

Re: Freehold Boro Extraordinary Funding

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 7/12/2021 8:05 PM

To: Rocco Tomazic <rtomazic@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; Joe Howe <jhowe@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; PCeppi@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <PCeppi@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; JamieC@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <JamieC@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; Pajensen@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <Pajensen@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; tjordan@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <tjordan@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; BPatrick@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <BPatrick@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; rreich@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <rreich@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; jsantonacita@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <jsantonacita@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; Steve Gallo <sgallo@freeholdboro.org>; Mike DiBenedetto <mdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; Sharon Shutzer <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>; George Schnurr <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; Annette Jordan <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; Margaret Rogers <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; Adam Reich <areich@freeholdboro.org>
Cc: Eric Houghtaling <ehough9554@optonline.net>; Joann Downey <joannldowney@gmail.com>; Davis, Dyese <ddavis@njleg.org>; Little, Tom <TLittle@njleg.org>

We expect that bill to actually help get more funding in S2 for free and reduced lunch and some other areas but waiting for it to come back.

Thank you all!

On Mon, Jul 12, 2021 at 8:04 PM Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com> wrote:

Good Evening:

We are pleased that the Senate President and Speaker has supported our proposal for the largest increase in extraordinary special education funding the state has ever seen.

Freehold Borough Schools received \$307,303 in 2021 and will receive \$474,877 in 2022.

We will continue to fight for as much funding as possible in the months and years ahead.

The Senate has also passed our bipartisan bill to publicly study all ends of the S2 formula to see what needs to be updated and modernized. We expect the Assembly to take up this bill shortly.

Reach out anytime if we can be helpful

Senator Vin Gopal

Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling

Assemblywoman Joann Downey

Freehold Boro Extraordinary Funding

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 7/12/2021 8:04 PM

To: Rocco Tomazic <rtomazic@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; Joe Howe <jhowe@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; PCEppi@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <PCEppi@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; JamieC@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <JamieC@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; Pajensen@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <Pajensen@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; tjordan@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <tjordan@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; BPatrick@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <BPatrick@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; rreich@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <rreich@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; jsantonacita@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us <jsantonacita@freeholdboro.k12.nj.us>; Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; Steve Gallo <sgallo@freeholdboro.org>; Mike DiBenedetto <mdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; Sharon Shutzer <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>; George Schnurr <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; Annette Jordan <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; Margaret Rogers <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; Adam Reich <areich@freeholdboro.org>
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Senator Vin Gopal
Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling
Assemblywoman Joann Downey

Masks

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Tue 10/6/2020 11:40 PM

To: Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; Annette Jordan <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; Margaret Rogers <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; Adam Reich <areich@freeholdboro.org>; George Schnurr <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org <mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; Sharon Shutzer <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>

 1 attachments (3 MB)

Mask 4.jpg;

My gift for you guys. How is the attached before i print a bunch for you?

Nonprofit Support

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 9/21/2020 4:07 PM

To: Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; Steve Gallo <sgallo@freeholdboro.org>; aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us <aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; Valesi, Peter <pvaluesi@twp.freehold.nj.us>; tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us <tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us>; Margaret Rogers <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us <lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us>; mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us <mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; George Schnurr <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; Mike DiBenedetto <mdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; Adam Reich <areich@freeholdboro.org>; Sharon Shutzer <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>; Annette Jordan <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us <awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us>
Cc: Joann Downey <joannldowney@gmail.com>; Eric Houghtaling <ehough9554@gmail.com>

Good afternoon,

I wanted to let you know that we successfully advocated for a number of Freehold area non-profits to receive money this year from the State of NJ through the Budget Process. We expect the announcement to come out this week. As you all know, these nonprofits are on the frontlines and and helps many people in our area, and funding dried up so we are excited to get them this help. We have notified the respective organizations. If you have any questions let us know

Vin, Eric & Joann

Stephanie Parze Foundation - \$25,000
Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide - \$25,000

Fwd: Appointment

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Fri 6/26/2020 1:53 PM

To: gschnurr@freeholdboro.org <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>

 1 attachments (72 KB)

3091_001.pdf;

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Vin Gopal** <vin@vingopal.com>

Date: Fri, Jun 26, 2020 at 1:51 PM

Subject: Appointment

To: Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>, Steve Gallo <sgallo@freeholdboro.org>, khiggins <KHiggins@redbanklaw.com>, Meg Thomann <megthomann@gmail.com>

Per my conversations with Mayor Kane, please see Governor Murphy's appointment to the 6 year long vacant Freehold Borough housing authority seat with Meg Thomann. Meg has worked in communications for many years and earned her B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross. She has kids that attend Freehold Borough High School and volunteers as the Democratic Chairwoman in Freehold Township.

Her e-mail is copied should you need it.

Thanks all and have a great weekend

NJ Clean Grants

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 6/15/2020 4:04 PM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

 1 attachments (215 KB)

Clean Communities - P29.pdf;

Please see attached.

For a complete list of municipal and county grant awards,
visit <https://www.njclean.org/images/grants/2020-FY-CC-Distribution.pdf>

Fwd: FW: Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) Available to Shore Resorts This Summer

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Sun 5/31/2020 9:08 PM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Gingerelli, Antoinette** <AGingerelli@njleg.org>

Date: Fri, May 29, 2020 at 7:25 PM

Subject: FW: Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) Available to Shore Resorts This Summer

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Cc: Davis, Dyese <DDavis@njleg.org>, Aislinn Brennan <aislinnbrennan6@gmail.com>

FYI

From: Banasiak, Paulina [mailto:Paulina.Banasiak@nj.gov]

Sent: Friday, May 29, 2020 6:21 PM

Good Evening,

Our office wanted to make sure you were aware of the below:

Subject: Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs) Available to Shore Resorts This Summer



Gurbir S. Grewal, Attorney General

For Immediate Release:

May 29, 2020

For Further Information Contact:

Peter Aseltine (609) 292-4791

**Attorney General Grewal Announces Measures to Increase Number of Special Law Enforcement Officers (SLEOs)
Available to Shore Resorts This Summer**

Links to AG Guidance and PTC Form:

http://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases20/AG-Guidance-for-SLEO-III-to-SLEO-II-at-Different-Agency_05.29.20.pdf

<http://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases20/MODIFIED-PTC-15-A-SLEO-III-to-SLEO-II-in-a-different-municipality-during-PHE.pdf>

TRENTON – As Shore resorts seek to augment their police forces with special officers for the busy summer season, Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal today issued guidance to law enforcement on a new expedited process that will allow special law enforcement officers who work in New Jersey's schools to be re-designated to perform general law enforcement duties as seasonal law enforcement officers in other municipalities.

The guidance is designed to help municipalities address law enforcement staffing issues caused by COVID-19, especially in those municipalities that see an influx of visitors during the summer months. This action is the latest step taken by Attorney General Grewal and the Police Training Commission (PTC), which establishes statewide standards for police officers, to ease the burden on local law enforcement agencies during the pandemic.

"We knew law enforcement resources would be stretched to the limit by this pandemic, not only because of officers being ill or quarantined, but because of the many new responsibilities imposed by this unprecedented emergency," said Attorney General Grewal. "Nonetheless, police across New Jersey have worked together, as they always do, to meet the challenges, and we are doing all that we can do at the state level to support their heroic efforts. I'm confident that the measures we have announced to address manpower issues – along with the recent re-opening of the police academies – will give our Shore communities the officers they need to ensure a safe and family-friendly summer season."

State law allows municipalities to hire "special law enforcement officers" (SLEO), who can perform certain functions for a police department but lack the full authorities of a typical law enforcement officer. The law establishes three categories: SLEO I officers, who handle routine traffic details, spectator control, and similar duties; SLEO II officers, who have full arrest authority but generally work on a part-time or seasonal basis; and SLEO III officers, who provide security at schools.

Generally speaking, law enforcement agencies must obtain approval from the PTC to transfer an officer from one category of SLEO to another. Earlier this year, the PTC created a program to streamline the transfer process, so long as the SLEO remained working in the same town. Today's guidance now makes it easier for SLEOs to transfer between municipalities as well, making it easier to deploy officers to the communities that need them most.

On March 16, AG Grewal issued guidance to law enforcement that encouraged the use of mutual aid agreements and SLEO IIs to address officer shortages caused by the pandemic. With that guidance, the Attorney General and PTC announced an expedited process through which a municipality or county could re-designate a SLEO III as a SLEO II, while retaining that officer in its employment.

The new guidance and process announced today adds a new dimension by allowing SLEO IIIs who are not working while schools are closed to change employers and serve as SLEO IIs in a different municipality or county, enabling Shore towns to recruit such officers from other parts of the state.

On April 6, AG Grewal announced additional measures to address police manpower issues caused by the COVID emergency, including steps to facilitate the hiring of retired officers as SLEO IIs.

Over the past two months, the PTC has re-designated over two hundred SLEO IIIs as SLEO IIs, and these officers have been supporting law enforcement operations throughout the state. However, there remain an estimated 200 SLEO IIIs who have not been converted by their employing agencies into SLEO IIs. The guidance issued by Attorney General Grewal today highlights that those remaining SLEO IIIs represent a significant pool of potential hires for Shore resorts, as do the many retired officers who can be hired on an expedited basis using the procedures put in place in April.

All police academies in New Jersey closed to on-site recruit training in March due to the pandemic. However, most academies continued to conduct whatever mandatory training could be performed remotely using virtual classrooms. Beginning in the second week of May, the Attorney General and PTC authorized partial re-openings of police academies, as academies

submitted plans to guarantee safe and healthy training environments consistent with the guidance of the New Jersey Department of Health, county health agencies, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Additional information regarding the expedited process for hiring of retired officers as SLEO IIs can be found with the Attorney General's press release at this link: <https://www.nj.gov/oag/newsreleases20/pr20200406b.html>

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[Unsubscribe](#)

Fwd: Bird Patroller

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Tue 5/19/2020 8:15 PM

To: bob sommer <bobsommer26@gmail.com>

 2 attachments (9 MB)

Bird Patroller Deck.pdf; Bird Patroller One-Pager.pdf;

If anyone is interested, contact Bob Sommer below. Interesting concept in our new Covid-19 world.

Contact **bob sommer** <bobsommer26@gmail.com>

Fwd: Coronavirus Relief Bonds Webinar

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Wed 5/6/2020 3:23 PM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

My bill in the Senate I am trying to move. Good to get on for tomorrow if free.

Vin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **NW Financial Group, LLC** <info@nwfinancial.com>

Date: Wed, May 6, 2020 at 9:57 AM

Subject: Coronavirus Relief Bonds Webinar

To: <vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com>

Upcoming Legislative Briefings on A-3971 for Coronavirus Relief Bonds

NW Financial's professionals will be one of many featured panelists on the New Jersey League of Municipalities (NJLM's) upcoming Legislative briefing on A-3971 for Coronavirus Relief Bonds.

As stated on the NJLM website, Mayors Keith Kazmark of Woodland Park, Colleen Mahr of Fanwood, and Matt Moench of Bridgewater invite you, your business administrators, and your chief financial officers to a panel discussion on prospective legislation (A-3971) that would permit counties and municipalities to issue Coronavirus Relief Bonds and Notes. This bill will be considered by the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee on Thursday, May 7.

Register today!

- May 6 – 12:00 noon - 1 p.m., Registration
- May 7 – 5:00 p.m.- 6 p.m. Registration

NW Financial Group, LLC | www.nwfinancial.com

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ook er dln

NW Financial Group, LLC | 2 Hudson Place, 3rd Floor, Hoboken, NJ 07030

[Unsubscribe vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com](mailto:vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [About Constant Contact](#)

Sent by info@nwfinancial.com in collaboration with



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Vin Gopal

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Follow me on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/senatorgopal/>

New Announcement from Governor and State Police FYI

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 4/27/2020 7:47 PM

To: Antoinette 'Toni' Gingerelli <tmgingerelli@gmail.com>; Davis, Dyese <ddavis@njleg.org>

Governor Murphy and Superintendent Callahan Announce Clarifications to List of Essential Businesses Permitted to Operate

Governor Phil Murphy and Superintendent of the State Police Colonel Patrick Callahan today announced an Administrative Order clarifying which businesses are permitted to operate and ways in which certain businesses may operate in accordance with Executive Order 107. The Administrative Order states the following:

- 1) Pet grooming businesses, pet daycare, and pet boarding businesses and 2) stores that principally sell items necessary for religious observation or worship shall be considered essential retail businesses.
- Car dealerships may permit customers that have ordered and/or purchased a vehicle online or by phone to test drive the vehicle at the time of pick-up or prior to delivery, provided the dealership adopts social distancing policies, the individual is given access to the vehicle alone, and the dealership appropriately cleans and sanitizes the vehicle after such test drive if the customer does not purchase the vehicle.
- Licensees, owners, operators, employees, or independent contractors of personal care services facilities are not permitted to provide personal care services in their own homes, the homes of others, or in any facility or business setting unless the individual personal care service provider is providing the service to their household members, immediate family or other individuals with whom the personal care service provider has a close personal relationship, such as those for whom the personal care service provider is a caretaker or romantic partner. A prior business relationship alone does not qualify as a close personal relationship.

"As long as my stay-at-home order remains in effect, we'll continue to provide New Jerseyans and our business community at-large with as much clarity as possible for any and all restrictions we've put in place," **said Governor Murphy**. "I thank everyone for doing their part to stay at home and maintain social distancing, which is the single most important thing we can do to beat this virus."

"We understand the challenges businesses face in these unprecedented times and the need to keep the economy operating," **said Colonel Patrick Callahan, Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police**. "These clarifications address the way certain businesses are permitted to operate, while adhering to the stay-at-home order and social distancing guidelines."

The Order will take effect immediately.

Re: Freehold

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 4/27/2020 6:01 PM

To: Traci Di Benedetto <tdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; sshutzer@freeholdboro.org <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>; mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org <mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; khiggins <KHiggins@redbanklaw.com>; Steve Gallo <sgallo@freeholdboro.org>; gschnurr@freeholdboro.org <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; ajordan@freeholdboro.org <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; mrogers@freeholdboro.org <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; areich@freeholdboro.org <areich@freeholdboro.org>; cdispenza@freeholdboro.org <cdispenza@freeholdboro.org>; aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us <aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us <lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us>; mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us <mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; Valesi, Peter <pvaluesi@twp.freehold.nj.us>; awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us <awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us>; tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us <tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us>; ftpd@twp.freehold.nj.us <ftpd@twp.freehold.nj.us>; policerecords@twp.freehold.nj.us <policerecords@twp.freehold.nj.us>; info@freeholdems.org <info@freeholdems.org>
Cc: Danielle Gianfrancesco <dgianfrancesco@eatontownnj.com>

Sorry pls see corrected amounts

Hi - For our next round of donations, we are making the below to your location:

25 KN95 Masks - Freehold Boro Police

10 Bottles of Sanitizer - Freehold Boro Police

25 KN95 Masks - Freehold Boro Fire Dept

5 Bottles of Sanitizer - Freehold Boro Fire Dept

10 KN95 Masks - Freehold Twp Police

50 Surgical Masks - Freehold Twp Police

20 Bottles of Sanitizer - Freehold Twp Police

75 KN95 Masks -Freehold First Aid

50 Surgical Masks - Freehold First Aid

5 Bottles of Sanitizer - Freehold First Aid

This can be picked up anytime this week between 12 and 4 from the Eatontown Police Department at 47 Broad Street. Please ask for Danielle.

Thank you for all you are doing and please stay safe.

Senator Vin Gopal

&

The Vin Gopal Civic Association

On Mon, Apr 27, 2020 at 5:59 PM Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com> wrote:

Hi - For our next round of donations, we are making the below to your location:

25 KN95 Masks - Freehold Boro Police

Sanitizer - Freehold Boro Police

25 KN95 Masks - Freehold Twp Police

Sanitizer - Freehold Twp Police

75 KN95 Masks -Freehold First Aid
50 Surgical Masks - Freehold First Aid
Sanitizer - Freehold First Aid

This can be picked up anytime this week between 12 and 4 from the Eatontown Police Department at 47 Broad Street. Please ask for Danielle.

Thank you for all you are doing and please stay safe.

Senator Vin Gopal
&
The Vin Gopal Civic Association

On Mon, Mar 30, 2020 at 5:56 PM Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com> wrote:
Good Afternoon,

On behalf of the Vin Gopal Civic Association, we are donating to the
Freehold Borough Police Department
Freehold Borough Fire Department
Freehold First Aid Squad
Freehold Township Police Department
the following items.

Freehold Borough PD - 25 KN95 Masks
Freehold Borough PD - 5 Bottles of Hand Sanitizer

Freehold Borough Fire Dept. - 25 KN95 Masks
Freehold Borough Fire Dept - 5 Bottles of Sanitizer

Freehold First Aid Squad - 75 KN95 Masks
Freehold First Aid Squad - 5 Bottles of Sanitizer

Freehold Twp Police Dept. - 60 Bottles of Sanitizer (they did not request masks but very much needed sanitizer)

This should be picked up tomorrow at
The Eatontown Police Department
47 Broad Street
Eatontown, NJ

on Tuesday March 31st between 12pm and 4pm.

I want to thank Chief Lucia of Eatontown for partnering with us on this. Pickup will be at the Police Department and you may ask for Danielle at Dispatch. We will continue to get more orders of PPE in, for future needs, please [click here](#) and we will try to continue to do future donations.

Thank you and stay safe

Vin

—

Senator Vin Gopal
Majority Conference Leader
11th Legislative District

Re: Freehold

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 4/27/2020 5:59 PM

To: Traci Di Benedetto <tdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; sshutzer@freeholdboro.org <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>; mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org <mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; khiggins <KHiggins@redbanklaw.com>; Steve Gallo <sgallo@freeholdboro.org>; gschnurr@freeholdboro.org <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; ajordan@freeholdboro.org <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; mrogers@freeholdboro.org <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; areich@freeholdboro.org <areich@freeholdboro.org>; cdispenza@freeholdboro.org <cdispenza@freeholdboro.org>; aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us <aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us <lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us>; mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us <mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; Valesi, Peter <pvaluesi@twp.freehold.nj.us>; awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us <awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us>; tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us <tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us>; ftpd@twp.freehold.nj.us <ftpd@twp.freehold.nj.us>; policerecords@twp.freehold.nj.us <policerecords@twp.freehold.nj.us>; info@freeholdems.org <info@freeholdems.org>
Cc: Danielle Gianfrancesco <dgianfrancesco@eatontownnj.com>

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Sanitizer - Freehold Boro Police

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Sanitizer - Freehold First Aid

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&
The Vin Gopal Civic Association

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Thank you and stay safe

Vin

Senator Vin Gopal

Majority Conference Leader

11th Legislative District

Re: Freehold

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Wed 4/8/2020 12:42 AM

To: Traci Di Benedetto <tdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; sshutzer@freeholdboro.org <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>; mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org <mbenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; khiggins <KHiggins@redbanklaw.com>; Steve Gallo <sgallo@freeholdboro.org>; gschnurr@freeholdboro.org <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; ajordan@freeholdboro.org <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; mrogers@freeholdboro.org <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; areich@freeholdboro.org <areich@freeholdboro.org>; cdispenza@freeholdboro.org <cdispenza@freeholdboro.org>; aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us <aammiano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us <lpreston@twp.freehold.nj.us>; mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us <mfasano@twp.freehold.nj.us>; Valesi, Peter <pvaluesi@twp.freehold.nj.us>; awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us <awalker@twp.freehold.nj.us>; tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us <tcook@twp.freehold.nj.us>; ftpd@twp.freehold.nj.us <ftpd@twp.freehold.nj.us>; policerecords@twp.freehold.nj.us <policerecords@twp.freehold.nj.us>; info@freeholdems.org <info@freeholdems.org>
Cc: Danielle Gianfrancesco <dgianfrancesco@eatontownnj.com>

We are getting a big order of hand sanitizer and gloves coming in. Do you need either?

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Eatontown, NJ

on Tuesday March 31st between 12pm and 4pm.

I want to thank Chief Lucia of Eatontown for partnering with us on this. Pickup will be at the Police Department and you may ask for Danielle at Dispatch. We will continue to get more orders of PPE in, for future needs, please [click here](#) and we will try to continue to do future donations.

Thank you and stay safe

Vin

—

Senator Vin Gopal
Majority Conference Leader
11th Legislative District

Fwd: New Jersey COVID-19 Update - March 23, 2020

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 3/23/2020 7:14 PM

To: gestes@njleg.org <gestes@njleg.org>; Gingerelli, Antoinette <agingerelli@njleg.org>

If you are not on our e-mail list, please e-mail gestes@njleg.org and he will add you.

Thanks,

Vin

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Senator Vin Gopal & Assembly Members Eric Houghtaling and Joann Downey**
<info@senatorgopal.com>

Date: Mon, Mar 23, 2020 at 5:18 PM

Subject: New Jersey COVID-19 Update - March 23, 2020

To: <vin.gopal.2008@gmail.com>

[View this email in your browser](#)

Monday, March 23, 2020

Dear Friend,

Here's our latest update on New Jersey's response to COVID-19 and further actions our state is taking to keep our communities safe. If you have any specific questions regarding COVID-19 or New Jersey's response, please submit them using our [Question Submission Form](#), and we will do our best to get back to you.

Sincerely,

New Website

Governor Phil Murphy announced the launch of the [New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub](#), a new, visitor-friendly website available at covid19.nj.gov.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub provides New Jerseyans with the most up-to-date information about COVID-19 and the State's response, including information about services such as food assistance and small business assistance.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub includes a COVID-19 Symptom Checker, so New Jerseyans can receive tailored advice depending on their symptoms, including information about testing. It will also increase the State's ability to analyze the spread of COVID-19.

The New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub is accessible via mobile phone and for those with disabilities. All the content is easily searchable via Google and other search engines so the information can be found widely and consistently.

[Click Here to Visit the COVID-19 Information Hub](#)

Unemployment Update

The state announced new rules for New Jersey residents seeking to file for [unemployment benefits](#). See the graphic above for more information.

Stay at Home Order & Closure of Businesses

Governor Murphy signed an executive order implementing a "stay at home" order throughout New Jersey. Under this order, all residents are to stay at home or at their place of residence unless they are leaving for the following reasons:

- Obtaining goods or services from essential retail businesses;
- Obtaining takeout or food beverages from restaurants;
- Seeking medical attention, essential social services, or assistance from law enforcement;

- Visiting family or close friends, caretakers, or romantic partners;
- Reporting to or performing their job;
- Walking, running, or engaging in outdoor activities with immediate family, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners;
- Leaving for an educational, religious, or political reason;
- Leaving because of a reasonable fear for health or safety; or
- Leaving at the direction of law enforcement or other government agency.

Governor Murphy's executive order further directs the closure of all non-essential retail businesses to the public, with the exceptions of:

- Grocery stores, farmer's markets and farms that sell directly to customers, and other food stores, including retailers that offer a varied assortment of foods comparable to what exists at a grocery store;
- Pharmacies and medical marijuana dispensaries;
- Medical supply stores;
- Gas stations;
- Convenience stores;
- Ancillary stores within healthcare facilities;
- Hardware and home improvement stores;
- Banks and other financial institutions;
- Laundromats and dry-cleaning services;
- Stores that principally sell supplies for children under five years;
- Pet stores;
- Liquor stores;
- Car dealerships, but only for auto maintenance and repair, and auto mechanics;
- Printing and office supply shops;
- Mail and delivery stores.

If you discover a business remaining open or violating another of Governor Murphy's executive orders, you can call 1-800-222-1222 or call 2-1-1 or text "NJ COVID" to 898211.

Volunteers Needed

Fulfill, Food Bank of Monmouth & Ocean Counties

Fulfill is working hard to get food and supplies to vulnerable Monmouth County families, but they can't do it alone. If you can volunteer to pack Crisis Relief Boxes for Fulfill, email vmartinez@fulfillnj.org. Thank you to everyone who's able to help!

Red Cross Blood Shortage

The American Red Cross is working to continue delivering its mission, including the collection of lifesaving blood, but they have had a staggering number of scheduled Red Cross blood drives cancelled as more workplaces, college campuses and other venues send people home and encourage social distancing. Disruptions to blood donations can lead to shortages and cause delays in essential medical care.

To learn more about hosting a blood drive for patients in need, please visit RedCrossBlood.org. If you know of a site where the Red Cross can host a blood drive, please contact 646-784-4824.

Those who are healthy, feeling well and eligible to give blood or platelets, are urged to make an appointment to donate as soon as possible by using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Latest Updates

Public Health

☑ As of today, we had 935 new positive COVID-19 cases, bringing our total to 2,844. A total county breakdown can be found at the [COVID-19 dashboard](#).

📍 Governor Phil Murphy announced the opening of a COVID-19 Community-Based Testing Site at Bergen Community College in Paramus. The drive-thru testing center will be open seven days per week, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. In order to be eligible for testing, individuals must be current New Jersey residents and experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness. Priority will be given to

symptomatic individuals experiencing cough, fever (99.6F or above) and shortness of breath.

 The Murphy Administration required hospitals and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) to waive patient fees for testing and related diagnostic services for those who lack health insurance.

Consumer Information

 The US Department of Education announced that all borrowers with federally held student loans will automatically have their interest rates set to 0% for a period of at least 60 days. In addition, each of these borrowers will have the option to suspend their payments for at least two months to allow them greater flexibility during the national emergency.

 The Governor imposed a moratorium on removing individuals from their homes pursuant to an eviction or foreclosure proceeding. Evictions and foreclosure filings can still take place (but cannot be executed until the moratorium is lifted), so residents are advised to still pay what they can. If you foresee any problems with paying, contact our office so that we can forward you to the appropriate resources.

 All public utilities and regulated entities shall immediately cease any in-home or business visits unless there is an immediate risk to health and safety.

 The IRS extended the 2020 federal tax filing deadline to July 15.

 The Department of Banking and Insurance launched a COVID-19 website, including a health insurance FAQ page with information on health insurance.

Business Information

 The U.S. Small Business Administration opened up access to the SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan program to New Jersey businesses hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Click here for more details regarding the SBA loan program.

 All door-to-door sales activity by third-party suppliers or other sales persons selling energy or energy related products (for example: residential solar, community solar, or energy efficiency offerings) are to be suspended

immediately

 Broadband internet providers may continue to connect new customers or repair existing service for homes with school age children, those who need internet access to meet job requirements, or other priority customers, as defined by each company, provided that such visits should only be done as a last resort after utilizing hotspots, self-install kits, and like measures to minimize in-home visits.

Public Services

 The US Department of Education announced that it will waive standardized test requirements for states affected by the virus. States must apply for the exemption.

 Governor Murphy announced the mandatory closure of all state, county and municipal libraries. The order also includes all libraries and computer labs at private and public colleges and universities.

 NJ TRANSIT is now running special weekday service. The North Jersey Coast Line special weekday schedule may be found on NJ TRANSIT's website.

Click [here](#) to see all updates from previous COVID-19 briefings.

Legislative Action

On Saturday, the following bills from the Legislature addressing the COVID-19 pandemic were signed into law:

A-3095/S-1982 – Provides county clerks with additional week to mail ballots for 2020 primary election; requires ballot position draw to occur one day early if statutory date falls on holiday

A-3840/S-2281 – Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to COVID-19 epidemic

A-3843/S-2283 – Requires health insurance and Medicaid coverage for testing of coronavirus disease 2019 and for telemedicine and telehealth during

coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency

A-3849/S-2302 – Modifies deadline by which public agency is required to respond to request for government record during period of emergency

A-3850/S-2294 – Allows public bodies to conduct meetings, and provide notice, by electronic means during periods of emergency

A-3851/S-2295 – Permits extension of deadlines for adoption of county and municipal budgets under certain circumstances

A-3854/S-2286 – Authorizes all licensed health care facilities and laboratories to collect specimens to test for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19); allows waiver of staffing ratio requirements

A-3855/S-2287 – Requires food access information be displayed on websites of 2-1-1 system and executive branch departments during public health emergencies to the extent practicable

A-3861/S-2290 – Permits corporations to hold shareholders' meetings in part or solely by means of remote communication during state of emergency

A-3865/S-2291 – Limits return of items purchased from retail food stores under certain circumstances

AJR-158/SJR-77 – Urges FCC to take temporary measures to secure broadband access for those affected by COVID-19

If you have any questions regarding these laws or any other legislation that has been passed or should be passed to address the COVID-19 pandemic, we encourage you to submit them through our [Question Submission Form](#).

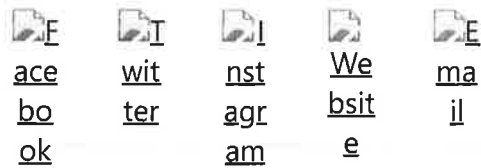
Submit Your Questions

We are looking to compile a list of answers to common questions from residents regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and our state's response to it. We are also glad to answer any questions you might have regarding government programs and services that can assist you, your finances, your business, or your family during this difficult time.

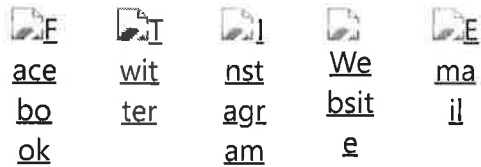
To receive an answer, please [submit your question and contact information](#), and we will do our best to get back to you as soon as we can.

[Click Here to Submit a Question](#)

Follow Senator Gopal Online



Follow Assembly Members Houghtaling & Downey Online



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You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.*

Our mailing address is:

District 11 Legislative Office
802 West Park Avenue
Building 3, Suite 302
Ocean Township, NJ 07712-8526

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Vin Gopal

Follow me on twitter @vingopal

Follow me on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/senatorgopal/>

Fwd: FW: DLGS Guidance on Public Meetings During Health Emergency

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Fri 3/20/2020 1:09 AM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

 6 attachments (4 MB)

Health_Emergency_-_Public_Meeting_Guidance.docx; COVID LE Guidance 2020 0316 FINAL.pdf; NJ EO-104.pdf; PR Treasury Limited Closures.pdf; PR COVID Roundup PDF.PDF; image001.png;

Good Evening (or morning): Hope everyone is staying safe.

1) Please see attached on public meeting guidance. There are also other attachments of reference.

2) Fufill is available to help families in financial need right now. If you know families in your school district that may be specifically going through a difficult time, please connect them with Fufill or with me and I'll be happy to navigate for them. For any families who are going through a difficult time or expect to, please connect me to them as there are resources that can help. We also have programs and resources for restaurants, coffee shops etc.

3) We are working on a number of bills and legislation. I will send out a full report next week. The senate has an emergency meeting Thursday (today) to pass the below bills and many others. We are also working a big economic assistance program.

— [NJ A3095 \(20R\)](#): Provides county clerks with additional week to mail ballots for 2020 primary election;

— A3839: Makes supplemental appropriation of \$20 million from General Fund to DOE to support school facility cleaning and sanitization;

— A3840: Requires school districts to provide school meals or meal vouchers to students eligible for free and reduced price school meals during school closures due to Covid-19 epidemic;

— A3841: Extends time to file gross income tax or corporation business tax return by one month;

— A3843: Requires health insurance and Medicaid coverage for testing and treatment of the coronavirus disease 2019, and for telemedicine during the coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency;

— A3844: Concerns business interruption insurance during the coronavirus disease 2019 state of emergency;

— A3846: Creates "Temporary Lost Wage Unemployment Program" to allow persons to claim for lost wages due to the coronavirus disease 2019;

— A3847: Provides paid leave without utilizing accumulated leave for local government employees under certain circumstances;

— A3848: Concerns time off from work in connection with infectious disease;

— A3849: Permits public agency to respond to request for government record within 21 calendar days during period of emergency or other exigency;

— A3850: Allows local government agencies to meet electronically during declared Public Health Emergency or State of Emergency;

— A3851: Extends deadlines for adoption of county and municipal budgets under certain circumstances;

— A3852: Allows conduct of state business and legislative sessions at locations other than Trenton

during periods of emergency or other exigency, allows conduct of legislative business using electronic means;

— A3855: Requires food access information be displayed on websites of 2-1-1 system and executive branch departments during public health emergencies;

— A3859: Concerns prohibition of residential tenant eviction and eviction due to residential foreclosure during certain emergency circumstances;

— ACR165: Urges DHS to apply for federal waivers to facilitate and increase access to SNAP benefits during the coronavirus disease 2019 outbreak;

— AJR158: Urges FCC to take temporary measures to secure broadband access for those affected by Covid-19.

4) Please see below state updates

Human Services

The Department of Human Services sent to county and municipal welfare agencies guidance on enacting cautionary health and safety preventative measures in response to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), specifically as it relates to the temporary cessation of certain requirements for the Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) and New Jersey Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (NJ SNAP). The guidance is attached.

Labor

In accordance with Chief Justice Rabner's COVID-19 Notices to the Bar, and in consultation with Workers' Compensation Executive Committee of the NJ Bar Association, Chief Judge of Compensation Russell Wojtenko, Jr. has closed Workers' Compensation courts to the public in a similar fashion as all NJ Municipal Courts and Landlord Tenant Courts.

While those courts are closed for two weeks, operationally it is more efficient and convenient for all attorneys, litigants and court staff to adjourn all WC matters for three weeks as workers' compensation courts routinely operate in three week cycles. A three week adjournment in workers' compensation is a routine and frequent occurrence and will cause a minimal disruption to the WC system if any.

In addition, Emergent Motions for Medical and Temporary benefits will continue without interruption to the extent possible, including the use of telephonic and video technology. Filings will also continue to be accepted electronically through COURTS On-line.

Also NJDOL has updated it's page for guidance for employers. <https://www.nj.gov/labor/employer-services/business/covid.shtml>

And employees <https://www.nj.gov/labor/worker-protections/earnedsick/covid.shtml>

DEP

Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Catherine R. McCabe announced today that public may still access the State Parks, forests, recreation areas and Wildlife Management Areas, including roads, parking areas, trails, lakes and other open space areas for healthful passive recreation. However, campgrounds, visitor centers, nature centers, restrooms and similar facilities at state parks, forests, recreation areas, Wildlife Management Areas and historic sites are closed until further notice in order to protect public health and safety as the state works to address COVID-19.

MVC

New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission Chief Administrator Sue Fulton has announced that all New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission agency and road testing facilities will be closed effective immediately as a measure to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. We anticipate re-opening in two weeks, on Monday, March 30, 2020. All driver licenses, non-driver IDs, vehicle registrations, and inspection stickers expiring before May 31 have been extended by two months. Most renewals, replacements, changes of address, and other transactions can be processed online at NJMVC.gov

OAG

Attorney General Gurbir S. Grewal announced today that, in an effort to protect the public by limiting in-person contact that could result in the spread of COVID-19, multiple divisions within Department of Law and Public Safety are extending by at least 30 days the deadlines for renewing or resubmitting certain licenses. ABC is extending by 30 days any Minor Employment Permits set to expire in March. DCA houses 51 professional licensure boards, which collectively oversee approximately 720,000 active licensed professionals. The licenses issued by those boards have staggered renewal dates. The licensure actions announced today by Attorney General Grewal pertain only to licenses issued by the professional boards that require renewals or resubmission in the coming weeks. The State Athletic Control Board (SACB) is extending for 30 days all Mixed Martial Arts (MMA), Boxing and Kickboxing licenses including: Pro Boxer; Pro MMA Contestant; Amateur MMA Contestant; Pro Kickboxer; Amateur Kickboxer and Amateur Muay Thai Kickboxer

Effective immediately, DCA is extending by 60 days licenses for Home Improvement Contractor, Home Elevator Contractor, Respiratory Care Practitioner and Product Warrantor that are due for renewal during the March renewal period. Similarly, the following CDS licenses are being extended by 60 days: Analytical Lab; Clinic Narcotic Treatment Center; Dog Handler/Trainer; Animal Shelter; Manufacturer; Wholesale Distributor, and Research Facility. DCA is extending by 30 days licenses for Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Professional Engineer & Land Surveyors, which are due for renewal during the April renewal period.

DCA

The Department of Community Affairs launched a screening tool to help people find out if they are eligible for NJ assistance programs.

<https://njdca-housing.dynamics365portals.us/en-US/>

Health

Since the establishment of the Hotline, the NJ Position Control Center has received 8,623 calls. Yesterday alone, NJPIES received 669 calls.

Today, Governor Murphy, the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management, the New Jersey Department of Health, and the United Ways of New Jersey announced today that NJ 211 has been activated to help handle COVID-19 related calls from New Jersey residents. All residents with questions or concerns about COVID-19 and resources available to them can call 2-1-1. NJ 211 is New Jersey's statewide, comprehensive, information and referral service operated by United Ways of New Jersey.

Residents call also text NJCOVID to 898-211 to receive text information and stay informed. To receive live text assistance, residents can text their zip code to 898-211.

These enhancements to 211 will supplement, rather than replace, the existing COVID-19 hotline, operated by the New Jersey Poison Control Center. State residents with questions about COVID-19 illness can continue to call the previously shared numbers for the COVID-19 hotline, but they can also call 211 to get answers about their COVID-19 questions.

Additionally, the Department of Health has a COVID-19 website with resources including CDC updates, guidance for schools, colleges, businesses, long-term care facilities, health care professionals and public health professionals. The website is available at <https://nj.gov/health/coronavirus>.

Human Services

The Department of Human Service's Division of Family Development will implement the following policies, effective immediately:

- Continue to pay child care providers for an extended period of time encouraged for those required to close by the health department, school district, or county executive related to COVID-19;
- Ensure providers commit to clean at the highest level of disinfection cleaning during this period of time;
- Waive parents/caregivers' child care subsidy co-payments for parents who request it due to impacts from COVID-19;
- Provide child care providers who remain open during this critical time a differential of \$100 per child each month above the state reimbursed rate for children enrolled in the child care subsidy program;
- Compensate providers who remain open even if children are absent due to COVID-19;
- Give extended time to working parents to submit verification of works hours for the initial application process;
- Extend recertification timelines for at least three months in order for child care services to remain open;
- Allow parents or caregivers to continue their child care subsidy if their hours are reduced or if they are laid off due to COVID-19; and
- Make grants available for child care providers who participate in the child care subsidy program, including family child care providers, to clean and sanitize their facility or home; or to purchase additional supplies or services necessary to keeping centers and homes safe and sanitary.

Please find attached a press release from the department providing more detail on the actions taken.

Treasury

In order to protect public health, the Department of the Treasury on Wednesday announced the limited closure of a number of its offices that serve walk-in clientele while divisions work to review and revise

existing protocols. The offices are expected to be closed through at least March 31, with an anticipated reopening of April 1. Taxpayers, individuals, and businesses will still be able to access these services online, over the phone, or through the mail during these limited closures. Please see the attached press release for more details.

OAG

On Monday the A

ttorney General issued guidance to law enforcement on Executive Order 104. Please see attached.

Senator Vin Gopal

Majority Conference Leader

11th Legislative District

Cornavirus

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Sun 3/15/2020 2:29 PM

To: Gingerelli, Antoinette <agingerelli@njleg.org>; ddavis@njleg.org <ddavis@njleg.org>

 1 attachments (80 KB)

89863089_2745632505555571_1369132786807472128_n.jpg;

As you all know, this virus is very serious. We had our first death in Monmouth and others in critical condition. I am in constant communication with our hospital heads and I am very concerned that the next week will get worse. The strength of a specific strand of this virus is very concerning and very contagious.

Please see the attached statement on curfews put out by the City of Asbury Park. I would strongly urge other towns to follow the outstanding leadership that Asbury Park just took. We must stop community spread.

If anyone has any questions, please e-mail or call me.

Thank you for your consideration.

Senator Vin Gopal

Local DOT Municipal Aid

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Tue 11/26/2019 12:21 PM

To: ajordan@freeholdboro.org <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; mrogers@freeholdboro.org <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; nhiggins@freeholdboro.org <nhiggins@freeholdboro.org>; mjdclip13@hotmail.com <mjdclip13@hotmail.com>; Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; gschnurr@freeholdboro.org <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; sshutz17@comcast.net <sshutz17@comcast.net>

We've secured \$310,000 for Freehold Borough for the next roundup of local aid from the Municipal Aid Program.

DOT will be reaching out to you to shortly.

Happy Thanksgiving and reach out if you need anything

Vin Gopal

Cell - 732-299-5625

Ballot Question

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Thu 10/10/2019 1:31 PM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Cc: Gary Baldwin <gbaldwin@tintonfalls.com>

 1 attachments (318 KB)

scan_10092019.pdf;

Good Afternoon:

There is one statewide ballot question up this year which is very important for our New Jersey veterans. After an 18 year journey for veterans groups, we successfully passed the bill out of both houses to reinstate the veterans tax credit for those living in CCRCs.

I ask you to support our veterans and vote YES on Question 1, the statewide ballot question, but take it a step further and consider having your town pass a resolution to support our veterans.

Our veterans have done so much for all of us to serve in office and life freely - this small token of appreciation should be a no brainer.

Please consider passing a resolution in your town supporting the ballot question. Tinton Falls Council President Gary Baldwin, a veteran himself, has been leading this fight for 18 years and is happy to answer any questions you may have. He is copied on the e-mail.

Attached are sample resolutions other towns have passed as well as information on the ballot question.

Thank you for your consideration

Senator Vin Gopal

Majority Conference Leader

Chairman, Senate Military & Veterans Affairs Committee

11th Legislative District (Monmouth County)

Fwd: Extraordinary Special Ed for Freehold Borough

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Mon 7/29/2019 11:02 PM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Good news. Final number is a bit higher - see below. We are just getting started as we head to 2020!

\$67,876	
----------	--

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Vin Gopal** <vin@vingopal.com>

Date: Sun, Jun 30, 2019 at 12:20 AM

Subject: Extraordinary Special Ed for Freehold Borough

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

As you know, in our past conversations these past year, Assemblyman Houghtaling, Assemblywoman Downey and I have sponsored and fought hard for the state to take on the burden of extraordinary special education.

In a deal we have reached with the Governor, we are pleased to announce that we expect **Freehold Borough** to receive an additional **\$57,000 (rough number) for 2019**. That is in addition to the \$201,000 or so in the budget for extraordinary education We expect the Governor to sign the budget on Sunday.

We still have a long way to go to get to 100% and we won't give up until that is done but we are very pleased at the success reached in this budget - It is very positive for the future.

If you have any questions, please let us know

Senator Vin Gopal

Majority Conference Leader

11th Legislative District (Monmouth County)

Fwd: NJDOT News: NJDOT Commitment to Communities Initiative provides grant assistance as application period for FY19 Municipal Aid program now open

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Sun 7/7/2019 4:43 PM

To: Vin Gopal <info@vingopal.com>

Please See below information regarding opportunities from DOT.

Thank you,

Vin

Senator Vin Gopal
Majority Conference Leader
11th Legislative District (Monmouth County)



NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
NEWS

**NJDOT Commitment to Communities Initiative provides
grant assistance as application period for FY19
Municipal Aid program now open**

Bikeway, Safe Routes to School and Transit Village grant applications
also being accepted

(Trenton) – New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti today announced applications are now being accepted for several of NJDOT's Fiscal Year 2019 State Aid programs, with increased assistance and information sharing as part of the Department's Commitment to Communities Initiative. The initiative is designed to ensure local governments succeed in delivering transportation projects that improve the quality of life for those traveling in and through New Jersey.

The most significant grant program taking applications is the \$151 million **Municipal Aid** program. In addition, grant applications are being accepted for **Bikeways**, **Safe Routes To School**, and **Transit Villages**. Each of those three program has \$1 million available in funding. Municipalities may submit grant applications for any of these four programs beginning on July 24 through October 8, 2018.

The Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) reauthorization in 2016 increased funding for Local Aid programs to counties and municipalities from \$190 million per year to \$430 million. The steep increase is because the majority of New Jersey's roadway mileage—about 90 percent—is under local government jurisdiction and is in as much need of repair as the state roadway network.

Commissioner Scaccetti recently announced NJDOT's Commitment to Communities initiative that creates new programs and combines existing Departmental efforts to assist local governments spend the significantly increased level of aid that the reauthorized Trust Fund law affords them. The Commitment to Communities initiative provides one-stop shopping for local government managers by providing hands-on resources for the application process, raising awareness of grant cycles and proactively communicating pertinent information.

"As Commissioner of Transportation, I am committed to maintaining and improving New Jersey's local transportation infrastructure by providing financial assistance, technical expertise and training in the application process for local transportation initiatives as part of NJDOT's Commitment to Communities Initiative," Commissioner Scaccetti said. "These programs allow our counties and municipalities to be well positioned to design and construct important local projects without the need to impact property taxes. The success of local governments in building projects and spending the additional funding will improve the quality of life not only for local residents, but for the entire state."

The following is a brief description of each grant program:

- **Municipal Aid** - This \$151 million program has been a significant resource in funding local transportation projects. All municipalities are eligible. The Department continues to encourage municipalities to consider using the Municipal Aid Program to fund projects that support walking and biking in their communities especially now that additional funds are available. NJDOT has set a goal to award up to 10 percent of the Municipal Aid Program funds to projects such as pedestrian safety improvements, bikeways and streetscapes.
- **Bikeways** - This \$1 million program is intended to fund bicycle projects which create new Bike Path Mileage. It is available to all counties and municipalities. The Department continues to work toward the goal of achieving 1,000 miles of dedicated bikeways in New Jersey. Special consideration will be given to bikeways that are physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier, but on-road bike lanes and other bike routes and facilities are also eligible for funding.

- **Safe Streets to Transit** - The intent of this \$1 million program is to encourage counties and municipalities to construct safe and accessible pedestrian linkages to transit facilities, in order to promote increased usage of transit by all segments of the population.
- **Transit Village** – This \$1 million program will award grants or traditional and non-traditional transportation projects that enhance walking, biking and/or transit ridership within a half mile of the transit facility. Only New Jersey municipalities that have been designated as Transit Villages by the Commissioner of Transportation and the inter-agency Transit Village Task Force are eligible to apply. The eligible town list can be found at:
<http://www.state.nj.us/transportation/business/localaid/transitvillagef.shtm>

Municipalities are encouraged to submit applications for these Local Aid programs. Each of these four programs are evaluated independently, affording local governments the opportunity to receive funding from more than one grant program. For NJDOT news follow us on Twitter [@NJDOT_info](#) and on the [NJDOT Facebook page](#).

Fwd: Extraordinary Special Ed for Freehold Borough

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Sun 6/30/2019 12:31 AM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Vin Gopal** <vin@vingopal.com>

Date: Sun, Jun 30, 2019 at 12:20 AM

Subject: Extraordinary Special Ed for Freehold Borough

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

As you know, in our past conversations these past year, Assemblyman Houghtaling, Assemblywoman Downey and I have sponsored and fought hard for the state to take on the burden of extraordinary special education.

In a deal we have reached with the Governor, we are pleased to announce that we expect **Freehold Borough** to receive an additional **\$57,000 (rough number) for 2019**. That is in addition to the \$201,000 or so in the budget for extraordinary education We expect the Governor to sign the budget on Sunday.

We still have a long way to go to get to 100% and we won't give up until that is done but we are very pleased at the success reached in this budget - It is very positive for the future.

If you have any questions, please let us know

Senator Vin Gopal

Majority Conference Leader

11th Legislative District (Monmouth County)

ICYMI - Gopal Smacks Murphy on Lakewood Funding

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Sun 3/31/2019 11:03 PM

To: Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

<https://newjerseyglobe.com/fr/gopal-smacks-murphy-on-lakewood-school-funding/>

Gopal smacks Murphy on Lakewood school funding

'It is unacceptable for any school district to be singled out for special treatment,' Monmouth Dem Senator says

By David Wildstein, March 20 2019 6:39 pm

opal (D-Long Branch) today blasted Gov. Phil Murphy for offering an additional \$15 million in school funding while cutting state dollars going to schools in his Monmouth County district.

le for any school district to be singled out for special treatment," said Gopal. "The administration's apparent t \$15 million in additional state funding to Lakewood's School District is unfair to the hundreds of cross our State that are working hard to meet their commitments under the new school funding formula."

l funding has become a political hot potato in recent years as candidates position themselves to win the he Vaad, a council of rabbis and local business leaders with an ability to swing votes.

atontown, Freeholder Regional and Ocean Township are set to lose state funds following declines in

ask the administration to explain how these proposed funding increases for Lakewood were calculated, and legislature to ensure that our school funding system remains fair and equitable to all New Jersey school said.

he 84 school districts in Monmouth and Ocean counties are bracing for a reduction in school funding next o numbers released last week by the state Department of Education.

Municipal Aid

Vin Gopal <vin@vingopal.com>

Thu 3/28/2019 10:09 PM

To: nhiggins freeholdboro.org <nhiggins@freeholdboro.org>; sshutzer freeholdboro.org <sshutzer@freeholdboro.org>; Kevin Kane <kkane@freeholdboro.org>; gschnurr@freeholdboro.org <gschnurr@freeholdboro.org>; ajordan@freeholdboro.org <ajordan@freeholdboro.org>; mdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org <mdibenedetto@freeholdboro.org>; mrogers@freeholdboro.org <mrogers@freeholdboro.org>; Joe Bellina <jbellina@freeholdboro.org>

Hope this e-mail find you well. You should be hearing details if you haven't already from DOT, you are receiving \$250,000 from their local aid program for Bannard Street Roadway Improvements

Thank you

Vin

Senator Vin Gopal
Majority Conference Leader
11th Legislative District
Monmouth County - NJ