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Contact: Michael Cerra, Executive Director, NJLM
mcerra@njlm.org, 609-695-3481, Ext. 120.

MEDIA ADVISORY

2023 Innovation in Governance Award Program

Trenton, NJ (November 20, 2023). The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities continue to recognize *Innovation in Governance* through their annual awards program. The awards are presented as part of the Mayors' Lunch Briefing on Wednesday, November 15, during the Annual League Conference in Atlantic City.

This award program was established to highlight exemplary local government programs that provide innovative and practical approaches to solving municipal problems and concerns. At the same time, we share these innovative approaches with municipal leaders throughout the state at the Annual New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference, and through the National League of Cities' "Best Practices" database.

The 2023 judges were: League Past Presidents Paul Maticera and Plainsboro Mayor Peter Cantu, Acting Department of Community Affairs Commissioner and Division of Local Government Services Director Jacquelyn Suarez, and New Jersey State League of Municipalities Executive Director Michael Cerra.

The program invited applications describing any type of innovation undertaken by municipalities in the past 16 months. The participants responded with a range of submissions that underscore the variety of challenges municipalities solve.

The 2023 Innovation in Governance Award goes to:

Middletown Township, 2023 Avalon Recycling and Solid Waste Management Initiative

The 2023 Honorable Mention winners are:

Avalon Borough: 2023 Avalon Recycling and Solid Waste Management Initiative

Chatham Borough: Automated Garbage Collection Priced by Size Container

Hazlet Township: Using Google Maps for Community Engagement

See the full details by visiting njlm.org/innovation-in-governance

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