

July 12, 2017

Re: Daily Update

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I. Legislative Alert, Call to Action

We need your help. Please reach out to the Governor on these two bills supported by the League and municipalities across the State.

- [A-222/S-2171](#), the "New Jersey Library Construction Bond Act." This legislation would authorize, upon voter approval, the issuance of \$125,000,000 in general obligation bonds to finance capital projects at public libraries and appropriates \$5,000. If approved by the voters, this will provide funding for the much needed construction, reconstruction, development, extension, improvement and furnishing of New Jersey's public libraries. Specifically, for any approved project financed by bond proceeds, the grant award will support 50% of the cost of the project, and the appropriate local governing entity in the area served by the public library will support 50% of the cost of the project. [Please click here for the League's Town Crier Legislative Blog and more on A222/S-2171.](#)
- [A-4587/S-2574](#), imposes State sales and use tax and hotel and motel occupancy fee on transient accommodations; and, authorizes various municipal taxes and fees on transient accommodations. When the current relevant statutes were adopted, the concept of a "sharing economy" was certainly not contemplated. In this new era of sharing economies, transient accommodations are becoming more common place, but are not subject to the same various sales and use taxes as hotels and motels. As a result transient accommodations are potentially receiving an unfair competitive advantage over traditional hotels and motels. It is the League's contention that this is not a new tax, but rather the logical extension of the existing statutes. A-4587 provides tax parity in the accommodation market place by taking into account the sharing economies and appropriately provides additional revenues for municipalities. Further, we note that the major player in the industry, AirBnB, also supports this legislation. [Please click here for the League's Town Crier Legislative blog and more on A-4587/S2574.](#)

Please contact the Governor's office (609-292-6000 or by [clicking here](#)) and ask him to sign these two bills into law.

II. Scope of OPRA exemption limited by NJ Supreme Court

On July 11, 2017, the NJ Supreme Court issued its ruling in [North Jersey Media Group, Inc., v. Township of Lyndhurst, et al.](#) and determined that police dash camera footage of a deadly police involved shooting must be disclosed in accordance with the common law right to access, and that unredacted Use of Force Reports containing the names of the officers involved with the shooting must be disclosed under OPRA.

To read more about this decision please [click here](#) to see our recent post in our Town Crier Blog.

III. Renew Today

Don't forget to send in your renewals for subscriptions to NJ Municipalities Magazine. The print edition provides 9 must-keep issues filled with the latest municipal information and features. The digital edition option offers access to the magazine's digital bookshelf with current issues as well as the complete digital archive. Either or both will keep municipal officials informed all year long.

Please contact Subscription Manager Tom Fratticcioli at tfratticcioli@njslom.org or 609-6953481, Ext. 117.

IV. Save the Date(s)

As the summer slips by, the 102nd Annual League Conference is rapidly approaching. To help you plan for the event scheduled for November 14-16 in Atlantic City, here are a few important dates to save:

- August 1: Delegate pre-registration opens at <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/302/2017-Conference> August 31: NJLM Meal function forms available at <http://nj-njslom.civicplus.com/302/2017-Conference> for printing
- October 4: Download Day for Conference App. Download NJLM Conference from your device's app store.
- October 6: Resolution Submission Deadline. Contact League Assistant Executive Director Mike Cerra, mcerra@njlsom.org for more information.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Darcy, CAE
Executive Director

