



New Jersey State League
of Municipalities



Member Benefits & Services

Your partnership in good local
government since 1915

Advocacy

Information

Support

Since 1915, municipal officials have received assistance from the New Jersey State League of Municipalities in dealing with local government affairs. The League is a non-profit, voluntary association of municipal governments.

Whether you are serving your community in an elected or appointed capacity, we can make your job easier.

Your League staff is always available to answer questions on all aspects of local government. The League was created to serve local officials; it is your organization. The membership dues, which your municipality pays, entitle you to use the League's information services. Take advantage of your membership.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

At Work in Trenton

Whether your municipality has a population of 300 or 300,000, it has a major stake in legislative deliberations in Trenton. Consequently, an important League priority is the defense of home rule autonomy. Every bill pending before the Legislature that might affect localities is evaluated by the League's 100-member Legislative Committee, and aggressively opposed or supported by the League's lobbying team in concert with local officials around the state.

Timely Updates

The League's position on the respective measures, which exceeds 2,000 in the average session, is reported to officials in every community through the LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN. Alerts and timely updates are provided to League Members through letters, emails, and faxes. A quick telephone call or email will get you up-to-the-minute status reports on pending legislations, copies of bills or laws, and general background data on any legislative matter.



To subscribe to the Legislative Bulletin
visit njlm.org/345/Legislative-Bulletin



**The League has a
long-established
reputation as an
articulate advocate
for municipal
interests.**

Advocacy

LEGAL DEPARTMENT

Counsels

General Counsel William Kearns, Jr., Esq., of Helmer, Conley & Kasselman in Willingboro, heads the League of Municipalities' Legal Department with Deputy Counsel Trishka Waterbury Cecil, Esq., of Mason, Griffin & Pierson.

Amicus Curae

The League Amicus Committee considers requests from League members to file for amicus curae status in cases of statewide importance that have reached the Appellate level.

The League has argued as amicus curiae in cases before the Council on Local Mandates, and can bring complaints before the Council if petitioned by two or more municipalities.

The League retains 28 additional assistant and associate counsels, experts in many fields of municipal law, including environmental issues, labor relations, land use, taxation, and bonding.

Legal Consultation Service

The League's legal department is situated at the confluence of many important legal and policy areas and is an excellent resource for municipal attorneys. While our legal department cannot be a replacement for a town's municipal attorney, a legal consultation service for municipal attorneys is directed by the League's Staff Attorney who can be reached at 609-695-3481, Ext. 137.

- **Please note:** This service does not offer "second opinions" or alternatives to your municipal attorney, who should be your primary source of legal advice.

➡ For more information, contact the Staff Attorney at Ext. 137



NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES

On Federal issues that impact municipalities, the League works in concert with the National League of Cities (NLC).



Legislative activities include:

- Communicating with Congress and the administration about policies.
- Testifying at Congressional hearings to inform legislators about the impact of specific bills on cities and towns.
- Informing local officials about pending actions in Washington with implications for cities and towns.
- Organizing grassroots lobbying activities to ensure that the local voice is heard in Washington.



For direct NLC membership information, call 202-626-3190 or visit nlc.org

NLC represents the interest of cities and towns in Washington by advocating for the positions established by local elected officials in the National Municipal Policy.

Information

BUREAU OF MUNICIPAL INFORMATION

The League offers a variety of services as part of its Bureau of Municipal Information.



Online

On the Bureau's website, njlm.org/bureau, resources and links provide timely information on local issues. Continually expanded and improved, the site provides information on everything from affordable housing to volunteer background checks.

Features include:

- Municipal Resource Centers
- League Services
- Legislative Advocacy
- New Jersey Facts
- Live Twitter Feed
- White Papers

It also includes a searchable library of ordinances and shared service agreements, as well as information on a variety of free consultation/advisory services.

Grant Resource Center

The League's Grant Resource Center contains news and information and the tools needed to tap into federal and state grants, corporate giving programs, and private foundations and universities. Each month the League highlights monthly grant opportunities and maintains a library of articles pertinent to researching funding possibilities. The Center also publishes funding announcements and news on its Grant News & Information page. Through a partnership with online funding resource GrantStation.com, we offer our members a discounted rate to conduct their grant searches via the company's database of available grant opportunities as well as tutorials.

**The Bureau maintains
the largest online
collection of ordinances
and sample shared
service agreements
in the State.**



Visit njlm.org/grants

ADVISORY SERVICES

Labor Relations Advisory Service

Help with your labor relations issues concerning:

- Unit recognition
- Unfair labor practices
- Grievance procedures and more



This service offers telephone inquiries and a column in *New Jersey Municipalities Magazine*.

Supplementary services are available for standard legal fees.



Contact the League at 609-695-3481, Ext. 137

Interlocal Services and Management Advisory Services

The Interlocal Advisory Center provides an excellent resource for accessing interlocal legislation, a searchable library of sample shared service agreements, and articles on initiating agreements in New Jersey.



For more information, visit njlm.org/interlocaladvisorycenter

**League members
have access to a
half-dozen free
advisory services on a
variety of municipal
operational areas.**

Information

nj municipalities

Official Publication of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities

With each issue of the League's magazine, busy local officials have a fresh, new source of ideas and information on state and local programs and projects.

Appealing to mayors, governing body members, and administrative and professional members of the municipal management team, subscribers receive the magazine nine times a year. Filled with articles that span the broad spectrum of local administration, both functionally and geographically, each issue contains material of interest to readers throughout the Garden State, providing information for rural, suburban, and urban communities.

Meaningful Content

The magazine's NJ Focus section shines the spotlight on the hottest topics that impact day-to-day life around the state, taking today's headlines and applying them to the municipal universe. Every issue also carries useful League information such as Legislative Updates, Legal columns, and Conference Connections to keep readers informed about upcoming meetings, announcements of training courses, and administrative directives from state agencies. Special sections address the issues that benefit communities and officials, including the annual Legislative Guide as well as the League Conference previews in June, October and November.



**NJ Municipalities
is available in both
print and digital format.
To subscribe, visit
njlm.org/subscriptions**

The award-winning publication is circulated to more than 6,355 local officials, state administrators, and libraries each month.

➡ The online bookshelf can be found at njmmagazine.org.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, SEMINARS, & WEBINARS

The changing demands on local government mean last year's knowledge may not apply to this year's problems. The complexity of new regulations and new opportunities sometimes demand an in-depth examination. That's where the league's professional development programs play a role. Some regularly scheduled topics include:

- Annual Mayors' Legislative Day
(with induction to the Elected Officials' Hall of Fame)
- Labor Relations Update
- Open Public Records Act (OPRA)
- Newly Elected Officials Orientation
- Annual Fiscal Update
- Ethics & Conflicts of Interest
- One-Day Mini Conference

 For more information or to suggest a new topic, visit njlm.org/seminars

LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS

The League provides publications and reference books on over 20 municipal issues. Print and digital publications are available for a modest fee. Some of the available titles include:

- Elected Officials' Handbook
- The Open Public Records Act
- Municipal Salary Survey
- Municipal Personnel Policies

 For more information, visit njlm.org/publications

Police & Fire Labor Contract Data Service

The League's Police and Fire Labor Contract Data service keeps track of trends in municipal police and fire contract settlements. This digital service includes data on police and fire salaries, police and fire contract provisions, and a quarterly Arbitration Newsletter.

 For costs and information, visit njlm.org/arbitrationcenter

Support

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The League's service program is a daily way of life, with a continuing exchange of information taking place throughout the year. One week is special, however—the week of the Annual Conference. Held traditionally every November in Atlantic City, the Conference is the time when more than 16,000 municipal officials, program participants, exhibitors, and guests merge into what is the Nation's largest municipal conference.

Something for Everyone

New and veteran officials with urban, suburban, and rural interests come to learn and discuss and comment. They attend workshops, panel discussions, and sessions sponsored by the League and its affiliate organizations.



Between sessions, Conference delegates have the opportunity to visit over 1,000 exhibits of governmental services, products, and equipment.

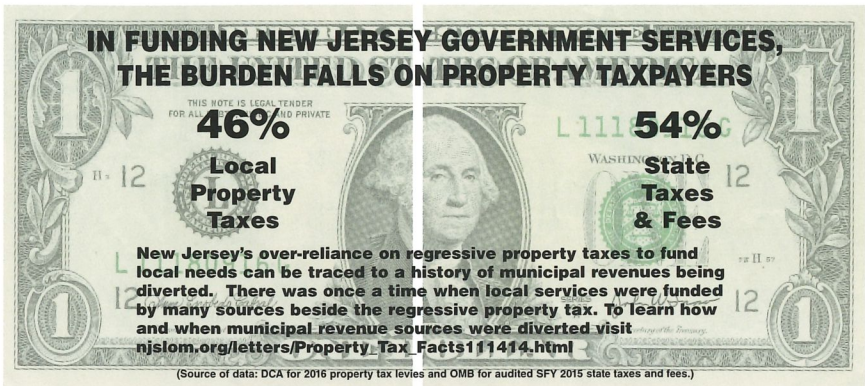
A tightly woven schedule of sessions is arranged, offering local officials timely answers to today's problems.

Throughout the year, League staff monitors the daily pulse of municipal affairs around the state with an eye to the program content of the Conference.



For more information, visit njlm.org

TAXPAYER'S DOLLAR



Demonstrating the Need for Property Tax Relief and Reform

Sometimes a single image says more than many words. We have produced plenty of arguments to support our ongoing struggle for property tax relief and reform. We and our member municipalities have passed resolutions. We and they have sent letters to our State leaders. Together, we have asked questions of candidates for Governor and the State Legislature. We have offered suggestions to those who have won office. Guest Editorials have appeared in all of New Jersey's major newspapers. And in audio and video interviews, we have clearly stated the case.

All of those tactics are important and will be used again. But, sometimes an image can move a heart more surely than a cogent argument can change a mind. We have updated our Taxpayer's Dollar to more clearly demonstrate the need for property tax relief and reform.

We hope this graphic depiction of New Jersey's chronic over-reliance on the property tax as a source of funding for vital public services will help ordinary citizens better understand the scope of our property tax problem.



If you have any questions or comments, contact Jon Moran at 609-695-3481, Ext. 121 or jmoran@njlm.org

KEEPING YOU CONNECTED



The League Website serves as an open repository and reference center for local government. Visit njlm.org for all correspondence sent by the League to its members, research papers, sample ordinances, event calendar, job listings, and much more.

You can also keep up with the League on social media via:



@njleague



@nj_league



@New Jersey League of Municipalities



<http://bit.ly/1P7GsVR>



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