



Mayor Bill Chegwidan,  
League President

## President's Note:

In the spirit of back-to-school season, League members have so many learning opportunities this fall. Lunch and Learn webinars on REAL Rules & Municipal Impacts, How to Choose a Health Benefit Plan, and dealing with Homeless Encampments, provide up-to-the-minute information. In addition, there are numerous seminars offered, including the ongoing Management Series. And let's not forget the

Annual Conference, which is promising more learning and networking opportunities than ever before.

This year mayors can network from the very start of the Annual Conference. The event will open with a NJLM Educational Foundation Breakfast and discussion of mental health initiatives with a focus on youth. We ask that you [register for this free event \[https://www.njlm.org/FormCenter/NJLMFEF-24/Educational-Foundation-Kickoff-Breakfast-304\]](https://www.njlm.org/FormCenter/NJLMFEF-24/Educational-Foundation-Kickoff-Breakfast-304).

Other new events include a series of roundtable events on hot topics, including a Fireside Chat with the State Department of Transportation. This wide-ranging conversation will explore a variety of topics and provide insights into the vision and priorities for the Department of Transportation. Other topics will be announced in the coming weeks.

Be sure to join us for a first at the Conference. NJ Spotlight News Senior Political Correspondent David Cruz will be taping a special episode of his NJ PBS program "Chat Box" near the Mayors' Information Center on the exhibit floor at the League Conference. This program will feature declared candidates running for Governor in 2025. The program will be recorded on the morning of Thursday, November 21, 2024.

Another first at the Conference will be the "Pathways to Public Service: A Career Connection Fair." The League is partnering with the Department of Community Affairs to hold a career fair on Tuesday, November 18, to create and drive interest for 2- and 4-year college students for careers in the public sector.

More details about these and other Conference events will follow in the upcoming weeks.

## Action List: October



1. Nominate Eligible Candidates for the [Mayors' Hall of Fame](#), recognizing mayors who have served for over 10, 20, or 30 years, and the [Elected Officials' Hall of Fame](#), recognizing local municipal governing body members, active and retired, who have served for 20 or more years as a governing body member. Know anyone (including yourself) eligible for either Hall of Fame? Please send your nominations in by November 4 for inclusion in the induction during the Mayors' Lunch Briefing at the Annual Conference.
2. [Register for Lunch & Lunch: Effective Tools for Encampment Engagement & Resolution](#). Attend the webinar presented by the Department of Community Affairs on Oct. 15.
3. [Consider passing the SALT Deduction Cap resolution](#) urging Congress to allow this provision to expire to allow for tax relief.
4. [Register for the Annual League Conference](#) and take advantage of Advance Pricing. Prices go up November 18 and onsite.
5. Help shape the League's Legislative Goals. [Submit a Conference Resolution topic](#) by the first Friday of October or [submit your proposed Conference Resolution](#) by the third Friday of October.
6. [Download the free special digital edition of NJ Municipalities Magazine](#) focusing on Affordable Housing, now available.
7. [Complete your application for the Innovation in Governance Award](#), a contest from the League and the NJ Department of Community Affairs. Showcase your innovative solutions to municipal problems. Awards will be presented at the Mayors Lunch Briefing at the League Conference in November. Deadline: Friday, October 24.
8. Welcome Congresswoman LaMonica McIver, who was [sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives](#) on Sept. 23 after a special election to replace the late Donald Payne Jr. representing New Jersey's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. Before her election to Congress, McIver served on the Newark City Council and was the Council President. She served as a member of the League's Legislative Committee. For the remainder of this congressional session, she will serve on the House Homeland Security Committee and the Small Business Committee. New Jersey's 10<sup>th</sup> District includes 18 municipalities in Essex, Hudson, and Union counties.

## Legislative Highlights

### [Court Hears Arguments on Attorney General's Power to Take Over Municipal Police](#)

On Tuesday, September 4, an Appellate Panel heard oral arguments in a case that the League participated in as amicus involving the NJ Attorney General's authority to take over the day-to-day operations of a municipal law enforcement agency.

### [Assembly Committee Holds Hearing on Cannabis and Municipalities](#)

The Assembly Oversight, Reform, and Federal Relations Committee received testimony September 23 from invited speakers, including the League, to discuss the issue of municipalities' implementation of State cannabis laws and regulations.

### [Assembly Housing Committee Holds Hearing on Rising Rents](#)

The Assembly Housing Committee met September 23 to hear testimony from invited guests regarding the impact, factors, and potential solutions of rising rental costs throughout New Jersey.

### [Resumption of Enforcement Mechanisms for Parking Ticket Violation](#)

Acting Administrative Director of the Courts, Judge Glenn Grant, issued a Notice to the Bar regarding the October 1 resumption of driver's license and registration suspensions for parking ticket violations.

## Learning Opportunities

### Cybersecurity and AI: Perfect Together!

#### Webinar Description

Once upon a time, the Sci-Fi movies we watched on TV and saw in the Movie Theater and the Sci-Fi books we thought we read for fun. Well, guess what? It's for real! While King Kong might not be atop the State House nor his pal Godzilla strolling down West State Street, all the other Science and IT Technology can be found in every NJ Public Agency. Our daily government world is filled with discussions, seminars, and employee training on cybersecurity and AI. Where do you begin, what if you're cyberattacked, what if AI is literally marching in the door to take over your job?

This course will address those concerns and the fundamentals of Cybersecurity & AI for Public Agencies. CEU credits are available.

#### Registration

Visit the League's [Seminar Listing \[https://www.njlm.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=404&month=10&year=2024&day=1&calType=0\]](https://www.njlm.org/Calendar.aspx?EID=404&month=10&year=2024&day=1&calType=0) for registration information.

## Grant Spotlight

### Ready to be Resilient Stormwater & Resilience Funding Program

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) announced the launch of the "[Ready to Be Resilient Stormwater and Resilience Funding Program](https://dep.nj.gov/newsrel/24_0042/)" [https://dep.nj.gov/newsrel/24\_0042/] to modernize stormwater infrastructure and management strategies.

The program will provide \$9 million for a variety of resilience-related efforts, including grants to incentivize regional watershed management (with a priority to overburdened communities), development of local technical assistance programs, advancement of flood mapping, and improvement of post-disaster damage assessment protocols. In addition, the program will make \$11 million available as principal forgiveness loans through the State Revolving Fund for local stormwater resilience infrastructure projects that focus on green technologies.

#### Details

For more information, please review the recent News Flash, [DEP Launches Resilience Funding Program \[https://www.njlm.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=3139\]](https://www.njlm.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=3139).

*For more grant news, please visit the [League's Grant Resource Center \[http://www.njlm.org/grants\]](http://www.njlm.org/grants).*

## Get to Know Your Executive Board

**Mayor William Chegwiddden**



Mayor William  
Chegwidden, Wharton  
Borough

The League's President, Mayor William Chegwidden, has served on the NJLM Executive Board since 2013.

As Mayor of Wharton since 2001, he has dealt with every aspect of Municipal government, including the Office of Emergency Management, Local Emergency Planning Committee, and Public Safety Director. Prior to that, Mayor Chegwidden was a Councilman for the Borough from 1995 to 2000, during which time he was Council President in 1997 and 1998. He also served as a Morris County Freeholder from 2007 to 2013 and is a past President of the NJ Conference of Mayors.

In his work with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, Mayor Chegwidden has participated as a seminar panelist and moderator as well as a frequent author for *NJ Municipalities* magazine. He is also a member of the Conference of Mayors and the Morris County League of Municipalities.

A retired teacher from Morris Hills Regional District, Mayor Chegwidden specialized in social studies, economics, and history while helping with extracurricular activities such as Junior Statesmen of America and coaching football, track, and wrestling. He earned an MA and BA from East Stroudsburg University in East Stroudsburg, PA, and an AA degree from the County College of Morris.



## Magazine Moment

3 in 10 computer users have been victims of data breaches due to weak passwords. Hackers can buy usernames and passwords for non-financial institution logins for \$1. However, the price can range from \$20 to \$200 for online payment platforms credentials. Read about password security in Franklin Twps.' Bob McQueen's article in *NJ Municipalities* this month.

We're now seeking submissions for our December (due October 25), January (due November 14), and February issues. Please consider writing an article for the magazine. See the [author's guidelines \[https://www.njlm.org/804/Submit-Editorial\]](https://www.njlm.org/804/Submit-Editorial) for more information. Submit your queries, news items, op-eds, or articles for *NJ Municipalities* magazine [by email to Amy Spiezio \[mailto:aspiezio@njlm.org\]](mailto:aspiezio@njlm.org).

## [Download a free copy of the Affordable Housing issue!](#)



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[mailto:tkapadia@njlm.org], Advertising Manager, with their details so she can send them information about the League's magazine. Advertising in *NJ Municipalities* magazine promotes their services and could benefit other towns.

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