

July 2016

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

July 4-
Independence Day

July 24-
Parents Day

July 27-
National Korean War Veterans
Armistice Day

November 15-17-
[101st Annual NJLM Conference-Atlantic
City Convention Center, Atlantic City](#)

- ✓ Unauthorized Conference Housing Scams
- ✓ Mayors Hall of Fame
- ✓ 15th Annual Innovation in Governance Awards
- ✓ Michael A. Pane Award
- ✓ Elected Officials Hall of Fame Nominations
- ✓ Planning a Mayors Book Club

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mayor Joseph Tempesta, President

As required by the State Constitution, Governor Christie signed into law a balanced budget for the Fiscal Year that began July 1, 2016 and will conclude immediately after June 30, 2017. The Governor's Office noted in a Press Release, "This \$34.5 billion budget continues for a sixth consecutive year the highest amount of aid for public schools and includes the largest pension payment in New Jersey history."

The Governor also issued two Executive Orders, which will hold some state funds in reserve, including Transitional Aid, until there is Legislative action to alter public employee health benefits through the Plan Design Committee (The Governor's proposed budget included \$250 million in savings from unspecified changes.) and action to authorize TTF funding.

On the TTF, [Executive Order 210](#) reads, in part:

1. The Commissioner of DOT and the Executive Director of New Jersey Transit are instructed to plan an immediate and orderly shutdown of all ongoing work that is funded by the TTFA, with the understanding that any work that is funded by federal funds may continue. The respective plans for such orderly shutdown shall be completed no later than 11:59 pm on Saturday, July 2, 2016.
2. All work that is funded by the TTFA shall cease according to the shutdown plans established respectively by the Commissioner and Executive Director, with the understanding that any work that is funded by federal funds may continue.
3. The Commissioner of DOT shall take all appropriate steps to ensure that work performed at the municipal level that is funded by the TTFA, through grant or otherwise, shall cease in a manner consistent with this Executive Order, with the understanding that any work that is funded by federal funds may continue.

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE CONTINUED

In order to account for the absence of the \$250 million in unspecified health benefit savings, [Executive Order 209](#) instructs the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting, as follows. The amounts immediately reserved shall include all legislative additions to my recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2017, as determined by the Director, and half of the appropriation for Transitional Aid to Localities, along with such other amounts of such items of appropriation as the Director shall determine to be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this Order.

The sequestration of Transitional Aid funding, which was completely unexpected, will pose serious problems for communities facing serious needs. The League will continue to review the Governor's line-item vetoes and keep you posted on any further developments.

BEWARE OF SCAM CONFERENCE HOUSING COMMUNICATIONS

-Contact Dee Kotch at ext 115 or dkotch@njslom.org

It has come to our attention that there are unauthorized firms soliciting housing and hotel reservations from League conference attendees.

Please Note: The only firm authorized to handle our conference housing reservations is AC Central Reservations. They will not call, email or contact anyone unsolicited.

Here is their website: <http://www.njslom.org/2016conf/hotel.html>

Using unauthorized reservation services creates real problems for you and the conference as a whole. You cannot be assured your credit card or financial information is secure and your room reservation may not actually be made. Also, your room will not be part of the official conference housing block so you won't get emergency housing information nor will there be adequate shuttle bus services to your hotel.

As always, the League is available to answer your questions on any aspect of the annual conference and we strive to make your participation both enjoyable and highly productive.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR MAYORS HALL OF FAME

-Contact Michael Darcy ext. 116 or mdarcy@njslom.org

The League is accepting nominations for the [2016 Mayors Hall of Fame](#). To qualify, a mayor must be serving in at least their tenth cumulative year for the silver level, twentieth year for the gold level, or 30th year for the platinum level. Mayors who rotate into office can qualify after holding the office of mayor for ten years.

Qualifying mayors will be inducted into the New Jersey State League of Municipalities Mayors' Hall of Fame during the Mayors' Luncheon at the Annual Conference Wednesday, November 16 in Atlantic City. For nomination forms and more information about the Mayors' Hall of Fame, visit the [Mayors Corner](#) or contact the League at 609-695-3481 ext. 116.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR FIFTEENTH ANNUAL INNOVATION IN GOVERNANCE AWARDS

-Contact Ciara Bradley at ext. 128 or cbradley@njslom.org

The New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the New Jersey League of Municipalities will again acknowledge and promote *Innovation in Governance* through our annual recognition program. This is a great opportunity to showcase innovative solutions to any problems that have cropped up – either suddenly or over time – in your municipality. It can also be an opportunity to let your peers in on innovations that prevented problems from even arising.

This year, *the Innovation in Governance Awards* Committee is looking for any original approaches in public administration undertaken by a Garden State municipality during the past 18 months – from the beginning of June 2015 to September 30, 2016. Any innovation in any department or program will be considered for recognition.

This program was established to highlight exemplary local government activities that exhibit creative and practical approaches to local problems and concerns. We will share the winning entries with municipal leaders at the 101st Annual League of Municipalities Conference Mayors' Luncheon on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at the Sheraton in Atlantic City, and in the December issue of our magazine, *New Jersey Municipalities*.

This year's judges will be League Past Presidents Paul Maticera and Plainsboro Mayor Peter Cantu, Tim Cunningham, Director of the Division of Local Government Services, and League Executive Director Michael Darcy.

Applications can be downloaded from the New Jersey League of Municipalities' and the Department of Community Affairs' websites, at www.njslom.org and www.nj.gov/dca respectively. The nomination deadline is October 1, 2016.

If you have any questions on the Innovation in Governance awards, please contact Ciara Bradley at the League of Municipalities 609-695-3481 ext. 128 or cbradley@njslom.org

**14TH ANNUAL MICHAEL A. PANE AWARD NOMINATIONS
ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED**

-Contact Johnnifer Harris at ext. 119 or jharris@njslom.org

In honor of the memory of Michael A. Pane, the fourteenth annual award will be presented to a professional (attorney, engineer or planner) that personifies outstanding ability, integrity, and a high standard of ethics in his or her dealings with local government. This award includes a \$500 honorarium.

Mr. Pane personified and promoted integrity in local government, and it is the purpose of this award to recognize an individual who has, over a period of years, demonstrated the same professional commitment to service, and who, by so doing, has set high standards that all involved in local government should strive to match.

The award ceremony will be held during the League's annual conference in Atlantic City, on Thursday, November 17th, during a session of the New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys. Nominations for this award will be accepted through September 30, 2016. Please fax, mail or email your nomination to:

Johnnifer Harris
c/o NJLM Educational Foundation, Inc.
222 West State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608
Fax: (609) 695-5156
jharris@njslom.org

"The League thanks the NJLM Educational Foundation for making this possible and is honored to participate in the promotion of the Michael A. Pane Award." said League Executive Director Michael J. Darcy. A list of past award winners may be seen at <http://www.njslom.org/hallfame.html>

ELECTED OFFICIALS HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

-Contact Michael Darcy ext. 116 or mdarcy@njslom.org

In recognition of the many municipal governing body members who have selflessly served for twenty or more years, the League of Municipalities is pleased to once again accept nominations for the Elected Officials Hall of Fame.

This special honor is reserved for those governing body members, active and retired, who have served twenty years in elected municipal office. As you know, these special elected officials have governed their municipalities for lengthy tenures, guiding their communities through the good times and troubled times, with little recognition.

The Elected Officials Hall of Fame will shine a light on these pillars in our communities and hold them up as an example of civic pride for all citizens to emulate.

In a special ceremony in February 2017, during the Mayors Legislative Day at the State House, there will be a presentation to these special elected municipal officials. They will be inducted into the Elected Officials Hall of Fame and their picture will appear in the League magazine, *New Jersey Municipalities*.

If you know of any elected municipal officials, not currently in the Elected Officials Hall of Fame, who have served at least twenty years in elected municipal office, please click on the link to download the form <http://www.njslom.org/letters/Nomination-Form.pdf>

The form may be copied if you want to make several nominations. Please mail the form(s) back to League office by December 1, 2016 so they may be included in the ceremony. Confirmations will be mailed to the nominees in January, 2017.

You may view a full list of all Hall of Fame inductees at the League website http://www.njslom.org/hallelec_cover.html

PLANNING AND PARTICIPATING IN A MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB

The League has produced a free instructional manual on how to promote youth literacy by planning and conducting a successful Mayors Book Club. This publication is based on five years of experience conducting successful Mayor's Book Clubs throughout New Jersey. More information can be found by visiting this link: <http://njlmef.org/Mayors-Book-Club.pdf>