

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

Jan 21

[Orientation for Municipal Officials who are Newly Elected, Re-elected, or Experienced-Westin Hotel, Mount Laurel](#)

Feb 11

[Orientation for Municipal Officials who are Newly Elected, Re-elected, or Experienced-Hilton Hotel, East Rutherford](#)

Mar 11

[Budgeting for Elected Officials-Conference Center at Mercer, West Windsor](#)

- ✓ Thank You Conference Volunteers!
- ✓ Conference Information
- ✓ Newly Elected Officials Orientation
- ✓ Budgeting for Elected Officials
- ✓ Local Government Leadership Program
- ✓ Show Off Your City
- ✓ Be a Part of *NJ Municipalities Magazine*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mayor Raymond S. Heck

Many mayors are accountants, lawyers, planners, come from a different background. I'm one of the unique birds out there, my background is in law enforcement, I'm still a cop and I've been doing it for 28 years. I have a very tactical type of job that I do, I work in special operations. And I also have the privilege of being a union official dealing with not only 5,500 of my officers but about 29,000 members of the PBA, as well as sitting on the pension board. The important thing it has taught me is what leadership is really about.

As I came here with the League, I started from the ground up, I watched everybody. I've learned from everybody; I've seen what works and what doesn't. So I'm not a person who really looks to 364 days from now, what do I accomplish? I focus on the moment, I look at the past, what we could do better. I look at the future, and a take a hard focus on it.

I want to make sure that we give all the support to the opioid settlement. To support and make sure they start on all 564 municipalities, 21 counties, the political subdivisions, the bureaucracies who can deal with this, we give them the support that they need.

Homeland security is all our issue. As elected leaders the community looks to us for guidance, to our staff and our stakeholders. There are over 9 million people in this state, and we have a considerable amount of visitors that come here every single day. When something's wrong, they don't call the director of public safety, they don't call the director of public works they call you. We have to be schooled better and more knowledgeable in this field.

Continued on next page under "President's message"

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Presidents Message Continued

We also need to focus on the healthcare debacle we're dealing with and property tax relief. We've been talking about that during all these conferences, but I'm one of those individuals that want to make sure that I don't forget what the previous presidents have done. Because sometimes you can only do so much and your term's over and then your ideas along with you. I look forward to working with all of you this year.

Thank You Conference Volunteers!

Many conference delegates wonder how the League can conduct the country's largest municipal conference with a full-time staff of just 19. The answer is you!

In the back of the conference session program, you will see a listing of mayors who serve on various committees. Although the list is extensive, it cannot possibly include all the mayors who work to make our conference successful every year. Mayors play an integral role by helping to produce sessions, moderating, working on committees, and auditing important sessions. Your dedicated service enables nearly 16,000 attendees to come together for one week of invaluable learning and networking each year.

Thank you for making the 107th Annual Conference a great success!

Conference Information Still Available Online and on the App

It's not too late to review the highlights of the League Conference. View the interactive online floor plan and a searchable exhibitor directory and download files of speakers' presentations from the [League Conference web page](#) or app.

Orientation Seminars for Newly Elected Officials

Contact Danielle Holland-Htut, Ext. 118, or dholland@njlm.org

Every year the League offers this important program in two locations around the state to help serve the needs of municipal officials who are new to their positions or who want a timely issue update. Each seminar includes presentations by thought leaders as well as open forum discussion and luncheon, designed to specifically update and answer questions from newly elected officials. Attend these programs and get the information and answers you need about your new responsibilities. For more information, see the calendar on the top of the newslines or visit the [Seminar Calendar](#).

Don't Miss Out On "Budgeting For The Elected Official: Everything You Need To Know To Create, Balance, And Approve Your Municipality's Budget" Seminar

Contact Danielle Holland-Htut, Ext. 118, or dholland@njlm.org

Creating and approving a feasible budget is one of the most important tasks of an Elected Official. It is also one of the most complex and time-consuming tasks. To aid in this endeavor, the League has created a special half-day program geared toward Elected Officials to help them in the municipal budgeting process. The program will take place on Saturday, March 11, 2022, at the Conference Center at Mercer. Additional program details and registration fees are available on the [Budgeting for Elected Officials Calendar Announcement](#).

Become a Municipal Pioneer! Be a Part of the Local Government Leadership Program

Contact Danielle Holland-Htut, Ext. 118, or dholland@njlm.org

The League is proud to offer a voluntary recognition program that recognizes Elected Governing Body Members who complete additional training and advocacy. The program has three tiers: Municipal Leader, Municipal Innovator, and Municipal Pioneer. Each tier has an assigned number of points. Once an

Elected Governing Body Member has earned the required points, they are awarded one of these tiers. The award is a certificate of completion mailed to them and recognition at the Orientation Session at the Annual Conference in Atlantic City.

Elected Governing Body Members can achieve each level by attending trainings, seminars, writing articles for the magazine, and advocating for municipal interests. When an Elected Governing Body Member has completed an eligible activity, they will receive confirmation indicating the points earned. Once an Elected Governing Body Member has acquired the necessary number of points, they complete an online application form and receive a Local Government Leader certificate in the mail. Then at the Orientation session on Tuesday at the Annual League Conference in November, they will be recognized (Officials who submit application forms after September 1 will be recognized at the next year's Conference).

More information on this program is available on the [Local Government Leadership Program webpage](#).

Show Off Your City Contest Deadline Feb. 3
Contact Amy Spiezio, Ext. 123, or aspiezio@njlm.org

The Annual Show Off Your City Contest is accepting entries through February 3. Municipalities are invited to send us photos of their tourist attractions, downtown areas, economic development initiatives, parks, city halls, community groups and new projects.

Entries will be posted on the [League's Facebook](#) page, website, and some will be featured in the April issue of *NJ Municipalities*, and possibly other issues. The winner will also receive a free League publication of their choice!

Photos can be submitted via [the form on the league website](#), [email to aspiezio@njlm.org](mailto:aspiezio@njlm.org), or mailed on a flash drive to 222 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608.

For full details, visit the [Show Off Your City Contest webpage](#).

A New Year, A New Story in NJ Municipalities Magazine
Contact Amy Spiezio at aspiezio@njlm.org or Tasneem Kapadia at tkapadia@njlm.org

After getting inspiration from the Annual Conference, continue building your knowledge with a subscription to *NJ Municipalities*. The February issue will focus on public health and the League's legislative guide, but we welcome pieces about any subject pertaining to the workings of municipalities. What aspects of healthy living are you addressing in your community? We'd love to hear about your challenges and successes. February articles are due December 23. The March issue will focus on Technology Outlook and we welcome all municipally focused articles, which are due January 15.

We are proud that the majority of the magazine's articles come from you, municipal leaders throughout the Garden State, and hope you will consider helping us continue this useful information resource with your own stories. We invite you to pitch your op-ed columns, news items, and feature-length pieces that celebrate and inspire local officials for inclusion in upcoming editions of the League's official publication, *NJ Municipalities* magazine.

Please reach out to Managing Editor Amy Spiezio at aspiezio@njlm.org with your ideas today.

In each issue, the magazine provides insights on a variety of topics of interest to local governments and also puts a spotlight on particular topics that are currently trending. Please visit the League's website for author guidelines or a full rundown of issue spotlights.

If you and other officials within your municipality don't subscribe to *NJ Municipalities*, please visit the magazine bookshelf to check out the useful information included in each issue and consider adding this publication to your municipal government toolkit.

Do you work with vendors that you would recommend to other municipalities? Let these vendors know about the League's magazine, *NJ Municipalities*. Placing advertisements in the magazine helps to increase the reach of their marketing messages and supports the League as an organization in the process. Reach out to Tasneem Kapadia at tkapadia@njlm.org with your vendors' mailing address and we will send them a sample issue.