson, JD, *Deputy Director, Division of Clean Energy, NJBPU*

Affiliate Session: Recreation Mental Health First Aid

Recognizing a mental health problem and knowing how to address it are invaluable skills. This training will help you identify and understand signs and symptoms of individuals who may be dealing with issues such as depression, anxiety, substance use, trauma, psychosis, and deliberate self-injury. You will also learn how to respond in a mental health crisis, offer support to someone who appears to be in emotional distress, and, if necessary, guide the person to appropriate services.

President: DJ Salvante, *Director, Scotch Plains Parks & Recreation; President, Community Recreation Society of NJ*

Speaker: Susan Swatski, *Counsel, Hill Wallack LLP*

Affiliate Session: NJILGA

Moving Back to the Future: Changes in Municipal Operations

Co-Sponsored with ILGA and NJLM

Addressing the municipal response to COVID-19, the lessons learned and moving forward. The pandemic forced municipalities to alter their daily operations. How can municipalities use these new operating procedures to run more efficiently and transparently?

CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Tara St. Angelo, Esq., *Gebhardt and Kiefer*

Speakers: Steven Kleinman, *Attorney, Cleary Giacobbe*
Matthew Hall, *Borough Manager, Washington Borough*

Affiliate Session: Registrars Real ID

Providing information regarding the implementation of Real ID in New Jersey.

CEUs: RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, Registrar, 1.0

President: Lynn Minetti, *President, RANJ*

Speaker: Joseph Vasil, *Director, Fraud Training Services*

Affiliate Session: NJPO

Variances: Proofs and Case Law

C1 vs. C2 Variance? What is a Use Variance? D1, D2, D3, D4, D5, or D6? Is there an A or B variance? A cacophony of letters, we are here to help you sort them out. Our Attorneys and Planners will discuss the different proof standards for a C1 and a C2 variance as well as the specific standards for all variances listed under D in the MLUL as specified by case law. CEUs are free to NJPO members; non-members all-inclusive conference fee is \$50. Courses require registration with NJPO and NJLM.

Speakers: Ursula Leo, Esq., *Laddey, Clark and Ryan, LLP, Sparta*

Robert Muñoz, Esq., *NJPO Associate Legal Counsel, Davison, Eastman, Muñoz, & Paone, P.A., Freehold*

Michael Butler, Esq., *Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, Princeton*

Jessica Caldwell, *Professional Planner, J. Caldwell & Associates, LLC, Newton*

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Networking Chatroom Chatroom for Mayors of Rural Communities

Speaker: James J. Perry, Sr., *President, NJLM; Committeeman, Hardwick Township*

Networking Chatroom Chatroom for Mayors of Urban Communities

11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

League Session Bringing Health to the Community at the Mayors Wellness Campaign

A discussion of ways to engage in community health through the Mayors Wellness Campaign. Panelists will discuss proven strategies to improve the health and wellness of your community and how to be designated as a New Jersey Healthy Town. Health Officer CE credits are available. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Andre Sayegh, *Mayor, Paterson*

Speakers: Don Cabrera, *Mayor, Wildwood Crest*
Sue Portuese, *Health Officer, Montclair Township*
Julie DeSimone, *Program Officer, Mayors Wellness Campaign, NJHQI*

League Session Exploring the Plastic Ban Legislation

A panel of experts will explore the newly passed Plastic Ban Legislation. How does the ban work? What does this mean for municipalities? And how does this legislation impact the cost of solid waste and recycling for local governments?

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt/Anc, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 Fin, CRP-1.25, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

Speaker: Nancy J. Pinkin, *Assemblywoman (District 18), NJ General Assembly*

Jennifer Coffey, *Executive Director, ANJEC*

#njleague

League Session Federal Legislative Update: CARES, 5G, and More

What lies ahead for the issues of interest in Washington relating to New Jersey's municipalities? What will happen with the next waves of CARES funding? Where is the FCC going with 5G? Find out from the Executive Director of the League's national affiliate, along with a government affairs pro tuned in to the ways of DC.

CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Brian Wahler, *Mayor, Piscataway; NJLM Past President*

Speakers: Clarence Anthony, *Executive Director, National League of Cities (NLC)*
Alanna Suda, *Vice President, MWWPR*

League Session State and Local Governments Financial State of Affairs

An insider's view from Moody's and municipal finance professionals on the current and future financial condition of the State and its local governments. The emergence of pensions, resiliency and cybersecurity preparedness, and the overall management by government officials of the current financial pressures they face while preparing for the future and critical factors in the credit rating analysis of the State and local governments.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Fin, CPA-1.5 Fin, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Adrian O. Mapp, *Mayor, Plainfield*

Speakers: Matthew D. Jessup, Esq., *McManimon Scotland & Baumann*
Douglas Goldmacher, *Vice President, Senior Analyst, Moody's Investors Service*
Jennifer G. Edwards, *Managing Director, Acacia Financial Group*

Joint Session: NJLM, NJPO Affordable Housing Update

This joint session with the New Jersey Planning Officials will provide a timely update on the most recent developments in the Courts, in the Legislature and in the Administration on state housing policy. The session will also provide strategies to help municipalities comply with their housing obligations.

President: Janice Mironov, *Mayor, East Windsor; Past President, NJLM*

Speakers: Christiana Foglio, *CEO/Founder, Community Investment Strategies*
Jonathan E. Drill, Esq., *Partner, Stickel, Koenig, Sullivan & Drill, LLC*

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



League Session Keeping Protests Peaceful

You know the problem. Outside interests look to take advantage of any legitimate local protest, both by infiltrating and/or by 'counterprotesting.' Then, the community suffers and the police must respond. This panel will help to identify before, during, and after actions that the police and local officials can use to limit and calm these volatile incidents.

President: Albert Kelly, *Mayor, Bridgeton; President, Urban Mayors Association; NJLM Past President*

Speakers: Patrick J. Callahan, *Colonel, Superintendent, NJ State Police*

Michael A. Gaimari, Sr., *Police Chief, Bridgeton PD*

Jared Maples, *Director, NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness*

John R. Russo, *Police Chief, Rutherford PD; 4th VP, NJSACOP*

League Session Legislative Leaders: What the Heck Happened? What Happens Next?

Michael Aron, the Dean of the State House Press Corps, returns to lead our panel of Legislative Leaders and League First Vice President, Mayor Janice Kovach of Clinton Town, in a look at the lessons we may have learned during the pandemic, and ahead to what that will mean for the Garden State in 2021. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: LGLP-3.0 points

Welcome: Janice Kovach, *Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM*

Moderator: Michael Aaron, *Senior State House Correspondent, NJTV*

Speakers: Stephen M. Sweeney, *Senator (District 3), President, NJ State Senate*

Craig J. Coughlin, *Assemblyman (District 19), Speaker, NJ General Assembly*

Thomas H. Kean, Jr., *Senator (District 21), Republican Leader, NJ State Senate*

Jon M. Bramnick, *Assemblyman (District 21); Republican Leader, NJ General Assembly*

Joint Session NJLM and NJILGA Roles and Powers of Government Officials in Dealing with Disputes Among Governing Body Members

Regardless of your form of municipal government, there are times when differing opinions and understanding amongst governing body members can cause strife. Sometimes this conflict boils over to the point where disciplinary action may be appropriate. This session will offer a basic review of the process and pitfalls of attempting to discipline governing body members, and offer suggestions for diffusing disputes. Joint session w/NJILGA.

Speakers: John C. Gillespie, Esq., *Shareholder, Chair, Municipal & Government, Parker McCay*
Matthew Lyons, Esq., *Gebhardt & Kiefer, P.C.*
Ziad Andrew Shehady, *Administrator, Red Bank*

3:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

League Session Municipal Fleet Management and Encouraging EVs in Your Community

Municipalities play an important role in supporting the transition to electric vehicles (EVs), which they can model in their own fleets with strategic procurement. This session discusses how to manage and analyze municipal fleets for procurement opportunities and how to craft policies to encourage community EV adoption.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CPWM-1.5 GOVT, RMC-1.5 Fin, QPA-1.5 Green Purchasing, CPA-1.5 Fin, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 P/P, LGLP-3.0

Moderator: Nancy Quirk, *Program Manager, Sustainable Jersey*

Speakers: Andrea L. Friedman, *Supervisor, Electric Vehicle Programs, NJDEP*

Cathleen Lewis, *Outreach Coordinator, NJBPU*

Bob Smith, *Senator (District 18), Chair, Senate Environment & Energy Committee, NJ State Senate*



Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

3:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m.

League Session
Potential State and Local Solutions to the Opioid Crisis

Examines the societal, health, and addiction policy issues surrounding the opioid epidemic, and discusses the challenges and potential for local and State-based solutions to solve the opioid crisis in New Jersey. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 Points

President: James J. Perry, *President, NJLM; Committeeman, Hardwick Township*

Speakers: Phil Murphy, *Governor, State of New Jersey*
Gurbir Grewal, *Attorney General, State of New Jersey*
Debi Natale, *Co-Director, Warren County Parent to Parent Addiction Services*

League Session
Annual Risk Management

A discussion on how municipal officials can implement an effective risk management program to reduce insurance costs. By completing this session, elected officials from communities that are members of the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund (MEL) will be eligible for a premium credit. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFP-1.5 Fin/Debt, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Fin, CPA-1.5 Fin, LGLP-3.0 points

President: David Grubb, *Executive Director, Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund*

Speakers: Alex H. Carver III, *Judge, Superior Court of New Jersey (retired)*
John Clarke, *Executive Director, New Brunswick Housing and Redevelopment Authority*
Sue Sharpe, *Associate Fund Attorney*
Rich Peyner, *Vice President, Summit Risk*

League Session

Managing Litter During a Pandemic

COVID-19 has changed the way we manage litter in the state and in the world. Speakers will discuss topics such as the proliferation of single-use plastic litter, safety features of plastic over reusable materials, procedures for volunteers conducting cleanups, online training modules, and the state of litter worldwide. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, CRP-1.5, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Paul Medany, *Mayor, Township of Deptford*

Speakers: Sandy Huber, *Executive Director, New Jersey Clean Communities Council*
Linda Doherty, *President, New Jersey Food Council*
Norman Eckstein, *CFO, Boonton Township*
Marcus Eriksen, *PhD, Founder & Executive Director, LeapLab.org*

5:15 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

Affiliate Session: NJPO
NJPO Annual Board Meeting

Come have your voice heard. This is the NJPO annual board of directors meeting. They will confirm ballots for their 2021 Board of Directors.

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



Thursday, November 19

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

Enjoy a whole new Exhibit experience and visit 100+ booths in the Virtual Exhibit Hall

9:00 a.m.- 10:15 a.m.

League Session Economic Recovery in the Wake of COVID-19

The State Business Action Center is a go-to resource for business and municipality alike, and no more so than in the wake of a pandemic. This session will detail the resources and options available as municipalities seek an economic rebound through and following COVID-19.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 BUD, CCFO-1.5 BUD, CPWM-1.5 MGMT, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Off Admin/Gen Duties, CPA-1.5 FIN

Speakers: Melanie L Willoughby, *Executive Director, NJ Business Action Center, NJ Department of State*
Donald Newman, *Small Business Advocate, NJ Business Action Center, NJ Department of State*

9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

Affiliate Session: NJPO William M. Cox Symposium

A lively, must-attend session for all board members, attorneys, municipal officials, and other decision-makers who struggle with the complexities of the Municipal Land Use Law and local ordinances. A rare opportunity to hear interpretations from highly recognized NJPO attorneys who accept and answer audience questions. CM Credits are free to NJPO members; non-members all-inclusive NJPO conference reg. fee is \$50. Courses require registration with NJPO and NJLM.

Speakers: Michele Donato, Esq., *NJPO General Counsel, Lavallette*
Edward Buzak, Esq., *NJPO Assistant Legal Counsel; Managing Member, The Buzak Law Group, LLC, Montville*
Jonathan Drill, Esq., *NJPO Associate Legal Counsel, Stickel, Koenig, Sullivan and Drill, Cedar Grove*
Dennis Galvin, Esq., *NJPO Assistant Legal Counsel, Davison, Eastman, Muñoz, & Paone, P.A., Freehold*

10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

Networking Chatroom Chatroom for Newly Elected Officials

Presiders: Richard Turner, *Mayor, Weehawken*
Edina Brown, *Councilwoman, Old Bridge*

11:00 a.m.- 12:15 p.m.

League Session Business Roundtable: What are the Steps for Recovery?

This session is a roundtable between the major business groups who represent the interests of Main Street and multi-national business alike along with local elected officials. The focus will be on the State's economic recovery, from small town Main Street to our urban business centers.

President: James J. Perry, Sr., *President, NJLM; Committeeman, Hardwick Township*

Speakers: Janice Kovach, *Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM*
Tom Bracken, *President, NJ Chamber of Commerce*
Michele N. Siekerka, Esq., *President and CEO, NJBIA*
Anthony Russo, *President, NJ Commerce and Industry Assn.*

Thursday, November 19



Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**League Session
Local Public Contracts Law Update**

This annual session will focus on the ever-expanding law and regulations dealing with the local procurement process. This expert panel will address the updates to the Local Public Contracts Law, Pay-to-Play Law, and relevant regulations.
CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CCFO-1.5 Fin/Debt, CPWM-1.5 Govt, RMC-1.5 Fin, QPA-1.5 P/P, CPA-1.5 Fin, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 P/P, CRP-1.25, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Timothy McDonough, Mayor, Hope; NJLM Past President

Speakers: Michele Meade, Municipal Technical Advisor & Procurement Specialist, DLGS, NJ DCA
Barbara Geary, Director, Procurement Division, Office of the State Comptroller
Joe Valenti, Chief, Bureau of Local Management Services, DLGS (retired)

**League Session
Shared Services Update with the Czars**

New Jersey's Shared Services Czars, former Mayors Jordan Glatt and Nicolas Platt, will be joined by a panel of practitioners to discuss the LEAP program, joint municipal courts, and other savings opportunities available to New Jersey municipalities.
CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CTC-1.5 Gen/Sec, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-Off Admin/Gen, CPA-1.5 PD, CRP-1.25, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Gary Passanante, Mayor, Somerdale; Member, NJLM Executive Board

Speakers: Jordan Glatt, NJ Shared Services Czar
Nicolas Platt, NJ Shared Services Czar
Jeff Grayzel, Deputy Mayor, Morris Township
Thomas Arnone, Freeholder Director, Monmouth County
Robert Falzarano, Administrator, Harding Twp.

**Joint Session: NJLM and NJACCHO
Status of Public Health in New Jersey**

An update on the State of Health in New Jersey by the Commissioner of Health, highlighting the COVID-19 pandemic and proprieties going forward. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).
CEUs: LGLP

President: Michele Delisfort, Mayor, Union Township

Speakers: Marconi A. Gapas, President-Elect, NJACCHO; Health Officer, Union Township (Union)
Judith Persichilli, Commissioner, NJDOH
Christine Harris, President, NJLBOH

**League Session
Status of the Solid Waste and Recycling Market**

Expert panelists will discuss the status of the solid waste and recycling market and the factors driving those cost increases in the market and the impact the recently enacted Environmental Justice law will have on the marketplace.
CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

Speakers: Gary Sondermeyer, Vice President of Operations, Bayshore Recycling
Wayne DeFeo, Board Member, ANJR

12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Governor Murphy Keynote & Awards Presentation

Welcome: James J. Perry, Sr., President, NJLM; Committeeman, Hardwick

Keynote: Phil Murphy, Governor, State of New Jersey

12:30 p.m. - 1:20 p.m.

**Exhibitor Learning Session
GIS Program Benefits - Union (Union County) and City of Elizabeth**

This session is produced by Maser Consulting and is open to all conference delegates. See how municipalities are using GIS to increase efficiency levels. Focus on Elizabeth's tax map project, using Esri Parcel Fabric application with a compliant GIS submission to the NJ Division of Taxation. We will look at how NJDEP outfall inspection regulations are done using Esri mobile apps, and look at how public outreach is handled through the use of Esri StoryMaps. We'll have an in-depth discussion about advances in Esri based GIS programs, and the steps that are taken to implement efficient workflow processes using Esri enterprise applications in local government.

Speakers: Suzanne M. Zitzman, GISP, GIS Management Services Director, Maser Consulting, Inc.
Michael Kolody, GIS Asset Management Services Northeast Regional Manager, Maser Consulting, Inc.
Deborah Alaimo Lawlor, FAICP, PP, Planning Services Director, Maser Consulting, Inc.
Justin Cusick, Account Manager, Local Government, Esri

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

League Session **Holland Ethics-Exercising Political Courage**

A Conversation with Lieutenant Governor Sheila Y. Oliver, Rutgers University President Jonathan Holloway and Eagleton Institute of Politics Director John J. Farmer Jr.

“When you see something that is not right, not just, not fair, you have a moral obligation to say something. To do something.” These words were shared and lived by the Honorable John Lewis. Panelists will discuss what it means and what it takes to exercise political courage. The conversation will examine political decisions and actions that can preserve or strengthen democratic institutions at the state and local level—and the personal sacrifice or fortitude they demand. Topics will include police reform and the attempted reorganization of Rutgers University. The exchange will be followed by an open Q&A session with local officials and others attending the League’s conference.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Eth, CCFO-1.5 Eth, CTC-1.5 Eth, CPWM-1.5 Eth, RMC-1.5 Eth, QPA-1.5 Eth, CPA-1.5 Eth, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, Planning/Zoning 1.25 Admin, Land Use 1.25 Admin, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

Speakers: John Weingart, *Director, Arthur J. Holland Ethics in Government Program, Eagleton Institute of Politics, Rutgers University*
Sheila Oliver, *Lieutenant Governor, State of New Jersey; Commissioner, NJ DCA*
Jonathan Scott Holloway, *President, University Professor, and Distinguished Professor, Rutgers University*

League Session **Flood Mitigation: Rethinking Land Use and Development**

Panelists will discuss the potential land use regulatory reform designed to facilitate resilience in response to anticipated increased flooding resulting from climate change, including specific stormwater and flood management strategies currently being used by municipalities and the financing strategies available to facilitate implementation.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 PD, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Tech, Land Use 1.25 Tech, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Julia Fahl, *Mayor, Lambertville*

Speakers: Vincent J. Mazzei, Jr., P.E., *Assistant Commissioner, Watershed & Land Management, NJDEP*
Jennifer S. Gonzalez, AICP, PP, CFM, ENV SP, LEED GA; *Director of Environmental Services, Chief Sustainability Officer, Hoboken*
Bhavini Doshi, Esq., *McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, LLC*

League Session **Reinventing Your Downtown After Economic Upeaval**

The repercussions of the COVID-19 closures will be felt across all sectors for years to come, particularly small businesses that make up the backbone of downtowns. Recovery is going to be a slow process—the goal is not to prevent vacancies; it is to mitigate the impact on your downtown and its remaining businesses. With proactive and sustained efforts by BIDs and local government, downtowns can recover stronger than ever. This session is produced in cooperation with Downtown New Jersey.

CEUs: LGLP-3.0 points

President: Michele Delisfort, *Mayor, Union Township (Union)*

Speakers: Courtenay D. Mercer, *Executive Director, Downtown New Jersey*
Larisa Ortiz, *Managing Director, Streetsense*
Marta Person Villa, *Senior Vice President, Jones Lang LaSalle Brokerage, Inc.*
Bob Zuckerman, *Executive Director, Downtown Westfield*

Thursday, November 19



Some sessions may be added or changed.
 Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.

1:30 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

League Session

Technology to the Rescue: Resiliency During Social Distancing

Social distancing measures during COVID-19 forced municipalities to adapt and discover new ways for continuing services. This panel will examine how some municipalities dealt with different levels of technological level with staff and elected officials, planned for staff to work remotely even before the pandemic, adapted to remote public meetings, provided everyday services to customers virtually, and share lessons learned. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 IT, CCFO-1.5 IT, CTC-1.5 IT, CPWM-1.5 IT, RMC-1.5 IT, QPA-1.5 IT, CPA-1.5 Tech, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, Planning/Zoning-1.25 Admin, Land Use-1.25 Admin, CRP-1.25, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Tony Perry, Mayor, Township of Middletown

Speakers: Michael Capabianco, Borough Administrator, Seaside Park Borough
 Ed Cooney, Vice President, Account Executive, Connor, Strong & Buckelew
 Bernadette Kucharczuk, Director of IT, Jersey City

League Session

SHBP/PERS Update

Our panel of experts will be discussing the Importance of primary care, quality of care and costs.

Speakers: Kris Musick, Director of Operations Eastern Region, Activate Healthcare
 Doug Forrester, Chairman, Integrity Health
 Mason Reiner, Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer, R-Health

3:15 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

**Affiliate Session: NJILGA
 Municipal Law Update**

Co-Sponsored with NJLM and NJILGA
CEUs: NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

Speakers: Trishka Waterbury Cecil, Esq., Mason, Griffin & Pierson; Deputy General Counsel, NJLM
 Steve Goodell, Esq., Parker McKay

League Session

Personnel and Labor Law Updates

An exploration of the negotiability of personnel matters during a public health emergency, including changes to staffing levels, furloughs, and layoffs. Recent changes to the AG police discipline reporting requirements, and updates to employee leave entitlements.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Bud, CMFO-1.5 Bud, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, CPA-1.5 Fin, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0

President: Paul Anzano, Mayor, Hopewell Borough

Speakers: Jennifer Roselle, Esq., Counsel, Genova Burns

League Session

School-Municipal Cooperation: Responding to COVID-19

The pandemic posed new problems for all of us. School districts and municipalities shared a host of new challenges and suddenly essential needs. From technology and personal protective equipment to hand sanitizer and cleaning services, there were new opportunities for cooperation. This session will focus on how the pandemic revealed new opportunities for uni-school cooperation, obstacles to cooperation, the process and how the State can help. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CPWM-1.5 Mgmt, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.5 Off Admin/GenDuties, CPA-1.5 PD, RPPO/RPPS-1.0 M/S, LGLP-3.0 points

Welcome: Michael F. Cerra, Executive Director, NJLM
 Larry Feinsod, Executive Director, NJSBA

Speakers: Michele Meade, Municipal Technical Advisor & Procurement Specialist, DLGS, NJ DCA

4:45 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

**Affiliate Session: NJILGA
 NJILGA Business Meeting**

5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

**Affiliate Session: NJILGA
 NJILGA 2020 Social Event**

Some sessions may be added or changed.
Please visit www.njlm.org/2020conference for full, updated listings.



Friday, November 20

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.

Exhibit Hall Open

Enjoy a whole new Exhibit experience and visit 100+ booths in the Virtual Exhibit Hall

9:00 a.m.- 10:15 a.m.

League Session

Legislative Update for Elected Officials

Representatives from three major local government associations will provide a legislative update on issues of interest to local governments and taxpayers.

CEUs: CMFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CCFO-1.5 Off Mgmt, CTC-1.5 Leg, CPWM-1.5 GOVT, RMC-1.5 Prof Devel, QPA-1.0 Off Admin/Gen Duties, CPA-1.5 PD, NJCLE-1.5, PACLE-1.0, LGLP-3.0 points

President: Colleen Mahr, *Mayor, Fanwood; NJLM Past President*

Speakers: Michael F. Cerra, *Executive Director, NJ League of Municipalities*

Lori Buckelew, *Assistant Executive Director, NJ League of Municipalities*

John Donnadio, *Executive Director, NJ Association of Counties*

Jonathan Pushman, *Director of Government Affairs, NJ School Boards Association*

10:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.

Networking Chatroom

Chatroom for Elected Officials of North Jersey

Presiders: Jonathan Dunleavy, *Mayor, Bloomingdale, Member, NJLM Executive Board Member*

Guy Piserchia, *Deputy Mayor, Long Hill Township; Member, NJLM Executive Board*

Networking Chatroom

Chatroom for Elected Officials of Central Jersey

Networking Chatroom

Chatroom for Elected Officials of South Jersey

11:00 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

League Session

Your Reputation Precedes You: Public Service and Personal Integrity

This session will explore ethics in the workplace and preserving the public trust. Integrity in the public sector is essential for the public trust. Local government employees must be impartial, fair, honest, and truthful in executing their duties.

President: Domenick Stampone, *Mayor, Haledon*

Speaker: Susan Jacobucci, *Administrator, Paulsboro*

12:30 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Exhibitor Learning Session

Fairleigh Dickinson University: Advancing Careers

This session is produced by Fairleigh Dickinson University and is open to all conference delegates. This session outlines steps for your career advancement as well as your reports. We all need to be employable, not just employed. Look out for your career and be a good boss. Good leaders should work with employees to determine what the best path is to increasing their intellectual capital, e.g. special training, degree programs, reading lists, undertaking projects and conference participation.

Speakers: Dr. Paulette Laubsch, *Fairleigh Dickinson University*
William Schuber, *Assistant Professor, Fairleigh Dickinson University*
Shavonda Sumter, *Assemblywoman (District 35), NJ General Assembly*

Kevin McMillan, *Councilman, Neptune Township*

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Exhibitor Learning Session

Splashpad 101 – Designing a Successful Splashpad

This session is produced by Commercial Recreation Specialists and is open to all conference delegates. Whether you're researching adding a Splashpad® to your recreational offerings or have been hired to design a solution for a client, this informational learning session is a great next step. Learn from CRS experts how you can create a new aquatic adventure to bring fun and memories that last a lifetime. You'll be introduced to all facets of Splashpad implementation—from design criteria, to new product technology, and operation management and support.

Speakers: Jeff Corniea, *Senior Project Manager, Commercial Recreation Specialists*
Ryan Hartberg, *Project Channel Manager, Commercial Recreation Specialists*

2:00 p.m.

League Business Meeting

This meeting is open to all delegates, however, pursuant to the League constitution, only the Mayor or a designated representative may cast a vote. Votes will be cast using an app; eligible voters will receive more information prior to the meeting.

Conference Events



Keynote Address by Governor Phil Murphy

Thursday, November 19, 2020 • 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Hear the latest from the Governor of the Great Garden State, continuing his tradition of speaking to League members about the most important issues of the day.

Welcome by James J. Perry, Sr., President, NJLM; Committeeman, Hardwick

Coffee with the Senate President

Tuesday, November 17, 2020
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Grab a cup of coffee and login for an informal and informative conversation with New Jersey Senate President Steve Sweeney on issues of interest to municipal officials. Moderated by NJLM Executive Director Mike Cerra.



Coffee with the DEP Commissioner

Tuesday, November 17, 2020
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Join Catherine McCabe, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, and NJLM Executive Director Mike Cerra for a fresh cup of coffee and discussion on the state of the environment in New Jersey and its impact on municipalities.



Exhibitors A-Z Listing

Complete as of press time; visit the conference website for the most up-to-date list.



AccuScan
Aero Industries Refuse Tarp Systems
Aetna
Altice Business
AmeriHealth New Jersey
Amy S. Greene Environmental
Ancero Utility VoIP
Art Pride New Jersey
Asphalt Paving Systems
Aufsite- Cloud Services Provider
Ben Shaffer Recreation Inc.
Bobcat of North Jersey
Brief Relief
Brighton Health Plan Solutions
Britton Industries
Bruno Associates, Inc.
Center for Creative Land Recycling
CentralSquare Technologies
Chambers Architecture, Inc.
Cintas Corporation
CIPS-Smart City Parking Solutions
City Fire Equipment Co., Inc.
Civil Solutions
Commercial Recreation Specialists
Community Associations Inst. NJ
Complete Auto Reports
Concrete Washout Systems NJ/NY/PA
Contactless Visitor Management
Cooper's Office Furniture
Council on Compulsive Gambling NJ
Credit Union of New Jersey

CUES, Inc.

Direct Flooring
DMR Architects
Downtown New Jersey
Edmunds GovTech
EMEX, LLC
Excel Environmental Resources

EZ Docks Mid Atlantic
Fairleigh Dickinson University
FirstNet - Built with AT&T
French & Parrello Associates
Garden State Laboratories, Inc.
General Code/Coded Systems
General Recreation, Inc.
Geomark Consulting
George Ely Associates
Geospatial Analytics, Inc.
GovPilot
GovSites by Spatial Data
Granicus
GreenChip E-Waste Solutions
Greenfields Outdoor Fitness
Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.
Hannon Floor Covering
Henderson Products, Inc.
Holder Tractors
Horizon BCBSNJ
Hudson County Motors
International Code Council
Investors Bank
ION Wave Technologies, Inc.
Jersey Professional Management
Lincoln Financial Group
Maser Consulting
Mayors Wellness Campaign
McGrath Municipal Equipment
Millennium Communications Group
Monmouth Truck Hose & Hydraulics
Municibid
Municipal Clerks' Assoc. of NJ
Musco Sports Lighting
New Horizon Lighting Inc.
New Jersey Business Action Center
New Jersey Natural Gas
New Jersey Planning Officials
New Jersey Prevention Network

New Jersey's Clean Energy Program
NJ- Dept. of Children and Families
NJ- Dept. of Community Affairs
NJ- Housing & Mortgage Finance
NJ Clean Communities
NJ GMIS
NJ Infrastructure Bank
NJ TRANSIT
OceanFirst Bank
ParkMobile
Pavement Management Services
Pay Up Climate Polluters NJ
Phoenix Advisors, LLC.
Police and Fire Federal Credit Union
Professional Physical Therapy
Project Graphics Print + Display
Remington & Vernick Engineers
RFP Solutions, Inc.
RFS Commercial, Inc.
Richard Grubb & Associates, Inc.
Ricoh USA Inc.
Roberts Engineering Group LLC
Rumsey Electric
SHI International Corp
Spatial Data Logic
Sunrise Systems
Sustainable Jersey
T&M Associates
TD Bank, N.A.
Triad Associates
Tyler Technologies
U.S. EPA Region 2
USDA Rural Development
Van Cleef Engineering Associates
Van Note-Harvey Associates, Inc.
Vanair
Wapro Inc.
Waste Management of New Jersey
We Work for Health NJ



Exhibitor Learning Sessions

Monday, November 16

12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.

Infrastructure Upgrade Incentives for Municipal Buildings and Home Offices

This session is produced by New Jersey's Clean Energy Program and is open to all conference delegates. Is your municipality interested in free building audits, incentivized facility upgrades, and lower utility bills? There are many ways that municipalities can utilize the funding programs available through New Jersey's Clean Energy Program which is administered by the Board of Public Utilities. Join us as we show examples of completed municipal projects and how the programs drastically shortened their payback. The State of NJ additionally offers a funding mechanism for municipalities to use for financing and has up to double the incentive levels for municipalities to assist in their financial decision making. For municipalities who have remote staff, incentives for your homes will also be included!

Speakers: *Tony O'Donnell, C&I Account Manager*
Michele Calabrese, Account Manager, New Jersey's Clean Energy Program

"Moving the Iceberg": Asset Management Strategies for Counties

This session is produced by Geospatial Analytics and is open to all conference delegates. It will explore how an enterprise approach to asset management can be beneficial to County Governments, their stakeholders, and the populations they serve. The session focuses on Bergen County's (NJ) work with Geospatial Analytics to migrate its real estate portfolio data from analog to digital, including data collection and analysis. The County is implementing cutting-edge technologies, including mobile inventory inspections and predictive analytics, to improve operational efficiency, return on investment (ROI), and value.

Speakers: *Dannielle Leigh, Internal Commercial Real Estate (CRE) Consultant, Bergen County*
Gerald Reiner, Procurement Officer, Bergen County
Michael Chadwick, VP of Customer Success, Geospatial Analytics, Inc.
Mike K. Jackson, Chief Sales Officer, Geospatial Analytics, Inc.

Reducing SARS-CoV-2 Exposure: Indoor Air Quality Controls

This session is produced by T&M Associates and is open to all conference delegates. There is growing evidence that SARS-CoV-2 virus can remain airborne for longer times and further distances than originally thought. The layout and design of a building, as well as occupancy and type of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system, can all impact potential airborne spread of the virus. The T&M team will discuss the various administrative, operational, and engineering controls that can be implemented to reduce viral load indoors.

Speakers: *Thomas Burgess, Certified Industrial Hygienist, Principal Technical Advisor, T&M Associates*
Elaine Dasti, Group Manager MEP Services, T&M Associates
Ashly Insko, Health & Safety Practice Leader, T&M Associates
Mark Worthington, Group Manager Health & Safety, T&M Associates

Tuesday, November 17

12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.

Embracing Technology To Do More With Less

This session is produced by Spatial Data Logic and is open to all conference delegates. Getting online is more essential than ever! Faced with tight budgets and limited resources, municipalities cannot afford to waste time and money on antiquated systems and paper-based processes. At Spatial Data Logic, we help municipalities modernize. Our municipal management software has helped over 190 towns in the state of New Jersey streamline workflows, deliver services online and work efficiently from any location. Join us to learn how your town can embrace technology to do more with less.

Speaker: *Jack Flood, Vice President, Spatial Data Logic*

Exhibitor Learning Sessions



Tuesday, November 17

12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.

Inclusive Outdoor Gyms: Strategies for Greatest Impact

This session is produced by Greenfields Outdoor Fitness and is open to all conference delegates. Ready to plan your outdoor gym? These community amenities are rapidly growing in popularity, but with the many options available, it's important to know how to best design a gym to maximize your investment. Learn how to design a fitness zone that engages your community and provides inclusive fitness options to those with disabilities. Then, acquire strategies for funding and marketing outdoor gyms to ensure they're used and enjoyed by the greatest number possible.

Speakers: Sam Mendelsohn, President, Greenfields Outdoor Fitness
Allison Abel, Director of Marketing, Greenfields Outdoor Fitness
Jennifer French, Accessibility Advisor, Greenfields Outdoor Fitness

Holding Big Oil & Gas Accountable for Climate Damages in New Jersey

This session is produced by Pay Up Climate Polluters NJ and is open to all conference delegates. Across the country, 23 municipalities and states have filed suit against Big Oil & Gas for deceiving the public and policymakers about the dangerous climate impacts their products would knowingly cause. As budgets face increasing pressure during the COVID-19 pandemic, it is more important than ever that already-vulnerable communities do not continue to pay for climate damages on their own. Learn about climate liability litigation as a growing trend and powerful tool that NJ communities can use to hold polluters accountable, and recover increasing climate change resilience costs.

Speakers: Lauren O'Brien, Pay Up Climate Polluters NJ Director
Christopher "Kip" Bateman (NJ-16), Senator, NJ State Senate
Laurie Huryk, Councilwoman, Toms River Township

Wednesday, November 18

12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.

NJ's Life Sciences and the Fight Against COVID-19

This session is produced by We Work for Health and is open to all conference delegates. New Jersey's life science companies are working hard in the fight against COVID-19. From the development of new medicines and vaccines to donations of medicines and supplies to help patients and first responders, the industry has committed significant resources to addressing this global health crisis. Please join us to learn more about the industry's efforts, the research and development process, and what to expect going forward.

Speakers: Josh Gottheimer, U.S. Representative (District 5), U.S. House of Representatives
Joseph Pannullo, Mayor, East Hanover; Chair, Mayors Committee on Life Sciences; Co-chair, WWFH-NJ
Dean Paranicas, President & CEO, HealthCare Institute of New Jersey; Co-chair, WWFH-NJ
Lucy Montgomery, State Director, WWFH-NJ

Financial & Revenue Software Best Practices During & Post COVID-19

This session is produced by Edmunds GovTech and is open to all conference delegates. We will present a multitude of best practices that will assist NJ local government and their residents in being more efficient, resilient, and better informed, both today and in the future. Presenters will focus on solutions that are easy to implement, provide tangible results, and allow your entity to make better decisions. Subject matter experts will discuss and review best practices using Edmunds' MCSJ integrated ERP software, successfully used by over 650 of your New Jersey colleagues.

Speakers: Bob Edmunds, Sr., Founder & Owner, Edmunds GovTech
Jeffrey Stout, VP of Customer Success, Edmunds GovTech
Jen Cooke, Revenue Collection & On-line Service Evangelist, Edmunds GovTech
Tom Mancini, VP of Concept Development, Edmunds GovTech



Exhibitor Learning Sessions

Wednesday, November 18

12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.

PFAS, Regulations, Treatment and Community Impacts

This session is produced by T&M Associates and is open to all conference delegates. Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of nearly 5,000 man-made chemicals currently in the state and national spotlight. Join T&M Associates' panel of experts to understand the current regulatory climate in NJ surrounding these chemicals, existing technologies available to address PFAS contamination, and funding sources available to communities for PFAS treatment. Our panel will highlight a current project in National Park, NJ, to remove PFAS from a drinking water supply.

Moderator: *Tim Kinsella, Company Practice Leader, Environmental, T&M Associates*

Speakers: *Joy Gunn, Acting Borough Clerk/Administrator Borough of National Park*

Edwin Steck, PE, CME, Senior Vice President T&M Associates

James Peeples, PE, Vice President, T&M Associates

Gail Lalla, Client Manager, T&M Associates

Thursday, November 19

12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.

GIS Program Benefits - Union (Union County) and City of Elizabeth

This session is produced by Maser Consulting and is open to all conference delegates. See how municipalities are using GIS to increase efficiency levels. Focus on Elizabeth's tax map project, using Esri Parcel Fabric application with a compliant GIS submission to the NJ Division of Taxation. We will look at how NJDEP outfall inspection regulations are done using Esri mobile apps, and look at how public outreach is handled through the use of Esri StoryMaps. We'll have an in-depth discussion about advances in Esri based GIS programs, and the steps that are taken to implement efficient workflow processes using Esri enterprise applications in local government.

Speakers: *Suzanne M. Zitzman, GISP, GIS Management Services Director, Maser Consulting, Inc.*

Michael Kolody, GIS Asset Management Services Northeast Regional Manager, Maser Consulting, Inc.

Deborah Alaimo Lawlor, FAICP, PP, Planning Services Director, Maser Consulting, Inc.

Justin Cusick, Account Manager, Local Government, Esri

Friday, November 20

12:30 p.m.-1:20 p.m.

Fairleigh Dickinson University: Advancing Careers

This session is produced by Fairleigh Dickinson University and is open to all conference delegates. This session outlines steps for your career advancement as well as your reports. We all need to be employable, not just employed. Look out for your career and be a good boss. Good leaders should work with employees to determine what the best path is to increasing their intellectual capital, e.g. special training, degree programs, reading lists, undertaking projects and conference participation.

Speakers: *Dr. Paulette Laubsch, Fairleigh Dickinson University*

William Schuber, Assistant Professor, Fairleigh Dickinson University

Shavonda Sumter, Assemblywoman (District 35), NJ General Assembly

Kevin McMillan, Councilman, Neptune Township

1:30 p.m.-2:20 p.m.

Splashpad 101 – Designing a Successful Splashpad

This session is produced by Commercial Recreation Specialists and is open to all conference delegates. Whether you're researching adding a Splashpad® to your recreational offerings or have been hired to design a solution for a client, this informational learning session is a great next step. Learn from CRS experts how you can create a new aquatic adventure to bring fun and memories that last a lifetime. You'll be introduced to all facets of Splashpad implementation - from design criteria, to new product technology, and operation management and support.

Speakers: *Jeff Corniea, Senior Project Manager, Commercial Recreation Specialists*

Ryan Hartberg, Project Channel Manager, Commercial Recreation Specialists

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2020 Resolutions Committee

The Resolutions Committee is open to all delegates. Municipal officials are encouraged to attend and comment upon proposed resolutions. Only members of the committee may vote at the committee meeting.

Chair: Janice Kovach, Mayor, Clinton Town; 1st Vice President, NJLM

Parliamentarian: William J. Kearns Jr., NJLM General Counsel

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John D. Antonides, Representing the Govt. Finance Officers Assoc. of NJ; Chief Financial Officer, Colts Neck Township

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Don Clare, Representing the NJ Mun. Electrical Inspectors Assoc., Electrical Subcode Official, Neptune Township

John Coiro, Mayor, Totowa Borough

Sheena Collum, Village President, South Orange Village Township

William W. Curtis, Mayor, Bay Head Borough; Executive Board Member, NJLM

Richard Cushing, Representing the NJ Institute of Local Govt. Attorneys, 1st Vice President, NJILGA, Gebhardt and Kiefer

Wilda Diaz, Mayor, Perth Amboy City

John DuPont, Representing the NJ Society of Mun. Engineers; Borough Engineer, Carteret Borough, President, NJSME

Julia Fahl, Mayor, Lambertville City

Daniel Flynn, Deputy Mayor, Newton Town; Executive Board Member, NJLM

David Garb, Representing Jersey Access Group, Station Manager, Perth Amboy City; Vice President, JAG

Raymond Heck, Mayor, Millstone Borough; Executive Board Member, NJLM

Paul A. Hoelscher, Mayor, Harrington Park Borough

Margy Jahn, Representing the New Jersey Health Officers Association; Health Officer, Freehold Township

Genevieve Kacmarcik, Representing the Mun. Welfare Assoc. of NJ; Welfare Director, Rutherford Borough, President, MWANJ

Jason Kasler, Representing NJ Planning Officials, Inc.; Executive Director, NJ Planning Officials, Inc.

Bob LaCosta, Representing the NJ Building Officials Assoc.; Construction Official, Scotch Plains Twp., Past President, NJBOA

Keith Kazmark, Mayor, Woodland Park Borough

John Laezza, Administrator, Clark Township

Thomas Lankey, Mayor, Edison Township

Janet Leli, Representing the American Public Works Association - NJ Chapter; Chapter Administrator, APWA-NJ Chapter

Stephen Lo Iacono Jr., Administrator, North Arlington Borough

Dina Long, Mayor, Sea Bright Borough

Benjamin Lucarelli, Mayor, Fair Haven Borough

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The League is also represented on statewide committees by its members, including the following.

Robert Campbell, Mayor, Downe; State Clean Air Council

Samuel DeMaio, Public Safety Director, Bloomfield: Member, Police Training Commission

Wilda Diaz, Mayor, Perth Amboy; State School District Annual Election Study Commission

Michael Cerra, Executive Director, NJLM: Member, Employer Support of the National Guard; Board of Trustees Ex-Officio Member, Sustainable Jersey; Board Member, Downtown NJ, Inc.

Caroline Ehrlich, Chief of Staff, Woodbridge: Board of Trustees Member, Sustainable Jersey

John C. Glidden, Mayor, Closter; Member, NJLM Board; PFRS Board of Trustees

Raymond S. Heck, Mayor, Millstone Borough; Executive Board Member, NJLM: League Representative, State Fire Safety Commission

Susan Jacobucci, Administrator, Paulsboro; PFRS Board of Trustees

William J. Kearns Jr., Esq., General Counsel, NJLM: Member, State Supreme Court's Committee on Court Security; Member, Attorney General's Municipal Prosecutors Oversight Committee; Local Government Ethics Task Force

Robert V. Kiser, Engineer, Princeton: Technical Advisory Committee for NJ Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation Master Plan

Janice Kovach, Mayor, Clinton Town; 1st Vice President, NJLM: Member, Public Works Advisory Board, Department of Community Affairs

Dr. Edward J. Mahaney Jr., Former Mayor, Cape May City: Board of Trustees Member, Sustainable Jersey

Pamela H. Mount, Former Committeewoman, Lawrence Township (Mercer): Board of Trustees Member, Sustainable Jersey

Joseph Pannullo, Mayor, East Hanover Township: Mayors Committee on Life Sciences

Samuel "Skip" Reale, Esq., NJLM Associate Counsel: Supreme Court Committee on Municipal Court Operations, Fines, and Fees

Joel Shain, Esq., Attorney, Monroe Township (Middlesex): NJLM Representative, Board of Public Utilities Committee on Development of Rules for Municipal Electric Aggregation

Suzanne Walters, Past President, NJLM: NJ DCA Site Improvement Advisory Board

Harry Wozunk III, Supt. Public Works, Runnemede: Department of Environmental Protection Clean Water Council

Committees



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The League would like to thank the Trustees and Officers of the Educational Foundation for their ongoing commitment to provide a non-partisan informational resource for local government that offers timely research and a proactive approach to resolving the complex issues affecting New Jersey's diverse communities.

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LORI BUCKELEW, NJLM Assistant Executive Director and Director of Government Affairs;
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PAUL A. PENNA & ANDREW LAFEVRE, Legislative Analysts



A-1135/S-357

Tax exemption for nonprofit hospitals

Status: Passed in Assembly on Sept. 24, 2020.

Senate companion awaiting committee hearing.

A-1135/S-357 seeks to address the ongoing issue of property tax exemptions for nonprofit hospitals with on-site for-profit medical providers. The issue stems from a tax court decision which brought to light how the business model for modern hospitals does not comport with the original public policy reasons for exempting non-profit hospitals from property taxes.

While the League is supportive of a legislative solution to this issue, we do not believe that A-1135/S-357 properly provides that solution. As a threshold matter, the bill sets up an unconstitutional tax exemption. Notwithstanding the constitutional issues, A-1135/S-357 poses other concerns as it attempts to create a Community Service Contribution (CSC) fee that would be paid by hospitals organized as non-profits in lieu of any property tax.

The contemplated CSC fee would be far smaller than any property tax bill to which these hospitals would otherwise be subject. Effectively serving as a subsidy to an otherwise profitable industry, paid for by all other property tax payers of host communities.

We do welcome some committee amendments made to A-1135/S-357, including the removal of provisions of the bill that would have voided the settlements and agreements some host municipalities have already made with hospitals in their communities. The amendments also remove a section of the bill as introduced that would have required payments already made under negotiated agreements to municipalities to be reimbursed to hospitals. However, even with these changes the League remains opposed to A-1135/S-357.

For these reasons the League must, respectfully, oppose A-1135/S-357 and urge our members, especially those hosting non-profit hospitals, to reach out to their legislators.—FM



A-3170/S308

Requiring abandoned property registries

Status: A-3170 Introduced, referred to Assembly Housing Committee; S308 introduced, referred to Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee.

This legislation requires municipalities to create an annual registry of abandoned properties based on meeting two of the statutorily defined 15 criteria. Included among the list is: overgrown vegetation; broken or boarded windows; disconnected gas, water, or other utility lines; testimony of neighbors or delivery persons; and accumulation of junk or debris on property.

Proposal Will Prevent Endless Litigation and Provide Residential Property Tax Relief

JON MORAN, Sr. Legislative Analyst

Please urge your legislators to support A-2991/S-421, which will clarify telecommunications industry corporate tax responsibilities, and shield local taxpayers from the costs of endless tax court litigation. We have written about this before, but still await action on this common-sense fix to a large and growing problem that will impact more and more local budgets across the State. We thank the sponsors for their attention to this problem.

The problem began in 2008, when Verizon informed a handful of municipalities that it had decided to exempt itself from payment of taxes on all of the cables and electronic equipment it houses in local switching stations. Based on a misreading of a 1997 law, Verizon claimed that it could exempt itself from the payment of business personal property taxes (BPPT), in any year and in any municipality, when and where it, unilaterally and without documentation or disclosure of data, determined that it provided less than 51% of dial tone service.

In the years that followed, similar decisions by Verizon have led to cases affecting taxpayers in hundreds of other New Jersey municipalities. And in the years to come, even more municipalities will undoubtedly be denied this funding.

Early last year, Hopewell Borough in Mercer County prevailed over Verizon in a Tax Court case involving the corporation's claimed exemption for 2008. It took one municipality 10 years to ensure that Verizon would pay its 2008 taxes. Further litigation will be needed for Hopewell to secure BPPT payments for each subsequent year in which the exemption was claimed. Every other municipality faces the same prospect of costly annual tax court filings, which, as we have seen, can drag on for over a decade. But even that might not end the problem, as Verizon has appealed the final Tax Court decision, forcing Hopewell Borough to put even more time and treasure into the fight.

A-2991/S-421 would put an end to the travail. It will clarify the Legislature's intent to permanently apply the business personal property tax on local exchange telephone companies that were subject to the tax as of April 1, 1997.

Again, please contact you legislators and urge them to support this common-sense solution to a chronic and preventable problem. A-2991 awaits action in the Assembly State and Local Government Committee. S-421 has been referred to the Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee.

Want to know more about what's happening in the N.J. State Legislature? The League Conference is offering the following sessions on the topic:

Legislative Update for NJLM Affiliates

Monday, November 16, 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

This session will provide an update, geared towards certified professionals, on the legislative issues in the State of New Jersey.

Speakers: Keith A. Bonchi, Esq., TCTANJ Legal Counsel; Goldenberg, Mackler, Sayegh, Mintz, Pfeffer, Bonchi & Gill

Lori Buckelew, Assistant Executive Director, NJLM

Legislative Leaders: What the heck happened? What happens next?

Wednesday, November 18, 1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Michael Aron, the Dean of the State House Press Corps, returns to lead our panel of Legislative Leaders and League First Vice President, Mayor Janice Kovach of Clinton Town, in a look at the lessons we may have learned during the pandemic, and ahead to what that will mean for the Garden State in 2021. This session is a part of the Local Government Leadership Program (LGLP).

Welcome: Janice Kovach, Mayor, Clinton Town; First Vice President, NJLM

Moderator: Michael Aaron, Senior State House Correspondent, NJTV

Speakers: Steve M. Sweeney, President, NJ State Senate

Craig J. Coughin, Speaker, NJ General Assembly

Thomas K. Kean, Jr., Republican Leader, NJ State Senate (invited)

Jon M. Bramnick, Republican Leader, NJ General Assembly

Legislative Update for Elected Officials

Friday, November 20, 9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Representatives from three major local government associations will provide a legislative update on issues of interest to local governments and taxpayers.

Speakers: Michael F. Cerra, Executive Director, NJLM

Lori Buckelew, Assistant Executive Director, NJLM

John Donnadio, Executive Director, NJ Association of Counties

Jonathan Pushman, Director of Government Affairs, NJ School Boards Association

It further instructs the municipality to monitor properties on the registry that are in the process of rehabilitation on a quarterly basis. To accomplish these objectives, the legislation authorizes the municipality to charge the property owner for the purposes of keeping a registry, and to subject the property to a lien in the event of non-payment.

Non-compliant municipalities would have their Energy Tax Receipts Property

Tax Relief Aid, Consolidated Municipal Property Tax Relief Aid, Transitional Aid to Localities, and other discretionary aid programs withheld.

While eliminating blight due to abandoned properties is a laudable goal that municipalities can support, due to the overly burdensome nature of this legislation on municipal governments, as well as the punitive nature of non-compliance, the League must respectfully oppose this legislation.–PAP

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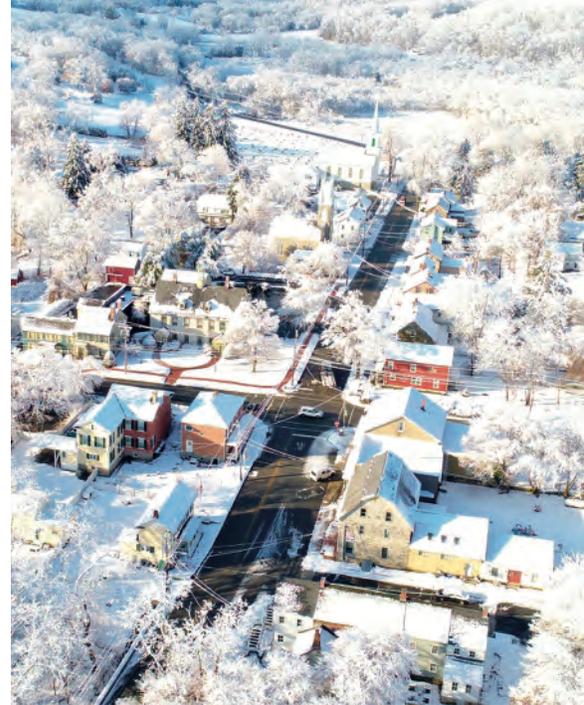
This year like no other, the picture of municipal life has been profoundly different. We'd like to record the many special municipal moments in New Jersey for 2020 through the NJLM Annual Show Off Your City photo contest. You are invited to send us photos of how local residents and officials worked and played and thrived in these pandemic days.

Entries will be posted on the League's Facebook page, website, and some will be featured in the April issue of *NJ Municipalities* magazine, and possibly other issues.

A winner will be selected and receives a free League publication of their choice.

We ask that photos be high resolution JPEG—at least 1 MB in size. Please provide photo credit if necessary. Unfortunately, stock photos and images that are too low resolution will not be considered. By submitting a photo, you are agreeing that you own the rights to the photo and that NJLM has permanent permission to use the photo in *NJ Municipalities*, on NJLM's social media and website, and in other printed materials.

A winner will be chosen on February 15. Please include your Facebook profile name and we will tag your photo on Facebook.



Year-round, the League promotes the beauty, rich culture, and meaningful history of New Jersey's municipalities, illustrating digital and print publications as we Show Off member hometowns.

Photos can be submitted via email to aspiezio@njlm.org, or mailed on CD or flash drive to NJLM, 222 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608.

Submission deadline is February 3, 2021. For more information, visit NJLM's website at www.njlm.org/showoffyourcity.

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