



stories from the field

Stories meant to inform, inspire and transform your communities.

Liz Lempert (@lizlemp)

Mayor, Princeton

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Borough Administrator/Clerk, South Toms River & Island Heights

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STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Mayor Liz Lempert
Municipality of Princeton, New Jersey

TRANSPARENCY



- Publish agendas, full backup material, videos of Council meetings
- Post videos of Zoning Board and Planning Board meetings

COMMUNICATION



- SOCIAL MEDIA
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - Nixle
- EMAIL ALERTS
- REVERSE 9-1-1

OPEN DATA



Princeton Public Dashboard

dashboard.revelstonelabs.net/entities/565

Princeton
Recreation
Police
Public Health

Health Department

The Princeton Health Department serves both the residents and visitors of Princeton. The health department aims at protecting the public's health by monitoring disease trends, enforcing food safety, and performing environmental investigations.

Restaurant / Retail Food Inspections: Each year the Princeton Health Department conducts restaurant inspections of all retail food establishments in Princeton. These establishments include, but are not limited to, restaurants, bakeries, delis, supermarkets, catering facilities, Princeton University eating facilities, mobile units, and temporary events/mobile food trucks. Health inspectors are referred to as Registered Environmental Health Specialists (REHS), and are licensed inspectors that perform 400 commercial food related inspections. Each of the two Princeton food inspectors are responsible for over 200 food related inspections annually.

The purpose of a "food inspection" is to evaluate foodborne illness risk factors and interventions. Risk factors are improper practices that can cause foodborne illness. Interventions are control measures to prevent foodborne illness. Types of interventions include: knowledge of food safety principles by the person in charge, proper hand washing, approved food source, prevention of cross contamination of food, and food temperature controls. Food temperature controls can be specified as receiving and storage of food, cooking, chilling, and hot and cold holding and reheating. Additional retail practices are evaluated such as safe food and water sources, cleaning and sanitizing procedures, signs of insects, temperature controls, and physical facilities.

Monthly food inspection statistics can be observed in the bar graph to the right. April and May 2014 saw lower than normal inspections due to an increased caseload of public health nuisance investigations.

Food Inspections (Restaurants) 2014-Present

Month	Food Inspections (Restaurants)
Jan 2014	23
Feb 2014	20
Mar 2014	23
Apr 2014	12
May 2014	12
Jun 2014	18
Jul 2014	23
Aug 2014	11
Sep 2014	24
Oct 2014	21
Nov 2014	20
Dec 2014	18
Jan 2015	5
Feb 2015	19
Mar 2015	22
Apr 2015	9
May 2015	11
Jun 2015	0
Jul 2015	0
Aug 2015	0
Sep 2015	0
Oct 2015	0
Nov 2015	0
Dec 2015	0

Food Inspections - Actual

POWERED BY REVELSTONE

FINANCE



www.princetonnj.gov/financial-docs/Princeton-Budget-Newsletter-2015.pdf

Frequently Asked Questions

Did my 2015 municipal taxes go up or down?
 For the first time in five years, your municipal taxes increased slightly. The municipal tax rate went up 1.6 cents to 48.9 cents per \$100 of assessed value. This is an increase of 3.5 percent in the tax rate, returning the rate to 2010 levels. For a home valued at the municipality's average assessment (\$800,000), the municipal portion of the tax bill will increase by \$128 this year (see the "Average Tax Bill" chart on the first page).

What proportion of my property taxes support the municipality of Princeton, the Princeton Public Schools and Mercer County?
 As shown in the pie chart, "Your Tax Bill," on the first page, 22 percent of your taxes supports Princeton's municipal government and municipal open space preservation efforts. The Princeton Public Schools account for 48 percent of your tax bill, and Mercer County government and open space preservation efforts represent the remaining 30 percent of the bill.

Did my overall 2015 property taxes go up or down?
 Your overall property taxes increased. While there was a marginal decrease in the Mercer County portion of your tax, both the municipal tax and the school tax rose. As noted, the municipal tax rate increased 3.5 percent; the school tax rate increased 1.5 percent; and the county tax decreased .75 percent. The total tax rate increased 1.2 percent. For a home assessed at the municipality's average assessment (\$800,000), total property taxes will increase by \$216 to \$17,806 in 2015. (Please refer to the "Average Tax Bill" chart on the first page.)

Did consolidation of the former Borough and Township save money and keep my municipal taxes down?
 Consolidation has saved Princeton money and kept taxes down. Savings from consolidation that were realized in 2013 and 2014 allowed us to reduce municipal property taxes in 2013 and hold municipal property taxes flat in 2014. Princeton realized most of its savings from consolidation by 2014. Those savings continue to be realized in this year's and future years' budgets. Like many municipalities, Princeton is feeling budget pressure from rising costs, such as rising health care expenses and gradually increasing wages. However, Princeton remains well-positioned in terms of its tax trends compared with other municipalities in our area. (See the "Princeton Area Municipal Tax Trends" chart on this page.)

Princeton Municipal Staff Levels

Year	Actual Full Time Employees (as of April 2011-2015)	Budgeted for 2015
2011	235	
2012	229	
2013	215	
2014	208	
2015	211	218*

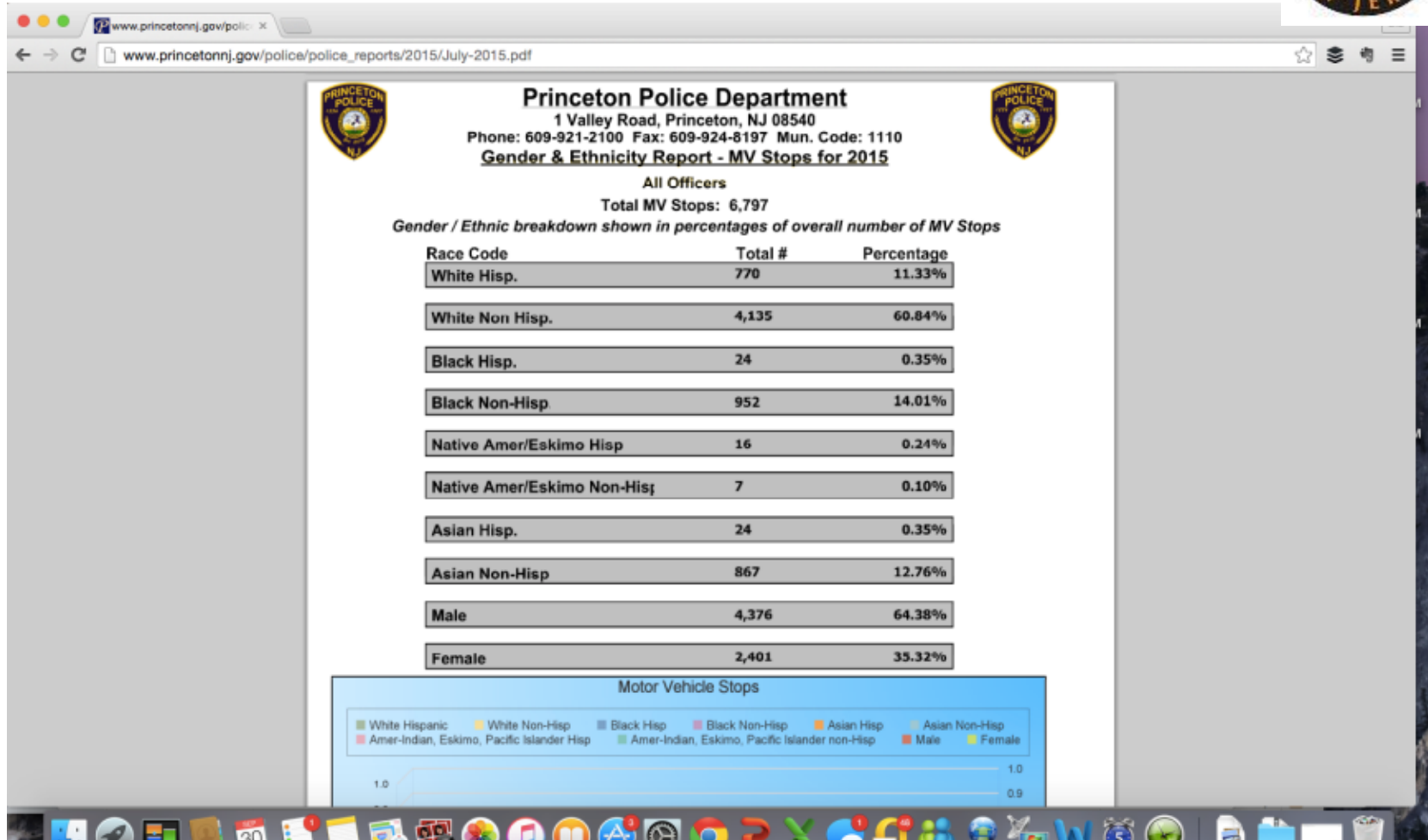
Princeton Area Municipal Tax Trends 2010-2015*

Municipality	Percentage
Princeton	3.2%
Hillsdale	3.4%
Parsippany	4.3%
Hamilton	5.2%
West Windsor	10.1%
Princeton	11.7%
Montgomery	17.4%
Lawrence	22.2%
Hopewell Borough	30.9%
Hopewell Township	33.0%

*Based on 2010-2014 Actuals of Property Tax for Mercer County & Non-Certified 2010 for rates adjusted for Lawrence Top 2014 evaluation; Montgomery Top and Parsippany Top are preliminary rates for 2015.

You May Be Eligible for Tax Relief

POLICE



ACCESS PRINCETON



Access Princeton, New Jersey

www.princetonnj.gov/accessprinceton/index.html

REPORT **ISSUES**

Sort by: Recent Filter

- A Tour Bus Complaint (2)**
21 Westcott Rd Princeton, NJ 08540, USA
about 9 hours ago - Fix it! - Share
- B Pothole (2)**
Linden Lane & Franklin Avenue Princeton, New Jersey
about 9 hours ago - Fix it! - Share
- C Dead animals on the roadway(other than deer) (2)**
Route 206 & Westcott Princeton, New Jersey
about 9 hours ago - Fix it! - Share
- D Question - What was the delay at Harrison and Nassau Tuesday around 10 am? (2)**
2 Harrison Street Princeton, New Jersey
about 11 hours ago - Fix it! - Share
- E Excessive trash or debris outside of home or building (1)**
474 Rosedale Road Princeton, New Jersey
about 11 hours ago - Fix it! - Share
- Street light needs repair (2)**
137 Valley Road Princeton, New Jersey

Search for issues nearby

Locate Me Embed

Pothole Acknowledged
Linden Lane & Franklin Avenue Princeton, New Jersey
There is a pothole located on Linden Lane between Franklin and Hamilton
2 People want this fixed
Reported about 9 hours ago
Comment / Change Issue Status

Map data ©2015 Google Terms of Use Report a map error

Last 30 days: 18 Opened | 26 Closed | 30 Acknowledged

Report an Issue

SeeClickFix powered by

LINKS

- Public Transportation Page
- Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce Visitors Bureau

CODE FOR PRINCETON



PRINCETON HACKATHON



We have many different projects in various stages of development! Below are a few of them. If you are interested in working on one of them or you feel inspired to do something else, get in touch.

Affordable Housing

Create a web app to ease the process of applying for affordable housing. [github](#)

Cycling

CyclePhilly is a huge success story in the civic hacking movement. Improve and expand on the app so we can bring it to Princeton. This will allow us to start tracking cycling data so our urban planners can make more informed decisions regarding bike traffic, just as we do with auto traffic. Improvements may include making use of previously collected data from CyclePhilly, the Mercer County Bikeability map, and other sources provided by the DVRPC to include route suggestions. [github](#)

Elections

Create a web app for district vote counters to quickly upload their counts to the muni website. This will allow for quick unofficial vote counts to get out to the public. [github](#)

Intro to Open Street Map

New to mapping? Use National Day of Civic Hacking to learn about OpenStreetMap—the most complete open data map of the world. By following [LearnOSM](#), the step-by-step guide to contributing and using OpenStreetMap, you can empower your community to start being an active contributor to how we get places on the map. No programming experience required, but bring a laptop (no tablets).

Upcoming Events

- Oct 9 **Code For Princeton - Hack And Learn Night**
- Oct 22 **Code For Princeton - Hack And Learn Night**
- Nov 13 **Code For Princeton - Hack And Learn Night**

Tweet at us!

Tweets [Follow](#)

- Commerce CDO** @CommerceGovData 2h
#cfasummit #opengov #opendata @tyrr
twitter.com/waffleio/status...
Retweeted by Code for Princeton
Expand
- Hadley Dynak** @hmdynak 2h
Low tech community engagement: local ambassadors, school outreach, family oriented events -- bring conversation to your audience. #cfasummit
Retweeted by Code for Princeton
Expand
- Dan Hon is typing** @dondanhon 2h
Tweet to @codeforprinceton

PRINCETON HACKATHON



Greengraph

www.greengraph.org

Greengraph

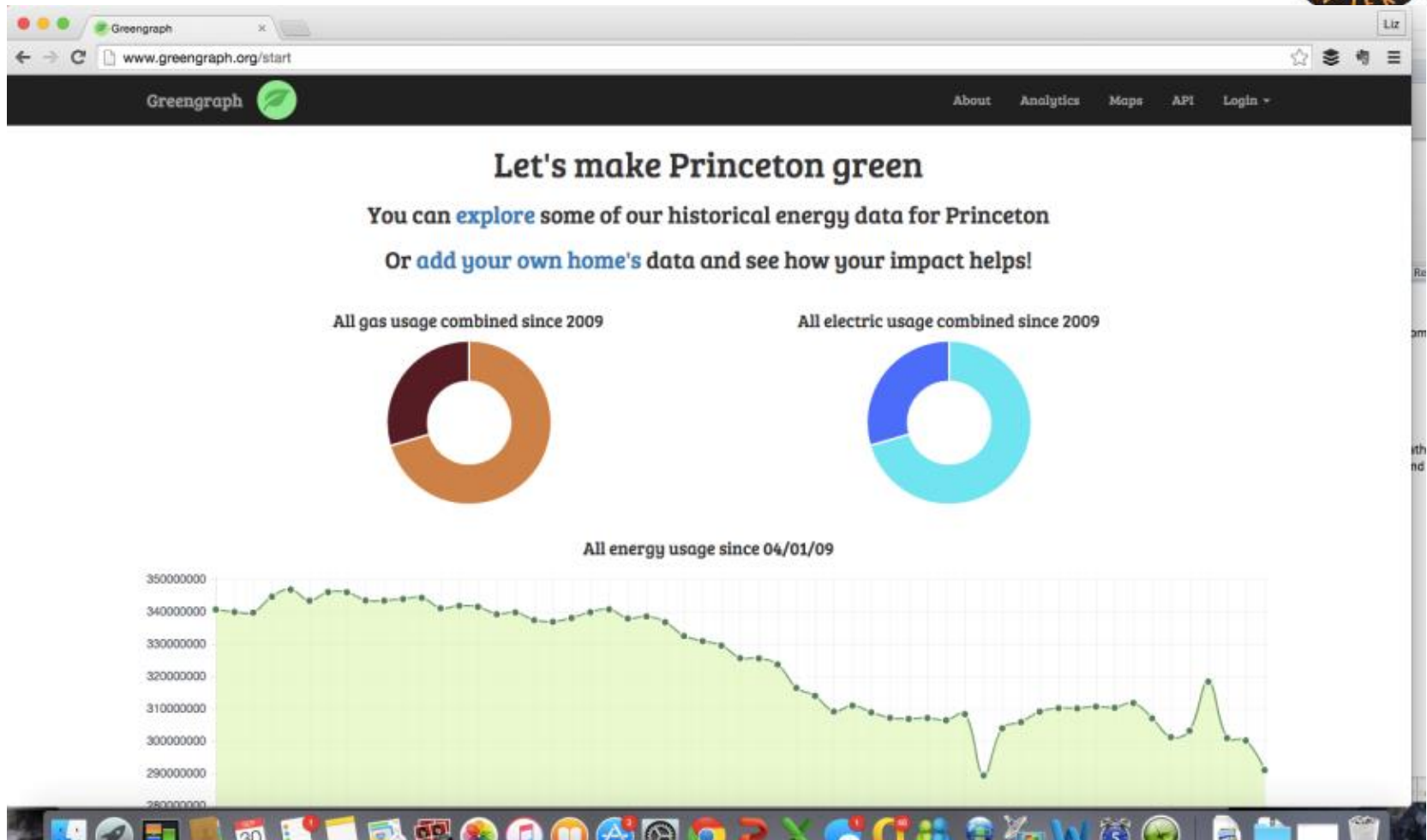
Since 2009, Princeton used 6,596,437 MWh* of energy. That's 4,619,354* tons of CO2. Equivalent to 659,644* cars on the road, or driving your car for 10,554,299,969* miles. We would need 791,572* acres of forest to offset that usage, or to have planted 23,747,156* trees ten years ago.

Ready to help make a change?

GET STARTED

Crafted with love for the Code For Princeton Hackathon

PRINCETON HACKATHON



PRINCETON HACKATHON



Greengraph dashboard screenshot showing a tutorial on adding a new monthly reading. The tutorial includes an example PSE&G bill and a form for entering new bill data.

How do I add a new months reading?

First locate your most recent energy bill statement, it should have been either mailed or emailed to you by your energy provider. It should appear similar to the example statement on the left hand side. Match your statements electricity/gas usage to the example statement and then enter your statements information into the required fields on the right hand side before clicking "save"

Example PSE&G bill readings (page 3)

PSE&G Gas

Usage	Charges	Rate - \$/CCF
Actual reading May 28	4246	
Actual reading Apr 28	6225	
Difference	24	
Conversion to CCF	x 1.3025	
CCF total	31.266	
1. Total Delivery	25.405	

Charges

Charges	Rate - \$/CCF
Delivery	
Service charge	\$5.00
Distribution charge	
Final	1.000 items @ \$0.369862
Next	25.365 items @ \$0.268506
Total Delivery	\$14.60

Supply*

Supply*	Rate - \$/CCF
BS&S Commodity	25.405 items @ \$0.453791
Bill Credit	-0.20
Total Supply	\$11.19

Total gas charges **2. \$11.19**

The total supply amount (\$11.19) is the amount you pay to Comgas for the month should you choose not to purchase PSE&G services. Your monthly price to Comgas may vary each month depending on your usage pattern.

3. Average daily gas use

PSE&G Electric

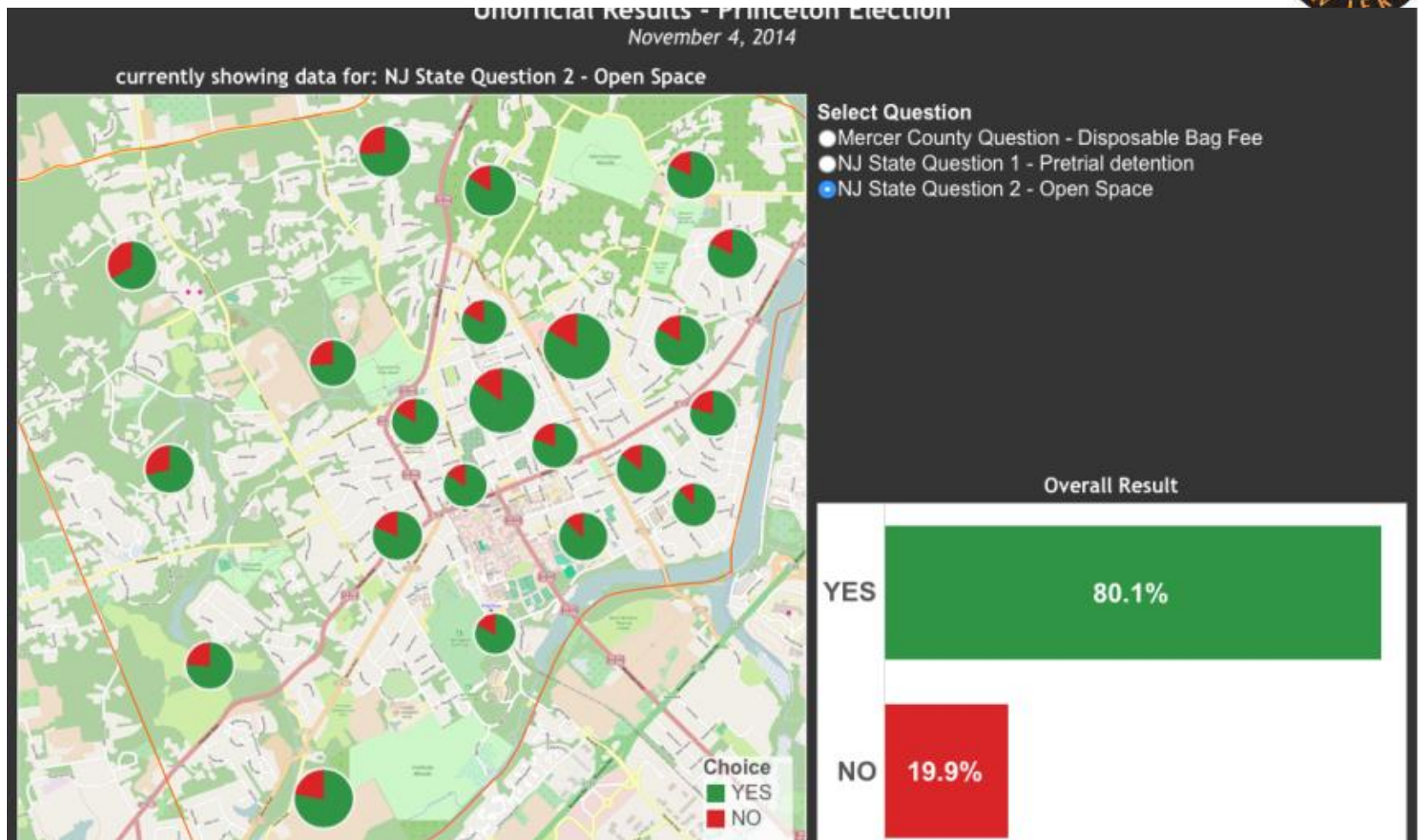
Usage	Charges	Rate - \$/kWh
Actual reading May 28	343	
3. Total Delivery	1.112682	

New monthly bill entry

Bill date: Month [v] Day [v] Year [v]

1. Gas Usage
2. Gas Cost
3. Electricity Usage
4. Electricity Cost

PRINCETON HACKATHON



PRINCETON HACKATHON



8:12 PM



Princeton Ride Share



iCloud Drive Id:
162644



[Instructions](#)

[About](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

[Contact Us](#)

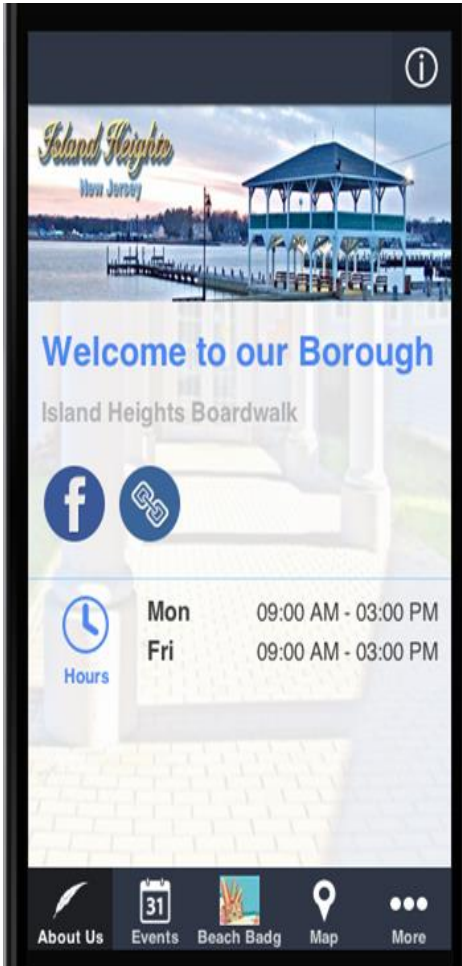


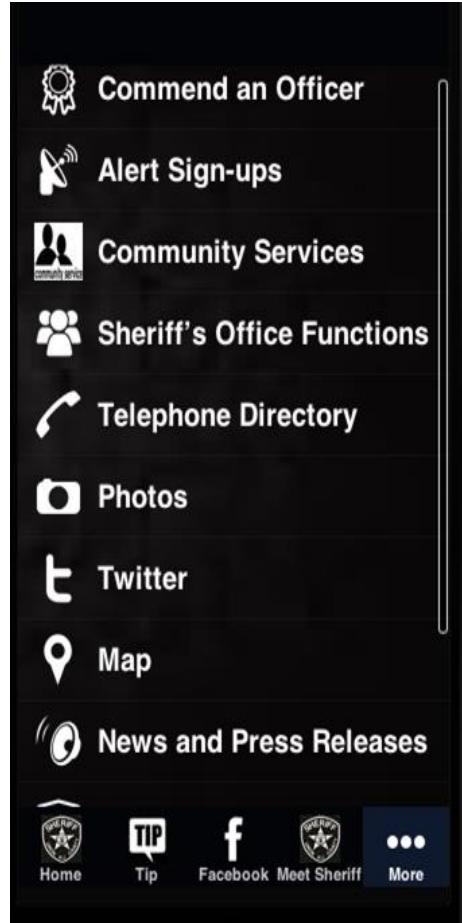
adaptable mobile apps for the public sector

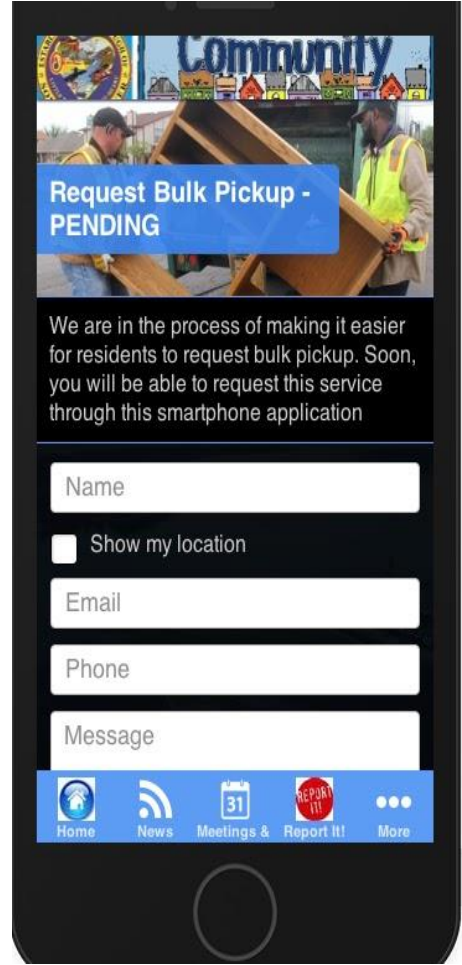
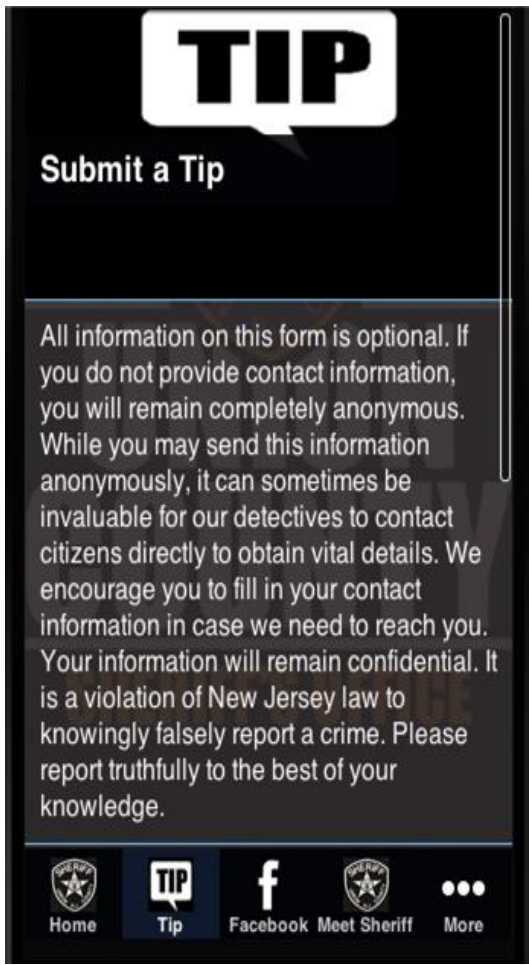
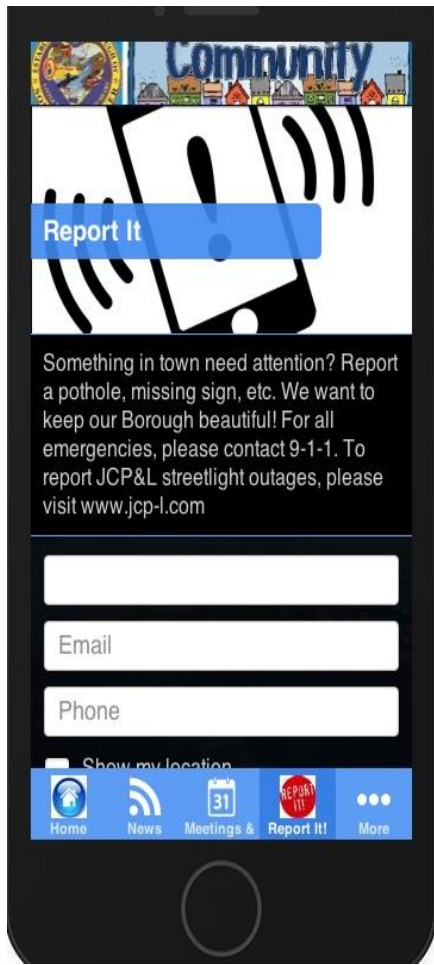
Joseph KostECKi, MPA, RMC, QPA, CMR

Borough Administrator and Clerk
South Toms River & Island Height

Joseph.Kostecki@gmail.com









- ✓ news
- ✓ social media
- ✓ forms
- ✓ applications





customized set up





Hire a Pro



Discard

Save

Continue

App Features

Need more help? Click here

My App Features 24

- Report It!
- Community Notification...
- Request Bulk Pickup
- Food Trucks on the Wat...
- Around Town
- Call Borough Hall

Feature name

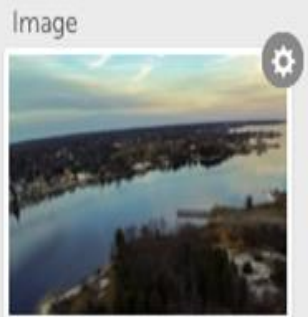
Home

Eye icon, Trash icon, Help icon

Content

Title: Welcome to the Borough of South Toms River Smartphone App

Subtitle: The Little Town With A Big Heart



GO ON TRY ME

Choose Your Mobile Success Plan

Whatever your business needs may be, we have a plan for you.



Monthly

\$57 /mo

Pay Every Month

MOST
POPULAR



Yearly

\$48 /mo

Pay Once a Year



2 Years

\$41 /mo

Pay Once Every 2 Years



Brian Platt

Jersey City's open data portal



- ✓ Director, Office of Innovation, City of Jersey City
- ✓ Previously Senior Aide to Mayor Steven Fulop
- ✓ Projects include:
 - Body Worn Cameras
 - Transgender Healthcare Coverage
 - Increasing City credit rating
 - Building Pedestrian Mall
 - Port Authority Lawsuit
 - Open Data Portal
- ✓ Previous work experience includes Teach For America, McKinsey & Company, and the Mountain Lakes Fire Dept.



@BrianDavidPlatt



@BrianDavidPlatt



Jersey City's open data portal

www.jerseycitynj.gov/data

<http://data.jerseycitynj.gov>



Creating a successful Data Portal required 6 key components

Key components of success

Start Small

Use familiar tools

Allow for flexibility

Defer
responsibility

Move slowly

Build value and
relevance



The first iteration of Jersey City's Data Portal began with excel files

City of Jersey City
Mayor Fulop's Data Dashboard v2.0

FIRE DEPARTMENT (FDJC)

Prepared By: Week:
 Approved By: Week #:
 LAST MODIFIED:

Service Calls	Battalion 1		Battalion 2		Battalion 3	
	Calls	Units	Calls	Units	Calls	Units
Private Dwellings						
Apartments						
Hotels and Motels						
All Other Residential						
TOTAL RESIDENTIAL						
Public Assembly						
Schools and Colleges						
Health Care and Penal Institutions						
Stores and Offices						
Industry, Utility, Defense, Labs, Manuf.						
Storage in Structures						
Other Structures						
TOTAL STRUCTURE FIRES						
Highway vehicles						
Other Vehicles						

City of Jersey City
Mayor Fulop's Data Dashboard v2.0

JERSEY CITY FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Prepared By: Month:
 Approved By:

Weekly Statistics		CURRENT INPUT											
		Main	Bookmobile	Cunningham	Five Corners	Greenleaf	Heights	Milner	Pavonia	Lafayette	Marion	West Bergen	Total
RESOURCE USAGE	Total												
Books checked out	Adults												
Books checked out	Young adults												
Books checked out	Children												
e-Books checked out	Total												
Audio Books	Total												



Welcome TO THE OFFICIAL JERSEY CITY WEB SITE

Residents | Visitors | Government | About JC | Calendars | Business | JCTV | Employment | Photos | Data

Jersey City Open Data Portal

Home

Data

- Operational Data
- Budget Visualization
- Redevelopment Plans
- City Planning Studies
- Demographic Data
- Maps
- Presentations

Overview
 The Fulop administration is committed to improving government transparency and access to information. This section of the Jersey City website will provide a variety of data including operational data, locations of municipal services or other landmarks, and a variety of other miscellaneous information.

For information not available here, use the link below to submit an OPRA request.

[Submit an OPRA request](#)

Updates
 The Jersey City Open Data Portal is a work in progress and information will be added and updated on a continuous basis. Please check here for a list of recent additions to the portal.

AUGUST NEW DATA SETS
 *RRC Requests

JULY NEW DATA SETS
 *Mural Locations

MARCH NEW DATA SETS
 *Development Status map (maps section)
 *Updated Bike Lanes map (maps section)
 *City Planning Studies section (new section)

FEBRUARY NEW DATA SETS
 *JCPD calls for service

www.jerseycitynj.gov/data



Our next Data Portal iteration includes more analysis and automated systems

RRC Service Request Calls: Days to completion

Launch website

Datasets in Showcase

Resident Response Center Data

Social

Google+

Twitter

Facebook

RRC Service Request Calls: Days to completion

Days to completion, by Service Request Type and Ward

This visualization shows the average number of days it took for a given service request type is closed or completed. Data for 2014 and 2015 have been combined.

[Note: not all service request types are included.]

Launch website

Jersey City Police Department Service Calls 2015

by Neighborhood

Category	2015 Total*
Total	91,450
A - Assault / Robbery / Missing Property	5,685
B - Harassment / Breach of Peace	7,094
C - Theft / Burglary / Property Damage	9,686
D - Accident / Traffic Violation	11,953
E - Noise / Public Disruption	7,503
F - Hazardous Condition	8,804
G - Drugs / Weapons / Missing Person	2,736
H - Service Assistance / Help	9,927
J - Community Service / Arrest	23,229
T - Traffic Stop	4,311
Z - False Call / Other Agency	622

Jersey City

From: Jan 2015 To: Aug 2015

Low 300 1.2k 5.1k 10k 15k 22k High

* From Jan 1, 2015 to Aug 1, 2015 source

www.data.jerseycitynj.gov



PUBLIC INFORMATION & ENGAGEMENT ACTIONS

sustainablejersey.com

- ✓ several new actions online
- ✓ few being revised

Send case studies we can share & feedback to:

Lauren Skowronski
skowronl@tcnj.edu

Public Information & Engagement	
Communications	
Emergency Communications Planning 15 Points	Unplanned
Municipal Communications Strategy 10 Points	Unplanned
Vulnerable Populations Identification for Emergencies 10 Points	Unplanned
Citizen Engagement	
Improve Public Engagement in Municipal Government 10 Points This action has variable points: 10, 15	Unplanned
Improve Public Engagement in Planning and Zoning 10 Points This action has variable points: 10, 15	Unplanned
Public Service Efficiency 10 Points This action has variable points: 10, 15	Unplanned
Access to Public Information	
Open Data Inventory and Management 10 Points This action has variable points: 10, 15	Unplanned
Policy to Digitize Public Information 10 Points	Unplanned