

# Mayor's Newsline



May 2014

## IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

- May 9- [A Review of the Open Public Records Act, Galloping Hill Golf Course, Kenilworth](#)
- May 15- Peace Officers Memorial Day
- May 26- Memorial Day
- June 13- [NJLM Mini Conference, Conference Center at Mercer, West Windsor](#)
- June 17- [Energy 101-Bloustein School at Rutgers, New Brunswick](#)
- June 20- [A Review of the Open Public Records Act, Deptford Recreational Building, Woodbury](#)

- ✓ 2% Interest Arbitration Cap
- ✓ New White Paper
- ✓ Peace Officers Day
- ✓ Mini Conference
- ✓ Energy 101
- ✓ 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference Housing
- ✓ NJ Municipalities Magazine New Look
- ✓ NJDOT Complete Streets
- ✓ Follow NJLM on Social Media

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*By Suzanne Walters, President*

As you scrutinize your municipal and school budgets keep in mind that education should not stop after graduation.

The League web site is an excellent starting point for all your municipal staff information needs. On the [Calendar of Events](#) you can find seminars on multiple topics including Ethics, OPRA, Energy Issues, and many more.

In the [list of publications](#) you can find books, surveys, directories, and white papers that help you maintain your municipal reference library.

The web site home page hosts video clips explaining hot topics and many [resource centers](#) covering the wide range of municipal issues.

There are [classified ads](#) and a page with a list of [useful links](#) to other sites.

There is even a page containing all the [quarterly reports on League activities](#) to help you answer the question "What has the League done for me lately?"

And, you can also follow the League on [Twitter](#) and "like" the League on [Facebook](#)

The League encourages all local officials to access the resources of the League!

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**LEAGUE JOINS THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR IN SUPPORT OF THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE 2 % INTEREST ARBITRATION CAP**

*-Contact Lori Buckelew at ext. 112 or [lbuckelew@njslom.com](mailto:lbuckelew@njslom.com)*

On April 14, 2014 League President Suzanne Walters, Mayor of Stone Harbor, and League Management Reform Chair, Wilda Diaz, Mayor of Perth Amboy and President of the Urban Mayors Association joined other local and county officials, State Legislators, the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor in urging the General Assembly to reconvene and reinstate the 2% cap on binding interest arbitration awards.

In her remarks, League President Walters noted that "We all depend on the service of our police, firefighters and first responders, and greatly respect and admire their service. But we also respect and admire the service of all public employees, and a failure to extend the cap on interest arbitration will force local budget makers to make deep cuts in services. The Interest Arbitration cap is about budgeting within our means, keeping a control on local taxes and providing a level playing field at the bargaining table. We call on the Assembly to return to Trenton as soon as possible and approve the extension of the interest arbitration cap."

It has been over a month since the Governor conditionally vetoed and the State Senate immediately approved the bill extending the 2% cap on interest arbitration awards. The League supports the Governor's recommendations and Senate's action to advance the interest arbitration reform. Questions on this legislation can be directed to either Lori Buckelew at 609-695-3481 x 112 or [lbuckelew@njslom.com](mailto:lbuckelew@njslom.com) or Mike Cerra at 609-695-3481 x120 or [mcerra@njslom.com](mailto:mcerra@njslom.com).

**NEW WHITE PAPER ON NJLM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION WEBPAGE**

*-Contact Michael Cerra at ext. 120 or [mcerra@njslom.com](mailto:mcerra@njslom.com)*

The 21st White paper in NJLM Foundation's "Friends of Local Government" Policy Paper series is now available on the League's Educational Foundation Website. This new paper, is entitled, "New Legal Tools for Redevelopment."

The paper is drawn from presentations at the 2014 New Jersey Planning Conference hosted by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association ([www.njplanning.org](http://www.njplanning.org)) and written by Joe Mariziti and Anton Lendor. The PowerPoint was contributed by Stan Slachetka.

Please click the following link to access this white paper: [http://www.njlmef.org/policy-papers/FoLG\\_v6\\_1.pdf](http://www.njlmef.org/policy-papers/FoLG_v6_1.pdf)

Any questions on this or previous white papers may be directed to Mike Cerra at 609-695-3481 ext. 120 or [mcerra@njslom.com](mailto:mcerra@njslom.com)

**PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY MAY 15**

Since 1962, Peace Officers Memorial Day is held annually in the United States on May 15 in honor of federal, state and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty. It is observed in conjunction with Police Week. While it is not a public holiday, many communities hold memorial services and fly the flag at half staff. A national memorial service is held in Washington, DC on May 15.

**NJLM MINI CONFERENCE OFFERS LICENSED OFFICIALS A CHANCE TO EARN UP TO 8 CEU CREDITS IN ONE DAY!**

*-Contact Danielle Holland-Htut at 118 or [dholland@njslom.com](mailto:dholland@njslom.com)*

On June 13, 2014, at the Conference Center at Mercer in West Windsor, the League will offer its Annual Mini One Day Conference. This event will feature about 10 educational sessions on a wide range of topics including OPRA, Ethics, Elections, Licensing, Foreclosures, and Technology to name a few. Most Attendees will be able to earn 8 CEU credits in one day. To learn more about this program and the credits that are offered please visit the following link: <http://www.njslom.org/seminars/2014-miniconference/>

## **NJLM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION OFFERS PROGRAM ON “ENERGY 101”**

-Contact Michael Cerra at ext. 120 or [mcerra@njslom.com](mailto:mcerra@njslom.com)

The NJLM Educational Foundation in partnership with Rutgers Center for Energy, Economics, and Environmental Policy (CEEPEP) and the State Board of Public Utilities (BPU) is producing this special full day event to educate the public and policy makers on New Jersey's energy infrastructure.

“Energy 101” will be an introductory lesson in the basics of energy. The program will discuss how electricity is generated and distributed and how aggregation works. It will also discuss storm response and resiliency measures that municipalities can implement. In addition, there will discussion about programs and planning that benefit counties, municipalities and consumers. This Foundation event will bring together business and local officials and community leaders to create an understanding of energy policy. This day will include a light lunch.

Topics of discussion will include: energy infrastructure, government energy aggregation, storm response, and distributed generation and BPU programs.

Registration is \$35.00 and comes with a copy of the NJLM publication “**An Energy Policy Primer for New Jersey Municipalities**”. For additional details and registration information please click the link: <http://www.njlmef.org/061714-Energy101.html>

## **99<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE HOUSING FORMS COMING**

-Contact Dee Kotch ext. 115 or [dkotch@njslom.com](mailto:dkotch@njslom.com)

Municipal housing forms for the 99th Annual Conference will be mailed to all Municipal Clerks in early June. Non-municipal forms will be available in the June issue of *New Jersey Municipalities* magazine. Be sure to get your housing requests in early to help ensure your requirements get first consideration.

## **NEW JERSEY MUNICIPALITIES HAS A NEW LOOK!**

The League's official monthly magazine, *New Jersey Municipalities* has been completely redesigned with an improved layout and new features. Changes include the new NJ Now section, previously the long-running Garden Statements column. This new section includes helpful information for the busy municipal official. A new NJLM Events page has been added on the last page of the magazine, alerting readers to upcoming League events and seminars. The magazine will now feature an NJ Focus section in each issue to focus on a key municipal issue. *NJ Municipalities* is available in print and digital format on a subscription basis. Visit [njslom.org/magazine](http://njslom.org/magazine) or [njmmagazine.org](http://njmmagazine.org) for information.

## **NJDOT COMPLETE STREETS IMPLEMENTATION ASSISTANCE**

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) has been recognized as a national leader for advancing Complete Streets policies, which promote safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and other users of New Jersey roadways. NJDOT has a useful Complete Streets resources web page <http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/eng/completestreets/>. It includes resources, implementation, success stories, helpful links and more.

## **MEMBER BENEFIT – FOLLOW NJLM ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

In effort to improve our communication, NJLM is now utilizing social media as a resource in keeping our membership well informed. Members may now follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Please take advantage of these resources and follow us online to receive important updates, seminar announcements and up to the minute changes and information on legislative events.

This November, follow us while attending our Annual Conference in Atlantic City to receive up to the minute updates on bus schedules, session room changes and other important information.

Find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/njleague](http://www.facebook.com/njleague). Follow us on Twitter [@nj\\_league](https://twitter.com/nj_league).