



Best Practices Inventory

2024 Best Practices Inventory Online Platform

Toms River Township

Municipal Code: 1507

001a	Unscored Survey Has your municipality been authorized to collect residential development fees to be deposited into an Affordable Housing Trust Fund? Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes
001b	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 1a is "Yes" on what date did the municipality first start collecting residential development fees. Fill-in date under Comments as MM/DD/YYYY. If 1a was answered "No" insert "Answered No" under Comments. Affordable Housing	Comment: 12/31/1992
001c	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 1a is "Yes" has your municipality adopted an ordinance setting forth conditions associated with affordable housing residential development fees? If so, fill-in the date the ordinance was adopted under Comments as MM/DD/YYYY. If not, insert "Answered No" or "Answered N/A" under Comments. Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes Comment: 12/31/1992
002a	Unscored Survey Has your municipality been assessing non-residential development fees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:55D-8.1 et seq.? Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes
002b	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 2a is "Yes" are the fees retained by the municipality in its own Affordable Housing Trust Fund or submitted to the State Treasurer? Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes
003a	Unscored Survey Did your municipality receive Regional Contribution Agreement (RCA) funds prior to 2008? Affordable Housing	[0.00] No
003b	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 3a was "Yes" have all RCA funds been expended pursuant to the approved RCA? Affordable Housing	[0.00] N/A
003c	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 3b was "No" is the unspent balance of RCA funds currently in your municipality's Affordable Housing Trust Fund? Affordable Housing	[0.00] N/A
004	Unscored Survey Does your municipality have a third-round fair share affordable housing present need obligation? If so, the number of units completed that fulfill your municipality's third-round present need obligation under Comments (please only include numbers without text or explanation to facilitate tabulation). If your municipality does not have a third-round present need obligation, type "Answered No" under Comments. If responding "Other" please explain the reason under Comments. Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes Comment: 243 Units

005a	Unscored Survey Does your municipality have a third-round fair share affordable housing prospective need obligation? If so, please provide your municipality's third-round fair share affordable housing prospective need obligation under Comments (please only include numbers without text or explanation to facilitate tabulation). This information can typically be found in your municipality's affordable housing settlement agreement, if one exists. Answer "No" if your municipality is an Urban Aid municipality that meets the qualification formula for an exemption from prospective need. If your municipality does not have a third-round prospective need obligation, type "Answered No" under Comments. If responding "Other" please explain the reason under Comments. Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes Comment: 1285 Units
005b	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 5a is "Yes" please provide the number of units completed that fulfill your municipality's third-round prospective need obligation under Comments (please only include numbers without text or explanation to facilitate tabulation). If your municipality does not have a third-round prospective need obligation, type "Answered No" under Comments. If your answer to Question 5a is "Other" please state the reason under Comments. Affordable Housing	Comment: 1285 Units
006	Unscored Survey Has your municipality been the subject of a builder's remedy lawsuit for its third-round prospective need obligation in which the court imposed a judgment in favor of the builder? Affordable Housing	[0.00] No
007a	Unscored Survey Has your municipality reached an affordable housing settlement agreement for the third round with the Fair Share Housing Center, a builder, or any other interested party? Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes
007b	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 7a is "Yes" was the agreement approved by the courts and your municipality granted a Judgment of Compliance and Repose and Temporary Immunity from exclusionary zoning lawsuits? Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes
007c	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 7a is "Yes" does the settlement agreement impose a prospective need obligation, net of bonuses, credits, and realistic development potential adjustments, that was greater than zero? Affordable Housing	[0.00] Yes
008	Unscored Survey Has your municipality formally appointed a municipal housing liaison? Affordable Housing	[0.00] No
009a	Unscored Survey Does your municipality have a municipally-owned fiber network providing broadband access? Broadband	[0.00] No
009b	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 9a is "No" is your municipality actively considering or taking steps towards the build-out of a municipally-owned fiber network providing broadband access? Broadband	[0.00] No

010	Core Competencies Unless the Local Finance Board sets forth a later date pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-5.1, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5 requires that calendar year municipalities approve their introduced budgets no later than February 10 (or August 10 for state fiscal year municipalities) and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-10 requires that calendar year municipalities adopt their budgets no later than March 20 (or September 20 for state fiscal year municipalities). For CY2024 budgets the Local Finance Board extended these dates to March 29 and April 30, respectively, or the next regularly scheduled governing body meeting thereafter (See Local Finance Notice 2023-22). Timely budget adoption helps a municipality avoid having to issue estimated tax bills or tax anticipation notes (TANs). Did your municipality introduce and adopt its current year budget no later than the extended dates authorized by the Local Finance Board? This question may only be answered N/A if your municipality's budget is subject to adoption by the Local Finance Board under State Supervision or if the Division instructed the municipality to delay budget adoption. Budget	[1.00] Yes
011	Core Competencies N.J.S.A. 40A:5-12 requires the chief financial officer of each municipality to file the Annual Financial Statement (AFS) with the Division no later than February 10 (August 10 for SFY municipalities). Local Finance Notice 2023-22 announced the extension of this deadline to March 8. The statute specifies a \$5 per day penalty payable by the CMFO for failing to file the AFS within 10 days of after the time fixed for filing. Did your municipality file its AFS with the Division by no later than March 8 (or August 10 for SFY municipalities)? Budget	[1.00] Yes
012	Core Competencies Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-40, the chief financial officer each municipality shall, before the end of the first month of the fiscal year, file its Annual Debt Statement with the Division of Local Government Services. Did your municipality file its Annual Debt Statement for the preceding fiscal year with the Division no later than January 31 (July 31 for SFY municipalities)? Budget	[1.00] Yes
013	Core Competencies Recent amendments to N.J.A.C. 5:30-7.4 disqualify from local examination a municipality that has failed to submit to the Division the user-friendly budget section corresponding with the previous year's adopted budget. Has your municipality electronically submitted to the Division the User-Friendly Budget section of its adopted CY2023/SFY2024 and CY2024 budgets? Budget	[1.00] Yes
014	Core Competencies Revenue from a local cannabis tax is required to be entered on the municipal budget under FCOA Code 08-240. If your municipality has adopted a local cannabis tax, does your municipal budget list revenue from its local cannabis tax under FCOA Code 08-240? Only answer N/A if your municipality has not adopted a local cannabis tax. Budget	[1.00] N/A
015	Best Practices Has your municipality created an accumulated absence liability trust fund pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-15.5, and annually deposit appropriations into the fund? Only answer N/A if your municipality 1) does not offer (for any employee hired after a certain date) payouts upon retirement for accumulated sick leave, and 2) no current employee has a grandfathered right to sick leave payouts upon retirement. Budget	[0.50] Yes

016	Best Practices N.J.S.A. 40A:4-62.1 allows municipalities to establish a storm recovery reserve for purposes such as, but not limited to, snow, ice, and debris removal. Unexpended balances budgeted annually for storm recovery purposes may be lapsed into the reserve. Has your municipality established a storm recovery reserve to ensure the consistent availability of funds for this purpose? Budget	[0.50] Yes
017	Core Competencies Sections 7 and 8 of P.L. 2021, c. 184 amended N.J.S.A. 40A:4-43 and 4-44 to require any municipality having its own water system to reflect in its capital budget and capital program the water infrastructure improvements listed on the annual Water Quality Accountability Act (WQAA) capital improvement report submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Local Finance Board recently adopted amendments to N.J.A.C. 5:30-4.3 incorporating this statutory change into the municipal budget process. If your municipality has its own water system, does the capital budget and program reflect the capital projects listed in the annual WQAA report submitted to DEP that fall within the time period of the municipality's capital budget and capital program? Capital Projects	[1.00] N/A
018	Core Competencies Has your municipality adopted a capital program as defined by N.J.A.C. 5:30-4.2, meaning a moving, multi-year plan and schedule for capital projects (including prospective financing sources) and, when pertinent, first year operating costs and savings? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not have a capital budget and is not required to adopt a capital budget pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-4.3. Capital Projects	[1.00] Yes
019	Core Competencies Is Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) required for remote access to your municipality's network? If yes, please state under Comments where your municipality deploys MFA (e.g. banking, privileged users in-network, off-network back ups). Cybersecurity	
020	Core Competencies Does your municipality require a password policy for all network users requiring alphanumeric complexity, length requirements, and either 1) at least annual updating; or 2) a password meeting advanced standards such as those from the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST)? Cybersecurity	
021	Best Practices Has your municipality enrolled for membership in the New Jersey Cybersecurity & Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC)? An NJCCIC membership provides access to the latest cyber alerts, bulletins, training notifications and other important updates. Cybersecurity	
022	Best Practices Have one or more public electric vehicle charging stations been installed on municipal property? Environment	[0.50] Yes
023	Best Practices When purchasing new vehicles, does your municipality have a formal policy to purchase hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles whenever such vehicles are suited to the intended use? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not own any vehicles. Environment	[0.00] No

024	Core Competencies The Local Government Ethics Law, designed to ensure transparency in government, requires local government officers to file Financial Disclosure Statements (FDSs) annually. Compliance by local elected officials is required by N.J.S.A. 40A:9-22.6. Did all governing body members timely file their annual Financial Disclosure Statements for 2024 such that they were not issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) by the Local Finance Board? A "No" answer is permissible if the governing body members' NOV were rescinded by the Board. Only answer N/A if your municipality has an ordinance on the books establishing a municipal ethics board. Ethics	[1.00] Yes
025	Core Competencies If your municipality has a municipal ethics board, did the municipal ethics board enforce the Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS) statute by issuing violations to local government officers (LGOs) who were on the 2024 roster but did not file the FDS by April 30, 2024? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not have an ordinance on the books establishing a municipal ethics board. Ethics	[1.00] N/A
026	Core Competencies N.J.S.A. 2C:51-2.d permanently disqualifies from future public employment any person convicted of an offense "relating directly to the person's performance in, or circumstances flowing from, the specific public office, position or employment held by the person." Disqualification from public employment relating to a conviction for a disorderly persons or petty disorderly persons offense may be waived by the court upon application of the county prosecutor or the Attorney General and for good cause shown. As part of any job application process, does your municipality ask whether the applicant is currently disqualified from public employment due to a criminal conviction for which N.J.S.A. 2C:51-2.d applies? Ethics	[1.00] Prospective
027	Core Competencies At its July 2023 meeting, the Local Finance Board adopted an amendment to N.J.A.C. 5:30-8.2 that converted the previously suggested surety bond schedule for a CMFO to a mandatory minimum schedule. This change came into effect on January 1, 2024. See Local Finance Notice 2023-21 for further details and to view the exposure index. Through a blanket bond or an individual bond, does your municipality provide a fidelity bond with faithful performance coverage for the CMFO that meets at least the minimum schedule set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:30-8.2? Financial Administration	[1.00] Yes
028	Core Competencies At its July 2023 meeting, the Local Finance Board adopted updates to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.7 requiring municipalities to maintain a general ledger for not only the current fund, but also for all other funds, as well as post totals for all funds to the general ledger on at least a monthly basis and maintain required original books of entry in an electronic format. See Local Finance Notice 2024-09 for further details. Does your municipality maintain a general ledger for its current fund and all other funds in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.7? Financial Administration	[1.00] Yes
029	Core Competencies Does your municipality post totals for all funds to the general ledger on at least a monthly basis? Financial Administration	[1.00] Yes
030	Core Competencies Does your municipality maintain required original books of entry in an electronic format? Financial Administration	[1.00] Yes

031	Core Competencies N.J.S.A. 40A:5-7 requires a synopsis of all audits, together with the auditor's recommendations, to be prepared and published by the municipal clerk at least once in the municipality's official newspaper or, if there is none, in a newspaper published in the local unit or, if there is no newspaper published in the local unit, in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality. If the municipal clerk fails to have publication of the synopsis and recommendations made within 30 days of receipt of the annual audit, the clerk shall be subject to a fine of \$10.00 payable to the local unit for each day after the expiration of the 30 days that such publication fails to appear. At its July 2023 meeting, the Local Finance Board adopted updates to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.4 that codifies the minimum content of the synopsis of audit along with the process for publishing the synopsis and corrective action plan. See Local Finance Notice 2024-10 for further details. Does your municipality publish the synopsis of audit as required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-7? Financial Administration	[1.00] Yes
032	Core Competencies Local Finance Notice 2024-11 updates municipalities and fire districts on current IRS guidance and Federal Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) guidance pertaining to incentives paid to volunteer firefighters and EMS (other than LOSAP). Nominal stipends funded through the federal Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program's volunteer firefighter recruitment and retention (R&R) grant is also discussed. Has your municipality reviewed its volunteer fire and EMS incentives for compliance with federal requirements? Financial Administration	[1.00] N/A
033	Best Practices N.J.A.C. 5:30-8.3(a)(3) establishes a schedule of minimum dollar amounts for tax collector surety bonding. However, to provide a higher level of security for public funds, municipalities are encouraged to adopt the more stringent schedule for tax collector surety bonding specified in N.J.A.C. 5:30-8.3(a)(4). Has your municipality adopted the more stringent surety bonding schedule for tax collectors set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:30-8.3(a)(4) or higher? Financial Administration	[0.00] No
034	Best Practices N.J.A.C. 5:30-8.4 (a) establishes a schedule of minimum dollar amounts for municipal court surety bonding, specifically for municipal judges and municipal court administrators. However, subsection (b) of 5:30-8.4 encourages municipalities to adopt a more stringent schedule for municipal court surety bonding that is specified in the subsection. Has your municipality adopted the more stringent surety bonding schedule for municipal court judges and court administrators set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:30-8.4(b) or higher? Financial Administration	[0.00] No
035	Core Competencies Subsection h. of N.J.S.A. 52:27D-437.16 requires each municipality to assess an additional fee of \$20 per unit inspected for lead hazards and deposited into the Department of Community Affairs' Lead Hazard Control Assistance Fund established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:27D-437.4. Has your municipality assessed and collected the above-reference \$20 fee assessment for each lead inspection and sent the proceeds to the Department of Community Affairs' Division of Housing & Community Resources for deposit into the Fund? Lead Remediation	[1.00] Yes

036a	Unscored Survey Does your municipality have a permanent local agency that is currently conducting inspections for lead-based paint hazards in rental dwellings and enforcing the provisions of P.L. 2021, c. 182? If your answer is "Other" fill-in the name of the municipal agency under Comments. If your answer is "Shared Service", please fill-in the name of the agency and the local unit providing the service under Comments. Further information concerning the requirements of this recently enacted law are available at https://www.nj.gov/dca/codes/resources/leadpaint.shtml. Lead Remediation	[0.00] Code Enforcement (non-UCC)
036b	Unscored Survey If your municipality does not have a permanent local agency or a shared service currently conducting inspections for lead-based paint hazards in rental dwellings to enforce the provisions of P.L. 2021, c. 182, has your municipality retained a lead evaluation contractor to provide paid lead inspection services? Lead Remediation	[0.00] N/A
037a	Unscored Survey Pursuant to P.L. 2021, c. 182, has your municipality identified rental dwellings that have experienced tenant turnover since July 22, 2022? Lead Remediation	[0.00] Yes
037b	Unscored Survey If your municipality has identified rental dwellings that have experienced tenant turnover since July 22, 2022, have all of those units been inspected prior to re-occupancy? Lead Remediation	[0.00] Yes
038a	Unscored Survey The method of lead-based paint hazard inspection required for each municipality is at https://www.nj.gov/dca/codes/publications/pdf_lead/doh_lead_data_insp.pdf. If your municipality is required to perform a visual inspection, how many visual lead-based paint inspections did your municipality conduct (directly, through shared services, or through a certified lead evaluation contractor) since 2022? Please only include numbers (no text or explanation) under Comments to facilitate tabulation. Lead Remediation	Comment: 469
038b	Unscored Survey If your municipality is required to perform a dust wipe swiping under https://www.nj.gov/dca/codes/publications/pdf_lead/doh_lead_data_insp.pdf, how many dust wipe-sampling lead-based paint inspections did your municipality conduct (directly, through shared services, or through a certified lead evaluation contractor) since 2022? Please only include numbers (no text or explanation) under Comments to facilitate tabulation. Lead Remediation	Comment: Not Applicable
038c	Unscored Survey How many post-remediation lead-based paint inspections has your municipality conducted (directly, through shared services, or through a certified lead evaluation contractor) since 2022? Please only include numbers (no text or explanation) under Comments to facilitate tabulation. Lead Remediation	Comment: None
038d	Unscored Survey How many lead safe certifications have been issued by your municipality since 2022? Please only include numbers (no text or explanation) under Comments to facilitate tabulation. Lead Remediation	Comment: 380

039	Core Competencies For any municipal officers and employees NOT required by contract or municipal policy to make health benefit contributions following the Chapter 78 health benefit contribution grid (excluding Rx and dental), is your municipality requiring those employees to contribute at least 1.5% of base salary towards health benefits pursuant to P.L. 2010, c. 2? See Local Finance Notices 2010-12 and 2011-20R for further details. Answer N/A if all of your municipality's officers and employees are required by contract or municipal policy to contribute at least the amount required by P.L. 2011, c. 78 for health benefits. Personnel	[1.00] Yes
040	Core Competencies Payments for waivers filed before May 21, 2010 and maintained continuously since, cannot exceed fifty percent (50%) of the amount saved by the local unit as a result of the employee's waiver of coverage. For waivers filed on or after May 21, 2010, which is the effective date of P.L. 2010, c. 2, payments cannot exceed the lesser of twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount saved by the local unit as a result of the waiver, or \$5,000. When calculating an employee's waiver payment, the local unit must deduct the employee's healthcare contribution obligation from the total premium cost. Local units have sole discretion as to whether or not to offer employees payments for waiver of health benefits, and may offer waiver payments below the statutory maximum. Health benefit waiver payments are statutorily excluded from collective bargaining. See Local Finance Notices 2010-12 and 2016-10 for further discussion on health benefit waiver payments. Are your municipality's healthcare waiver payments at or below the statutory maximum? "N/A" is only applicable where the municipality does not make payments in lieu of health benefits. Personnel	[1.00] Yes
041	Core Competencies The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) is a federal law requiring that overtime pay must be paid for all hours over 40 hours in a work week except for those employees classified as exempt and thus not entitled to overtime. Management employees such as elected officials, managers/administrators, municipal clerks, CFOs, public works superintendents, police chiefs and other department heads are typically classified as having exempt status and thus not entitled to overtime pay. Other municipal employees may also be classified as exempt under the FLSA (please consult labor counsel for detailed guidance). Exempt status also precludes overtime pay for time worked during emergencies, attendance at night meetings and participation in training sessions. Compensated leave time in lieu of cash payments is considered a form of overtime pay unless such leave is utilized in the same pay period. Does your municipality refrain from paying overtime to employees classified as exempt under the FLSA? Personnel	[1.00] Yes
042	Core Competencies Has your municipality reviewed and updated its employee personnel manual/handbook within the past three years or upon the conclusion of each of your municipality's collective negotiated agreements (CNAs)? If yes, please provide in the Comments section the date which the personnel manual was officially updated using the MM/DD/YYYY format. If not yes, please type "Did Not Answer Yes" into the comment box. Personnel	[1.00] Yes Comment: 06/01/2023
043	Core Competencies At its July 2023 meeting, the Local Finance Board updated N.J.A.C. 5:30-16.2 to require a municipality's purchasing agent, certified public works manager, and business administrator/municipal manager to register for GovConnect by November 1, 2023. If your municipality has one or more of the above-referenced titles, have the individuals in those titles registered for GovConnect? Personnel	[1.00] Yes

044	Does your municipality currently have an unlicensed individual serving as an acting municipal clerk, tempoary chief municipal finance officer, temporary purchasing agent, and/or a temporary chief public works manager? Select as many as are applicable or None of the Above. Unscored Survey Personnel	[0.00] Acting Municipal Clerk Comment: Acting Municipal Clerk
045	Does your municipality currently retain a chief financial officer through a professional services contract? Unscored Survey Personnel	[0.00] No
046	The purchase of insurance coverage and consultant services is a limited exception to public bidding by virtue of being deemed an Extraordinary Unspecifiable Service (EUS) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(a)(ii) and 40A:11-5(1)(m). Page 3 of Local Finance Notice AU-2002-2 for further details. The standard EUS certification declaration (do not submit the form to DLGS) is available at https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/programs/lpcl_docs/eus_letter.pdf. If your municipality has procured insurance under the EUS exception to public bidding, has your municipality followed the procedural requirements of an EUS in doing so? Core Competencies Procurement	[0.00] No
047	N.J.S.A. 34:1A-1.16 authorizes the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOLE) to create a list on its website, dubbed the Workplace Accountability in Labor List (The WALL), of any person found in violation of any State wage, benefit, and tax laws and against whom a final order has been issued by the NJDOLE for such violation. A contract cannot be awarded to any contractor or vendor appearing on the WALL, which is available at https://www.nj.gov/labor/ea/osec/wall.shtml. Is your municipality cross checking prospective vendor or contractor names against the WALL before awarding any contract over the quote threshold? Core Competencies Procurement	[1.00] Yes
048	P.L. 2023, c. 138 requires public works contractor registration and payroll certification for public works projects to be completed online at https://njwages.nj.gov/. Municipalities were required to be registered prior to August 15, 2024. Email njwagehubinfo@dol.nj.gov for assistance with registration. In addition to the NJ Wage Hub online requirements, certified payrolls shall continue to be submitted to the municipality in the manner and process that is consistent with each body's previous receipt of certified payrolls (e.g. email, fax). Is your municipality registered with NJDOLE's online certified payroll system? Core Competencies Procurement	[1.00] Yes
049	If your municipality contracts with an insurance broker for health insurance, and said contract exceeds the Local Public Contracts Law (LPCL) bid threshold, is your municipality's health insurance broker being procured through a competitive contracting or sealed bid process conducted pursuant to the Local Public Contracts Law? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not contract with an insurance broker for health insurance or, if it does, the contract does not exceed your municipality's LPCL bid threshold. Best Practices Procurement	[0.50] N/A

050	Best Practices Insurance broker fees dependent on the amount of health insurance premiums or fees paid by the municipality are vulnerable to abuse as brokers could face conflicting incentives in seeking lower-cost health insurance alternatives. If your municipality contracts with an insurance broker for health insurance, is the structure for broker payments set at a flat-fee rather than on a commission basis to mitigate the risk of a broker recommending more expensive health insurance coverage to earn higher fees? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not contract with an insurance broker for health insurance. Procurement	[0.50] Yes
051	Core Competencies N.J.S.A. 40A:65-4(b) requires a copy of each shared services agreement to be filed with the Division of Local Government Services. Has your municipality filed with the Division the most current copy of each shared services agreement under which the municipality provides one or more services to another local unit as defined by N.J.S.A. 40A:65-3 of the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not provide a shared service to another local unit. Shared Services	[0.00] No
052a	Unscored Survey If your municipality currently provides a chief financial officer, tax collector, tax assessor, municipal clerk, qualified purchasing agent, certified public works manager, municipal treasurer, and/or a public works superintendant to another municipality pursuant to a shared services agreement, please select one or more of the options provided and list under Comments each municipality (and the county in which that municipality is located) along with the position being provided to that municipality. If your municipality currently provides none of these positions pursuant to a shared services agreement, select None of the Above and insert N/A into Comments. Shared Services	[0.00] None of the Above Comment: N/A
052b	Unscored Survey If the answer to Question 52a is yes, did one or more of the identified shared service agreements result in the dismissal of a tenured official? If yes, please insert under Comments 1) the position or positions where an agreement resulted in the dismissal of a tenured official; and 2) an estimate of the cost savings anticipated to be achieved by the participating municipalities at the outset of the agreement. If the answer is No or N/A, please insert "No" or "N/A" under Comments. See LFN 2018-3R for more information on this provision of the Common Sense Shared Service Act. Shared Services	[0.00] N/A
053a	Unscored Survey Has your municipality designated one or more special improvement districts (SIDs) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-71? Special Improvement Districts	[0.00] Yes
053b	Unscored Survey If your municipality has designated one or more special improvement districts (SIDs) pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-71, does one or more SID have a business improvement zone established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-71.1 et seq.? Answer N/A if your municipality does not have a SID. Special Improvement Districts	[0.00] Yes

054	Core Competencies Are your municipality's codified and uncoded ordinances, including all current salary ordinances, posted on the municipality's website? Please provide the link to the webpage on which the ordinances are posted under Comments. If the answer is "No" type "Answered No" under Comments. Transparency	[1.00] Yes Comment: https://tomsrivertownship.com/27/Government https://ecode360.com/DO0275
055	Core Competencies Does your municipality maintain on its website minutes and agendas for the governing body, planning board, board of adjustment and all commissions? Please provide the link to the webpage on which the agendas and minutes are listed under Comments. If the answer is "No" type "Answered No" under Comments. Transparency	[1.00] Yes Comment: Answered No
056	Core Competencies Does your municipality's website have a calendar that is regularly updated with the meeting dates for governing body meetings along with the meetings of all other boards, committees, and commissions? Please provide the link to the webpage on which the calendar is listed under Comments. If the answer is "No" type "Answered No" under Comments. Transparency	[1.00] Yes Comment: https://www.tomsrivertownship.com/129/Agenda-Minutes
057	Core Competencies Does your municipality maintain on its website the previous three years of adopted budgets and the current year introduced or adopted budget, inclusive of the user-friendly budget section? Please provide the link to the webpage on which the budgets are posted under Comments. If the answer is "No" type "Answered No" under Comments. Transparency	[1.00] Yes Comment: https://tomsrivertownship.com/178/Finance
058	Core Competencies Does your municipality maintain on its website the most recent annual financial statement (AFS) and annual audit, including any corrective action plan? Please provide the link to the webpage on which both are posted under Comments. If the answer is "No" type "Answered No" under Comments. Transparency	[1.00] Yes Comment: https://tomsrivertownship.com/178/Finance
059	Best Practices Does your municipality post on its website all current labor agreements, including memoranda of understanding, contract amendments, and "side letter" or "side bar" agreements? Please provide the link to the webpage on which current labor agreements are posted under Comments. If the answer is "No" type "Answered No" under Comments. If the answer is "N/A", please use the comment box to provide clarification. Transparency	[0.00] No Comment: Answered No
060	Core Competencies N.J.S.A. 34:13A-8.2 requires public employers, including municipalities, to file with the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC) a copy of all contracts negotiated with public employee representatives. This includes, but is not limited to, collective bargaining agreements, memoranda of understanding, contract amendments, and "side letter" or "side bar" agreements. Copies of same may be emailed to contracts@perc.state.nj.us. Has your municipality filed all current contracts with PERC? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not have any employee labor unions. Transparency	[1.00] Yes

061	Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 34:13A-16.8(d)(2), PERC requires a summary of the cost impact associated with a municipality's completed contracts for all bargaining units. Police and fire contracts have one summary form, while non-police and fire contracts have another form. The summary forms and filing instructions are located at https://www.state.nj.us/perc/conciliation/contracts/. Has your municipality filed the required PERC summary forms for all current completed labor agreements? Only answer N/A if your municipality does not have any employee labor unions. Core Competencies Transparency	[1.00] Yes
062	In accordance with Governor Murphy's Executive Order 267 dated October 8, 2021 and outlined in LFN 2022-08 dated March 2, 2022, municipalities and counties were required to provide DLGS with a copy of all American Rescue Plan (ARP) LFRF reports filed with U.S. Treasury, including Project and Expenditure Reports, Interim Reports, and Recovery Plan and Performance Reports?. Did your municipality file with DLGS all reports filed with Treasury? Only answer N/A if your municipality refused ARP LFRF Funding Core Competencies Transparency	[1.00] Yes
063	P.L. 2023, c. 30, known as the "Elections Transparency Act," made various significant changes to New Jersey's pay-to-play laws. One of these changes is the prohibition on imposing pay-to-play provisions that are more restrictive than those in State law. The repeal of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-51, the statute that originally authorized local pay-to-play restrictions or grandfathered existing ones, is effective retroactive to January 1, 2023. See Local Finance Notice 2023-14 for further details. Has your municipality repealed any local pay-to-play ordinances or resolutions originally authorized or grandfathered by N.J.S.A. 40A:11-51? Answer N/A if your municipality did not have local pay-to-play restrictions on the books. Core Competencies Transparency	[0.00] No
064	Does your municipality feature a link on its website to the Division of Taxation's Property Tax Relief Program webpage at https://www.state.nj.us/treasury/taxation/relief.shtml? Best Practices Transparency	[0.50] Yes
065a	Does your municipality have one or more official social media accounts? Please select all that apply. Unscored Survey Transparency	[0.00] Facebook [0.00] Instagram [0.00] X (f/k/a Twitter)
065b	If your answer to Question 65a is "Yes", does your municipality allow comments on its social media posts? Unscored Survey Transparency	[0.00] Yes
065c	If your answer to Question 65b is "Yes", does your municipality archive comments made on its social media posts? Unscored Survey Transparency	[0.00] No

066	Core Competencies Upon the adoption of a resolution by a municipal governing body determining that a delineated area, or any part thereof, is an area in need of redevelopment or an area in need of rehabilitation, N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-6.b(5)(c) and 40A:12A-14.a require the municipal clerk to transmit a copy of the resolution to the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs for review. If the area in need of redevelopment or rehabilitation is not located in an area in which development or redevelopment is to be encouraged pursuant to any State law, the determination shall not take effect without first receiving the review and approval of the Commissioner. If the area in need of redevelopment or rehabilitation is located within an area in which development or redevelopment is encouraged pursuant to State law, the resolution shall take effect after the municipal clerk has transmitted a copy of the resolution to the Commissioner. Areas in Need of Redevelopment and Areas in Need of Rehabilitation are featured on the NJ Community Asset Map hosted on the Office of Local Planning Services webpage under "Available Data and Applications." Has your municipality submitted all resolutions designating areas in need of redevelopment or rehabilitation within the municipality to the DCA Commissioner? Redevelopment	[1.00] Yes
067	Core Competencies N.J.S.A. 40A:20-9.d requires an urban renewal entity with which the municipality has a financial agreement for a long-term payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) to submit annually, within 90 days after the close of its fiscal year, its auditor's reports to the mayor and the governing body. Does your municipality enforce the annual submission of urban renewal entity audit reports and review those reports? Redevelopment	[1.00] Yes
068	Core Competencies P.L. 2022, c.107 (N.J.S.A. 48:2-29.57 et seq. or the "Utility Reporting Law") requires the Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to collect data from both investor-owned utilities and local government-owned utilities regarding service to residential and commercial customers. The reporting template is available at https://nj.gov/bpu/agenda/doc/PL107/ReportingRequirementTemplateFinal.xlsx. If your municipality has a water, sewer, or electric system, has your municipality complied with the reporting requirement in the Utility Reporting Law? Utilities	[1.00] N/A
069	Core Competencies Section 4 of P.L. 2021, c. 317 establishes a Winter Termination Program allowing eligible residential customers to avoid service shutoff from November 15 through March 15 for non-payment of water, sewer, or electric service provided by a local unit. See Local Finance Notice 2023-09 for further details. Has your municipality notified its residential ratepayers about the Winter Termination Program in the manner required under law with respect to the utility services it provides? Utilities	[1.00] N/A

31	[1.00] Yes
6	[1.00] N/A
1	[1.00] Prospective
6	[0.50] Yes
1	[0.50] N/A
7	[0.00] No
52	Total Answered
41.50	Score (Yes + N/A + Prospective)

Score	Aid Withheld
35 +	No aid withholding
31 - 34	25% of final aid payment withheld
27 - 30	50% of final aid payment withheld
0 - 26	100% of final aid payment withheld

Chief Administrative Officer's Certification

I hereby certify that the information provided in this Best Practices Inventory is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name: Jonathan Salonis	Date: 10/23/2024
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Chief Financial Officer's Certification

I hereby certify that the information provided in this Best Practices Inventory is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name: Dorothy S. Gallagher	Date: 10/22/2024
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Municipal Clerk's Certification

I hereby certify that the Governing Body of Toms River Township in Ocean County has discussed/will discuss the 2024 Best Practices Inventory Online Platform as completed herein at a public meeting on 2024-11-13T05:00:00, with the Inventory results, and the certification thereof by the Chief Administrative and Chief Financial Officers, respectively, to be stated in the minutes of said public meeting.

Name: Stephen Hensel	Date: 10/22/2024
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