

N J M M A

New Jersey Municipal Management Association, Inc.

Robert F. Casey

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September 22, 2010

Commissioner Lori Grifa
Department of Community Affairs
101 South Broad Street
P. O. Box 803
State of New Jersey
Trenton , NJ 08625

Re: Local Government “Best Practices Checklist”

Dear Commissioner Grifa:

The New Jersey Municipal Management Association is an Association of appointed Administrators and Managers who serve local governments throughout the State. We are a non political / nonpartisan organization whose goal is to improve the quality of local government in New Jersey through professional management. We have been serving the State since the 1960's and have over 250 members.

We worked with the League of Municipalities in reviewing the initial draft of the “Best Practices Checklist”. We are pleased by the increased flexibility in interpreting and implementing the Best Practices shown by the Department in the recently issued “Frequently Asked Questions” paper. Overall we believe that the “Best Practices Checklist” it is a good first step toward improving local government by establishing guidelines that are reasonable to follow and should lead to improved local operations and cost efficiencies.

NJMMA wishes to be part of any local improvement process since our members hold the positions responsible for the day-to-day operations of our municipalities. In this context we are submitting the attached questions and comments on the Checklist as revised by the FAQ in order to further clarify the responsibilities of local government as well as to advise the Department of the realities diverse local government face. We are interested in adding constructive suggestions that will aid DCA in any additional revisions or for the 2011 checklist.

We believe further changes to enhance this checklist will produce time savings for DCA when reviewing each individual submission. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

If you have any questions about this submission, our Association, or local government in New Jersey, please feel free to contact the Association through my office.

Robert F. Casey
Executive Director

Cc: BettyLou DeCroce, Assistant Commissioner
Amey Upchurch, DCA Staff

Sent via email and mail