

President's Note

The fall is a time of preparation for everyone in local government. Getting ready for the League Conference, of course. But also getting ready to ensure the safety of students going back to school, to manage the beautiful mess of fall leaves, and to plan for the potential challenges of winter storms and all the other potential situations that arise through nature and human activities.



For the October issue of [NJ Municipalities magazine](#), I wrote an article that addresses leadership in emergencies using the National Incident Management System (NIMS). This tool was developed to act as guide for governments at all levels to work together. NIMS 402 is specifically designed to address where we elected officials stand in emergencies.

As mandated in New Jersey, this course explores the areas in emergency management that senior level officials need to be familiar with. It covers emergency operation plans, action planning, standard operating procedures/ guidelines, delegation, and more.

The League will host a session on the topic at this year's Conference. Please take the time to gain knowledge and stay compliant on how emergencies are handled in New Jersey's municipalities.

Mayor Ray Heck, President, NJ State League of Municipalities

Action Links: October

- Reserve your Annual Conference housing space through our [online reservation system](#) by October 13.
- Mayors are in the spotlight at League Conference events! Honor new Mayors Hall of Fame members at the Mayors' Briefing Luncheon, Nov. 15; and recognize the achievements of Mayors Jacklyn Veasy of Evesham and Mary Jane Canose of Bernardsville at the Women in Municipal Government Networking & Award Event, Nov. 15. [Reserve your tickets today!](#)
- Governor Phil Murphy has confirmed he will be the keynote speaker at the League Delegate Luncheon, Nov. 16. Don't miss your opportunity to be in the room where it happens, [reserve your tickets.](#)

- Submit comments on [DCA proposed rules regulating third-party inspectors](#) by Oct. 6 (send copy to League Associate General Counsel Frank Marshall, fmarshall@njlm.org).
- [Register in advance](#) for the Conference to save money and time. Rates increase by \$5 per registrant and spouse for government/nonprofit delegates who wait to register at the Conference.
- Send in your [Conference Resolution or resolution suggestion](#).
- Have a concern to share with your peers? Want to celebrate a success story? Consider writing a member-op ed or article for [NJ Municipalities magazines](#).
- Participate in the [Local Elected Officials Leadership Program](#), which offers local government leaders an opportunity to grow in their roles while earning recognition.

League News

Grant Center

The Forest Service's [Request for Applications for Fiscal Year 2024](#) is now available. This competitive federal grant program provides funding to purchase land from private forest owners to become "community forests/open space" for community benefit and conservation. Funded projects are for full acquisition of the land, not conservation or other easements/protection.

Individual grant applications may not exceed \$600,000.

Detailed information on this grant opportunity can be found in the [Request for Applications \(RFA\) for the Community Forest Program \(CFP\)](#). For more information on the federal Community Forest Program, including information on past funded projects, please see the National [CFP website](#).

Closing Date: Applications due to the NJ State Forester by January 12, 2024.

Contact: Todd Wyckoff, New Jersey State Forester, Todd.Wyckoff@dep.nj.gov

Legislative Highlights

- [Mayor Bollwage Testifies Before Congressional Committee on Brownfields.](#)
- [Police Training Commission Adopts Licensing Rules.](#)
- [DLGS Issues ARP LFRF Funds Local Finance Notice.](#)
- [State Offering Free ARP SLFRF Compliance Consulting.](#)

Learning Opportunities

- **October 3.** [Lunch & Learn: State Planning Commission-State Plan Update \(League event\).](#) The League is hosting a Lunch & Learn with the NJ State Planning Commission to being discussions as the Commission starts the process of updating the State Development & Redevelopment Plan. After an initial discussion about the new process, there will be time for comments, questions, and dialogue that will be instrumental in crafting the Plan. The extended Lunch & Learn will run from 2-4 p.m. The webinar is free, but [advance registration is required](#).
- **October 10.** [Webinar: Going Out to Bid for Banking Services \(League event\).](#) Discussion of how to structure an RFP, interest rates on deposits, costs of different

types of accounts and ancillary services such as armored car pickup of deposits, covering payroll servicing costs, management of Procurement Cards, how the “compensating balance” that banks use to calculate how much a town can get in “free services,” and case studies of what individual municipalities did and how it worked out. Presenters: Jason Gabloff, CFO, Administrator, Mendham Township, Past President, GFOA; Joseph Luppino, Kearny Bank, Former CFO, Bergen County; Peter O’Reilly, CFO, Lakewood Township. Registration Fee: \$45 (members)

- **October 18.** [Webinar: Labor Negotiations 2023 \(League event\)](#). The basics involved in collective negotiations with civilian and law enforcement bargaining units. Topics to be discussed include: the process of negotiations, preparation for negotiations, the scope of negotiations, impasse procedures including mediation, fact finding, and interest arbitration for law enforcement bargaining units. Topics include health insurance, wage and hour issues, and representation issues. Presenters: Joseph Hannon, Esq., Partner, Genova Burns, LLC, NJLM Labor Counsel, and Matthew Watkins, NJ Community Solutions; Labor Consultant, NJLM; Retired Administrator. Registration Fee: \$75 (members)

Get to Know Your Executive Board

Mayor Paul H. Tomasko



The League’s 2nd Vice President, Mayor Paul H. Tomasko, has been on the NJLM Executive Board since 2014.

Mayor Tomasko has lived in the Borough of Alpine for 46 years and has served Alpine for more than 30 years, starting as a member of the Alpine

Environmental Commission from 1985 through 1986. He has been a member of the Borough’s planning board since 1997 and began elected office as a councilman 1991 through 1996. In 1999, he began his first term as Mayor of Alpine.

He has been on the Palisades Interstate Park Commission since 2021. Formerly president of the Bergen County League of Municipalities (2010-2021), Mayor Tomasko is a member of the Executive Boards of the Bergen Municipal Joint Insurance Fund, the Environmental Joint Insurance Fund, the Residual Claim Fund, the Municipal Excess Liability Joint Insurance Fund, and the Palisades Parks Conservancy.

Mayor Tomasko was named to the Gold Level of the League’s Mayors Hall of Fame in 2018.

Retired from the medical supply industry, Mayor Tomasko earned his BA from Wesleyan University and his MBA from Columbia Graduate School of Business.

Mayor John Glidden

Mayor Glidden served as a Councilman in Closter from 2004 to 2014. In January 2015, he assumed the Office of Mayor. While on the Council, Mayor Glidden served as Police commissioner, DPW Chair, Member of the Zoning Board, Liaison to the Closter School Board, the Closter Recreation Commission, and the Closter Coaches Association.



He joined the League Executive Board in 2019 and represents the League on the Police & Firemen's Retirement System Board (PFRS).

Prior to his election in Closter, Mayor Glidden served in numerous public voluntary positions throughout New Jersey. In 1984 he was elected to the Board of Trustees of the Englewood Hospital, and later served as a Trustee of the Bergen Pines Hospital and The New Jersey Health Research and Educational Trust. In 1985, Glidden was appointed by Governor Thomas Kean to serve as commissioner of the NJ Governor's Commission on Capital Formation for Health Care Facilities. From 1992 until 2003 Mayor Glidden was Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Bergen County Utilities Authority. In 2019, he was appointed a Trustee of the NJ Police and Retirement Fund by Gov. Murphy.

Mayor Glidden is a graduate of Union College and served in the Viet Nam War as a USAF C-130 Command Pilot. He resides with his wife and three children in Closter.

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