

January 13, 2017

RE: WEEKLY UPDATE

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I. State Policy Issues

a. DOT Guidance on Funding Three Month Shutdown

Earlier this week the NJDOT posted a letter and certification explaining how municipalities can apply for State funds to address the costs associated with the Governor's ordered shutdown of state funded road projects. The official notice is being sent via the SAGE system to grant administrators.

Click here for a copy of the letter.

Contact: Michael Cerra, Assistant Executive Director, mcerra@njslom.com, 609-695-3481 x120.

b. Governor Delivers State of the State

On Tuesday, Governor Christie delivered his 7th State of the State address in Trenton. After briefly highlighting issues such as cutting the size of government, increase in home sales, reduction in unemployment and the tax reductions enacted as part of the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) compromise, the Governor focused most of the address on his plans to fight drug addiction. The Governor briefly mentioned that his budget address (which is scheduled for February 28) will address pension and health care funding. It is also anticipated that the Governor will also address school funding, among other issues.

Click here for the Governor's prepared remarks.

Contact: Michael Cerra, Assistant Executive Director, mcerra@njslom.com, 609-695-3481 x120;
Jon Moran, Senior Legislative Analyst, jmoran@njslom.org, 609-695-3481 x121.

c. Reminder Deadline Approaching for DOT FY17 Grant Programs

As a reminder, applications for NJ Department of Transportation (DOT) FY 2017 State Aid programs are due by Friday, February 3, 2017. Programs include:

- [Municipal Aid](#), for which all municipalities are eligible, is for funding of local transportation projects
- [Transit Village](#), for which [32 select municipalities](#) are eligible, is for funding projects that enhance walking, biking and/or transit ridership within ½ mile of a the transit facility
- [Bikeways](#), for which all municipalities and counties are eligible, is for funding to create bicycle projects which create new Bike Path Mileage.
- [Safe Streets to Transit](#) is for funding safe and accessible pedestrian linkages to transit facilities in order to promote increased usage of transit by all segments of the population.

Please note that NJDOT requires grant projects to be awarded to construction within 24 months from the date of grant notification. We suggest you consult with your municipal engineer and Local Aid District Office if you wish to apply for a NJDOT grant.

Contact: Lori Buckelew, Senior Legislative Analyst, lbuckelew@njslom.org, 609- 695-3481, x112.

II. Federal Policy Issues

a. “Life’s Most Persistent and Urgent Question”

On Monday, January 16, Americans will honor the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, whose commitment to social justice, equal rights and non-violent protest has been celebrated as a National Holiday since 1986. Legislation signed in 1994 called on all citizens to mark the commemoration as a National Day of Service. And today, information on this observance can be accessed at the Corporation for National and Community Service’s website, on their [MLK Day page](#).

At that site, you can register a project that would benefit the people in your town. Once your project is registered on the site, citizens looking for service opportunities will have the opportunity to sign up to support your efforts.

You might also want to link your municipal website to that page, allowing your citizens to access information on Dr. King’s life and work, in addition to links to service opportunities in your area.

Dr. King said, “Life’s most persistent and urgent question is ‘What are you doing for others?’”

The MLK National Day of Service can help us to begin to provide an answer. **Contact:** Jon Moran, Sr. Legislative Analyst, jmoran@jslom.org, 609-695-3481 x121.

b. FCC Seeks Comment on Wireless Facility Siting in the Right of Way

On December 22, 2016, the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) released a notice seeking comment on “potential Commission action to help expedite the deployment [of] next generation wireless infrastructure by providing guidance on how federal law applies to local

government review of wireless facility siting applications and local requirements for gaining access to the right of way.” A copy of this notice can be found [here](#).

I am pleased to let you know that the FCC has granted the motion of our national affiliate, the National League of Cities (NLC) and the new initial commenting deadline is now **March 8, 2017**, with a reply comment deadline of **April 8, 2017**. This extension gives us valuable time to gather information from cities on what the situation is in their communities.

This is a very important regulatory proceeding that will affect local government authority. Strong and factually based comments are necessary as a counterweight to proposals that would limit home rule.

For background on this issue, please click [here](#), for a white paper written by the League’s Bureau of Municipal information. In addition, on January 30, we will be hosting a webinar on this issue. Click [here](#) for more information on the webinar.

Contact: Edward Purcell, Esq., Staff Attorney, epurcell@njslom.org, 609-695-3481 x137. **III.**

101st Annual Conference Recap

a. Conference CEUs

You can now download the certificates for the CEUs you’ve earned at the Annual League Conference. For full information and instructions visit <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/300/Conference>

IV. Order the 2016-2017 Primer for Elected Officials

Whether you are a veteran or newly elected mayor or councilmember, the Primer for Elected Officials provides the basic information needed to carry out the responsibility of governing. It contains an updated directory of services provided by the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, a guide to Titles 40 and 40A of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated, and an up-to-the minute listing of State Agencies and the legislative priorities for the upcoming year.

See our web page for an order form: <https://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/259>. Alternatively, contact Suzanne Allen, at 609- 695-3481, ext. 129 or via email at sallen@njslom.com. The investment for members is \$20.00 and for non-members, \$30.00. **It is a necessary guide!**

V. Also of Interest

a. January Calendar Reminders

- **JAN. 20:** President-elect Donald Trump is inaugurated.
- **JAN 23:** First voting sessions of 2017 for state Senate and Assembly

b. Help other municipalities find vendors, while helping to support the League’s magazine

Have you recently worked with a vendor and think that other municipalities could benefit from their services? Please tell your vendor about the League’s magazine, ***NJ Municipalities!***

NJ Municipalities is an award winning monthly magazine read by over 6,355 readers. It has been a local government news source for over 100 years, and is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2017!

Advertising can help spread your vendor’s message! Let us know your vendor’s contact information so that we can send them a free sample.

Thank you for your support of NJLM!

Contact: Taran B. Samhammer, Advertising Manager, tsamhammer@njslom.org, 609- 6953481, x124.

c. Initiative from NJ Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness!

The tragic lesson we learned in the wake of attacks around the world and here at home is that smaller venues where the public gathers—which have limited security and free movement—are often targets of choice for terrorists.

With the premise that homeland security begins with hometown security, we have partnered with DHS and local law enforcement on a program designed to train and educate “Main Street” owner-operators of public gathering facilities like restaurants, nightclubs, cafes, theaters, stores, and entertainment facilities. The result is a bottom-up approach to security and community preparedness, helping to increase community resilience, readiness, and security in municipalities and small businesses across New Jersey.

Want to host a workshop in your town or county?

Visit www.njohsp.gov/hometownsecurity or contact preparedness@njohsp.gov

d. Snow Removal & Disposal Policy

Severe weather season is here and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is reminding municipalities of the State's policy for proper Snow Removal and Disposal.

Municipalities are reminded, before and after a storm, to clear any blockages caused by snow and debris from storm drain catch basins. These efforts are especially important to help prevent localized flooding that may result from melting snow and heavy rain. Please be sure to use appropriate precautions when attempting to clear any stormwater related infrastructure. The up-to-date policy can be found [here](#).

e. Register Now for a Chance to Connect With Your Legislative Leaders

Register now for a chance to connect with your legislative leaders at the 25th Annual Mayor's Legislative Day on February 8, 2017.

The Mayors' Legislative Day is unique occasion for local leaders to interact with individuals who are responsible for setting the agenda for **Property Tax Reform, Affordable Housing, Pension and Health Benefits Reform, Transportation and Utility Issues**. It is also a great way to hear, first hand, about the State's legislative agenda from the Governor, Administration officials and key members of the Senate and Assembly.

Confirmed Speakers for this event are:

- Mayor Albert B. Kelly, Mayor, Bridgeton City, League President,
- Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Charles Richman
- Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bob Martin
- Department of Transportation Chief of Staff John Case
- Moderator: Matthew Friedman, Reporter for Politico,
- Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney
- Assembly Speaker Vincent Prieto
- Assemblyman Jon M. Bramnick
- Senator Thomas H. Kean, Jr
- Mayor James L. Cassella, Mayor, Borough of East Rutherford, League 1st Vice President
- Mayor Colleen Mahr, Mayor, Borough of Fanwood, League 2nd Vice President
- Mayor James Perry, Mayor, Township of Hardwick, League 3rd Vice President

Following the Legislative and Commissioners Panel, is the 19th Annual Elected Officials Hall of Fame and a tour of the Statehouse.

For more information about this program please click the following link: <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/799/Seminar-and-Webinar-Handouts>

If you have any other questions regarding this event, please contact Danielle Holland from the League office at, 609-695-3481 ext. 118.

Contact: Danielle Holland, Seminar Manager, dholland@njslom.org, 609- 695-3481, x118.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Darcy, CAE
Executive Director