



NEW JERSEY CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
CONFERENCE COMPENDIUM

June 2023

POST ANNUAL CONFERENCE EDITION



*Building Stronger Communities
Through Positive Connections*

116 West State St., 1st Floor • Trenton, NJ 08608 • T: 609-989-9216 F: 609-989-9595 • njcm@njcm.org • www.njcm.org

Words In Action: To provide a unified approach and open line of communication to our State and Federal Legislatures and Administrations that reflects the will of the people of the great State of New Jersey and works to improve the health and well being of all its residents.



OPEN HOUSE & ribbon cutting

THURSDAY, JUNE 22, 2023

1 pm-6 pm
Ribbon Cutting 4 pm

AT OUR NEW HEADQUARTERS

116 WEST STATE ST.
FIRST FLOOR
TRENTON, NJ 08608

Light refreshments will be served.

Stop by and see our new headquarters; join us for the ribbon cutting ceremony, and enjoy the opportunity to visit with your fellow Mayors, Business Council members and Legislators.

Please RSVP
info@njcm.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Mayors,

I first became Mayor of Bethlehem Township in Hunterdon County in 2013, and now 10 years later, I am proud and enthusiastic to serve as your President of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors. I always strive to provide the best results in all the roles I apply myself to, especially as Mayor. The first place I went to learn more about being a Mayor was the New Jersey Conference of Mayors. I expected to learn about how to guide my Township Committee through the budget process, better understand how state legislation impacts my municipality, and how to best control property taxes, among other topics. I guarantee you that I did learn much about these topics and many more, but I also learned something much more significant...I learned about the power of connection.

I found Mayors willing to share their stories, their experiences, and their knowledge in ways I never expected. I found Mayors, regardless of party, open to collaboration with a true understanding that by working together as Mayors we all serve our communities better. The connections I made with these Mayors allowed me to take the technical knowledge gained from our panels and events and bring my impact to an even higher level. This is the essence and the true differentiation of what the Conference of Mayors is to each of us. To serve as Mayor is to place yourself in the front line of service, and it is an experience nobody other than another Mayor will ever understand. We, as the Conference of Mayors, stand as a group in shared understanding and shared experiences.

The connection between Mayors is the key, but our success is not something that we arrive at alone. Mayors work with a strong network of professionals which include municipal attorneys, planners, engineers, government-focused banks, utility companies and many more businesses that allow Mayors to deliver upon their commitment to their communities. These professionals and businesses are integral partners within our Conference of Mayors. They provide valuable guidance and work within our communities to deliver valuable services, and often those connections were first fostered through the New Jersey Conference of Mayors.

This year our focus as an organization will be on Building Stronger Communities Through Positive Connections. This will be a twofold approach. Connections with the professionals and businesses that help Mayors deliver services to their communities. Most importantly connections between Mayors, connecting with each other to advocate on legislation, work with State and Federal leadership, and connecting to share information. The connections built by the New Jersey Conference of Mayors are powerful, lasting, and will help us all deliver on the promise we made to build stronger communities around us!

Mayor Paul Muir
Bethlehem Township
President, NJ Conference of Mayors





THE 58TH ANNUAL MAYOR'S CONFERENCE

More than 300 participants over the course of the three days attended NJCM's 58th Annual Conference.

Paul Muir, Mayor of Bethlehem Township was sworn in on Wednesday night at the Board of Directors Annual Meeting and dinner by Congressman Tom Kean, Jr. Our new executive Board and Board of Directors were also sworn in during the annual meeting. We welcome them to the Board and look forward to working with them.

We were honored once again to have Governor Phil Murphy attend our Grand Luncheon as our keynote speaker. The Governor premiered a video of his Liquor license proposal as part of his remarks. President Muir presented the Arthur Ondish Award of Merit to retiring Senate Minority Leader Steve Oroho for his many years of service to the state of New Jersey.

Over the course of the three days, the NJCM offered informative panels on a host of subjects, including affordable housing, resilience planning, and economic development and redevelopment. We offered a new panel this year which focused on tools and tips for new mayors. This popular panel was also appreciated by veteran mayors who picked up a tip or two from their fellow mayors who presented on the panel. We had wonderful representation from our business council and business community as exhibitors and sponsors of many of our panels and programs. Presentations given by the panelists can be found on the NJCM website.

It was especially great to see everyone in person and have the opportunity to catch up and be together to celebrate as Mayors. We will be setting up future programs and opportunities to continue to learn, network and help support our communities.

Thank you for your support and involvement.

58TH NJCM ANNUAL MAYOR'S CONFERENCE • WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 2023



The 58th Annual Spring Conference opened with a new panel – *New Mayors Guide to Success* facilitated by Mayor Kristine Morieko of Glen Rock. Speakers offered tools and strategies that can be used by Mayors to help govern more effectively, efficiently and expertly. The session was designed to help mayors feel empowered to operate their towns with expertise and knowledge. The panelists also included some tips for current mayors. The Panelists included Mayors Shelley Brindle, Westfield Town, Jason Cilento, Dunellen Borough, Ted Green East Orange City, Paul Kanitra, Point Pleasant Beach and Lou Manzo, Harrison Township. Each offered suggestions from their vast experience on what has worked for them as well as things to avoid. The well attended session generated some great discussions and opportunities for mayors in attendance to ask questions and provide some tips of their own.

The day concluded with the Mayors and Exhibitor Reception, sponsored by Atlantic City Electric an Exelon Company and the Annual Board of Directors and Business Council Dinner meeting. Mayor Paul Muir, Bethlehem Township was sworn in as our new President along with the new Board of Directors. Congratulations to Mayor Muir and the newly elected Board of Director Members. Additionally, Assemblyman John DiMaio received the NJCM Award of Service for his ongoing support and advocacy of the NJCM and the state's Mayors. We are thankful for your support of the NJCM and look forward to working with you in the coming year. We are thankful to the Assemblyman for his support of the NJCM and look forward to working with you in the coming year.

Mayor of Hope Tim McDonough was honored for his many years of service to the NJCM as a dedicated member, Chair of the Legislative Committee, and Mayor Janice S. Mironov also was honored for her service as the Immediate Past President of NJCM.



58TH NJCM ANNUAL MAYOR'S CONFERENCE • WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 2023



58TH NJCM ANNUAL MAYOR'S CONFERENCE • THURSDAY APRIL 13, 2023



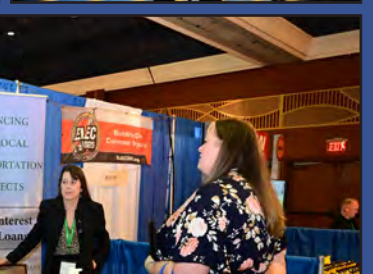
The NJCM President and Officers cut the ribbon early Thursday morning officially kicking off the start of the 58th Annual Spring Conference. Thursday was our busiest day beginning with a productive and interesting discussion at the Legislative Committee meeting. Topics of interest that Mayors requested be added to the NJCM legislative agenda are: Reinstatement of Energy Tax Receipts; Affordable Housing, and OPRA. The committee meeting was immediately followed by a Legislative Leadership Panel that included Assembly Speaker Craig Coughlin, Assembly Minority Leader John DiMaio, Senator Bob Smith, and Senate Republican Leader Steven V. Oroho. Moderated by Mayor Janice Mironov, East Windsor, discussion topics ranged from Pension costs, Affordable Housing, Health Benefits, Planning and Zoning to restoration of Energy Tax Receipts and the state budget. During the session, Mayor Mironov presented Senator Bob Smith, chair of the Energy and Environment Committee with an NJCM Service Award for his many years of support of the NJCM and working on behalf of the mayors in New Jersey.

The highlight of the day was the Grand Luncheon sponsored by New Jersey American Water. The luncheon opened with a Color Guard Salute led by the New Jersey State Police Honor Guard followed by a rousing rendition of the National Anthem sung by Donnah Lisa Campbell. Governor Phil Murphy gave the Keynote address and introduced his proposal for liquor license reform during his presentation. Retiring Senator Steven V. Oroho received the NJCM Arthur Ondish Award of Merit for his many years of exemplary service to the people of New Jersey.

Immediately following the luncheon, round table one on one conversations with the Governor's Cabinet members were held so that mayors were able to bring up specific topics of concern to decision makers. A panel on Environmental Regulatory Challenges moderated by Mayor Jackie Veasy, Evesham Township and Economic Development and Redevelopment led by Mayor Dean Dafis, Maplewood Township rounded out the afternoon. A general Mayors and Business Council reception sponsored by FirstNet built with AT&T closed the fun and informative day.



58TH NJCM ANNUAL MAYOR'S CONFERENCE • THURSDAY APRIL 13, 2023



58TH NJCM ANNUAL MAYOR'S CONFERENCE • FRIDAY APRIL 14, 2023



The final day of the Spring Conference opened with a sit down breakfast and the traditional Mayors door prize giveaways. NJ American Water held a drawing giving away three \$1000 checks to the Charity of Choice. The lucky winners were Mayor Erland Chau, Northfield, Mayor Carolyn Blackman, Town of Dover, and Mayor Victor Carstarphen, City of Camden.

This year the NJCM added a new panel during the breakfast gathering called: *Hearing From Big City Mayors*, facilitated by President Paul Muir, Mayor Bethlehem Township. The panel included: Mayors Steven Fulop, Jersey City, Marty Small, Atlantic City, Reed Guscoria, Trenton City, and Vic Carstarphen,, Camden. They discussed the unique challenges facing big city mayors as well as the many obligations and challenges they share with all mayors regardless of a communities size and population. Retiring Assemblyman Daniel Benson LD-14 received an NJCM Award of Merit for his years of service in the state legislature. The conference concluded with a panel session on Affordable Housing moderated by NJCM First Vice President Mayor Robert Conley, Madison Borough.





NJCM Officers & Staff

President

Mayor Paul Muir, Bethlehem Township

Vice Presidents

Mayor Robert H. Conley, Borough of Madison,
First Vice President

Mayor Jason F. Cilento, Borough of Dunellen,
Second Vice President

Mayor Kristine Morieko, Borough of Glen Rock,
Third Vice President

Mayor David L. Fried, Robbinsville Township,
Fourth Vice President

Immediate Past President

Mayor Janice S. Mironov,
East Windsor Township

Presidents Appointee

Mayor Michael Stanzilis,
Borough of Mount Arlington

Mayor Emeritus Chair

Suzanne Walters, Stone Harbor

Executive Director

Kerry Kirk Pflugh

Operations Manager

Mary Zajack

NJCM Legislative Committee

Mayor Timothy McDonough,
Hope Township, Chair

Mayor Deborah Buzby-Cope,
Bass River, Co-Chair

Attorneys

Steven S. Glickman, Esq.,
General / Labor Counsel

William J. Caruso, Esq., Legislative Counsel

Legislative Consultant

Paul Bent

Save the Date!

Wednesday May 15 - Friday May 17, 2024

Hard Rock HOTEL & CASINO

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Mission Statement

To provide a unified approach and an open line of communication to our State and Federal Legislatures and Administrations that reflects the will of the people of the great State of New Jersey and works to improve the health and well being of all its residents.

The New Jersey Conference of Mayors was founded in 1963 by a group of leading Mayors who believed their collective voices should be heard in Trenton and Washington. As front-line soldiers in communities across the State, the founding Mayors were interested in each others activities and chose to find common ground on issues impacting their residents. NJCM has since become the largest statewide Mayors organization in our Nation to exclusively represent the interests of Mayors to the State and Federal Legislatures and Administrations.