

TO ALL TOWNSHIP OF PISCATAWAY TAXPAYERS

Dear Resident,

The chart below gives a picture of where your taxes are spent. The 2013 Local Municipal Budget is approximately 25% of the total Township Tax Levy.

One of the major reasons for an increase in Municipal Taxes is the funding of the Hurricane Sandy cleanup. To date, a total of \$2,620,648.87 in hurricane-related expenses has been spent. The Township is anticipating that FEMA will pay for some of the costs associated with the cleanup. FEMA has approved \$1.8 million with the Township receiving, thus far, \$900,000. Total costs for the ongoing cleanup could reach \$5,000,000 million. Costs include, but not limited to, stump removal and debris collection and disposal.

There has been no increase in State Aid since 2011 and the State continues to receive the Energy Receipts tax which municipalities used to receive. The Township's loss is estimated at \$1.5 million annually. This net loss over the last four years has amounted to approximately 6 million dollars. In addition, according to the NJ State school funding formula the Piscataway School District should receive 46 million dollars for the 2013/2014 school year; the district only received 15.5 million dollars; or 33%, a 30.5 million dollar shortfall. Piscataway continues to be underfunded and Piscataway taxpayers pay a disproportionate share of the school budget due to the reduction of state aid.

We are always mindful of the impact property taxes have on all of us and we work diligently to minimize costs that we can control, while not jeopardizing the level and quality of service that our residents have come to expect.

Joseph Criscuolo
Business Administrator

