



Helping Communities to Help Themselves



What does the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs do?

- Local Government Services
- Codes and Standards
- Housing and Community Resources
- Local Planning Services
- Fire Safety
- Disaster Recovery and Mitigation
- Oversight of the New Jersey Redevelopment Authority, New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency, New Jersey Historic Trust, Urban Enterprise Zone Program, and Government Records Council



Local Government Services

The Division of Local Government Services serves as an advocate for local government interests.

- *Technical and financial assistance in budgeting, financial reporting, joint services, purchasing, and management.*
- *Maintains financial integrity of all local government units, reviewing and approving all municipal, county and fire district budgets.*
- *Reviews local government financial actions and also governs and guides the conduct of local government officials.*



Codes and Standards

The Division of Codes and Standards establishes and enforces building codes, in partnership with the state's municipalities, to protect the health and safety of New Jersey residents.

- ***Hotel and Multiple Dwelling Law.***
- ***Uniform Construction Code for buildings, plumbing, electrical, fire protection, energy, mechanical, one- and two-family dwelling, fuel gas, rehabilitation, barrier-free, asbestos, radon, playground safety and elevator subcodes, and lead hazard abatement.***
- ***Carnival and amusement ride inspections, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) installations, rooming and boarding house licensing, and the State's New Home Warranty program.***



Fire Safety

The New Jersey Division of Fire Safety serves as the central focus for the state's fire service community and the general public in all matters relating to fire safety.

- ***Enforcement of the State Uniform Fire Code***
- ***Public education programs***
- ***Firefighter and Fire Service training and education***
- ***Fire incident reporting***
- ***Firefighter serious injury and fatality investigations***
- ***Fire safety public education***



Local Planning Services

Local Planning Services (LPS), an office within DCA, works with communities to achieve local land use and planning goals. As part of DCA's commitment to provide technical assistance to municipalities, our professional planning staff offers comprehensive planning services at no-cost to local governments.

- ***Master Plans and Redevelopment Plans***
- ***Land Use and Mapping***
- ***Economic Development Plans***
- ***Special Municipal Projects***



Division of Disaster Recovery & Mitigation

The Division of Disaster Recovery and Mitigation promotes the long-term resilience of New Jersey's communities by supporting initiatives to fortify housing, businesses, and infrastructure against severe weather events and flooding damage, such as Hurricane Sandy. Such initiatives include the Mitigation Assistance Program, which provides homeowners in flood-prone communities with funds to elevate their homes out of harm's way and the Atlantic City Resilience Program, a joint effort with the City of Atlantic City to strengthen the city's infrastructure and public buildings to guard against repetitive flooding.



Housing & Community Resources

DCA's Division of Housing and Community Resources mission is to strengthen and revitalize communities through the delivery of affordable housing, supportive services and the provision of financial and technical assistance to communities, local government and community-based organizations in New Jersey.

- *Homelessness Prevention*
- *Energy Assistance Programs*
- *Neighborhood Programs*
- *Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher*
- *Lead Assistance Programs*
- *Supportive Housing Connection (SHC)*



Office of Homelessness Prevention

The DCA Office of Homelessness Prevention capitalizes on the strides New Jersey is making in addressing homelessness by coordinating homelessness-prevention efforts among federal, state and local agencies and private organizations with a goal of implementing a statewide strategy to address homelessness.

- *Consults with stakeholders, including people who are homeless, to identify policies and initiatives that have been the most successful.*
- *Evaluates best practices.*
- *Analyzes national data, which serves as the foundation for new initiatives.*



New Jersey Historic Trust

The New Jersey Historic Trust helps to advance historic preservation in New Jersey for the benefit of future generations through education, stewardship and financial investment programs that save our heritage and strengthen our communities.

- *Preservation at the state level*
- *Community revitalization*
- *Full partner in state policy development*
- *Technical and financial resource for the stewardship of historic properties*



Urban Enterprise Zone Program

The Urban Enterprise Zone (UEZ) Program fosters an economic climate that revitalizes designated urban communities and stimulates their growth by encouraging businesses to develop and create private sector jobs through public and private investment.

Benefits to businesses:

- ***Reduced sales tax***
- ***Financial assistance from state agencies***
- ***Subsidized insurance costs***
- ***Energy sales tax exemption***
- ***Tax credit options***



Government Records Council

The Government Records Council (GRC) is committed to making the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) work for the citizens of New Jersey. Since the law's inception, the GRC works to make government records more easily accessible to the public. The GRC is committed to being the facilitator of open government in New Jersey.

- *Responds to inquiries and complaints about the law from the public and public agency records custodians*
- *Issues public information about the law and services provided by the Council*
- *Maintains a toll-free help line and Web site to assist the public and records custodians*
- *Issues advisory opinions on the accessibility of government records*
- *Delivers training on the law*
- *Provides mediation of disputes about access to government records*
- *Resolves disputes regarding access to government records*



NJ Redevelopment Authority & NJ Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency

The New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency (NJHMFA) is dedicated to increasing the availability of and accessibility to safe, decent and affordable housing to families in New Jersey. In some cases this may mean working with traditional affordable housing developments, serving New Jersey's most needy families.

In other instances it is working with first-time homebuyers, senior citizens, and/or the disabled in our special needs communities.

The New Jersey Redevelopment Authority (NJRA) is a multi-million dollar independent financing authority created by the State of New Jersey via the New Jersey Redevelopment Act in July 1996 to transform urban communities through direct investment and technical support.

The New Jersey Redevelopment Act provided the state's urban centers with opportunities to build effective public/private partnerships in order to leverage funds for entrepreneurial growth, job creation, and to enhance community empowerment allowing NJRA to pioneer a coordinated approach to facilitating needed urban redevelopment projects in economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.



New Jersey Housing
and Mortgage
Finance Agency

www.njhousing.gov



NJRA
New Jersey
Redevelopment Authority

Opportunity Zones

For Businesses and Investors

**NEW JERSEY IS
LEADING THE WAY WITH
OPPORTUNITY ZONES**



The Opportunity Zones program was enacted as part of the 2017 federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act and is designed to drive long-term capital investments into low-income rural and urban communities. This federal program provides opportunities for private investors to support investments in distressed communities through participation in Qualified Opportunity Funds. Investors can defer paying federal taxes on capital gains reinvested in Qualified Opportunity Funds that invest in low-income communities, under rules released by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

Opportunity Zones

Resources for Businesses and Investors

DCA updates and maintains [opportunityzones.nj.gov](https://www.opportunityzones.nj.gov), the State's official one-stop shop website for Opportunity Zones information. The site provides a big picture view of the program, how it overlaps with special state designation areas, and how it can be leveraged with other state incentives to help stimulate community investment.



- DCA's Office of Local Planning Services offers special technical assistance to Opportunity Zone municipalities that wish to develop Opportunity Zone strategies, plans, and marketing materials.
- DCA provides timely answers to questions and information requests from potential Opportunity Zones businesses, developers and investors through the dedicated state email address for Opportunity Zone inquiries, njopportunityzones@dca.nj.gov.



Department of Community Affairs

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