

STATEMENT BY THE HONORABLE RANDY S.BROWN,  
MAYOR, OF EVESHAM TOWNSHIP AND  
NEW JERSEY LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
CONCERNING GOVERNOR CORZINE'S PROPOSED BUDGET  
FOR FY 2008-2009  
PRESENTED TO THE ASSEMBLY BUDGET COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2008  
MOUNT LAUREL, NJ

Thank you , Mr.Chairman and Members of the Committee for giving me this opportunity to speak on the Governor's budget proposal.

There are many hurdles that we face as elected officials in Municipal Government. I will be presenting to you some ideas on how I believe the State Government can be helpful to Municipalities in this difficult economic time.

- A. Examining the Statutory regulations in place regarding the Share program and how monies are distributed. For example: Capital Projects
- B. Addressing the use of Open Space Trust Fund monies .
- C. Utilization of Efficiency Bonuses of state aid : Example per capita costs
- D. Permitting local municipalities to create a user tax.

Under the current plan Evesham Twp is slated to lose \$450,000. Our budget planning was complete and ready to turn into the Finance Board. We are staying under the newly formed 4% cap, as instructed and then we were told of this decision at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour and have been kept in the dark for this decision and many others.

There should be discussion about the phasing of property tax funding cuts and we should be an integral part of them. Our taxpayers, once again, will be asked to carry the load

This year we need your help.

Please restore the \$190 million in municipal property tax relief that the Governor has proposed to cut in the FY 2009

