



E-Government for Government

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Distribution: Local Unit Chief Executive Officers, Municipal Clerks, Chief Administrative Officers, Tax Collectors, Clerks to the Boards of Chose Freeholders, and School Business Administrator. Sharing is encouraged.

Introduction to "EGG" Notices

A Note from DCA Commissioner Jane M. Kenny:

It is my pleasure to introduce local officials to the Division of Local Government Services' (DLGS) new E-Government for Government Notices. Our "EGGs," as I expect they will become known, will become a tool for local officials to use as technology plays a larger and more important role in the administration of New Jersey's government affairs.

Technology answers the question of "what's next" for government administration. It will, in some way, affect virtually every aspect of government administration and will present new and complex challenges for officials at all levels of government. As technology has challenged State government to meet the demands of our constituents, customers, and clients, it presents the same challenges to local governments and the business and financial activities of our boards of education.

For the last seven years, DLGS has been an active leader in promoting the use of technology to local governments. Through EGGs, we are now formalizing our informational and advisory role to provide regular updates and guidance. As the Division plays a support role to the Department of Education (DoE) and local school boards in areas of procurement, we will coordinate our efforts with DoE to provide relevant and useful advice to school business administrators.

While our first EGGs relate to electronic and Internet procurement activities, I am most excited about what will follow in the next few months: the roll-out of the long planned GovConnect initiative. Starting in September, Municipal Clerks, Chief Financial Officers, County Chief Financial Officers and County Clerks to the Boards of Chosen Freeholders will be the first to participate in our government-to-government communications technology.

Using the *MyNewJersey* "portal" technology (<http://my.state.nj.us>) being implemented by the State's Office of Information Technology (OIT), we have the technology that enables State agencies to use Internet technology to deliver information and services to our local counterparts, and vice versa. Over the next 12 months, GovConnect will expand to include additional local officials, and government officials will have new tools to manage their affairs. The business of technology is involved and challenging. Here are some of the initiatives that are currently underway in DCA alone:

- Deployment of GovConnect
- Study of how technology affects local government in all local units (including school business and facility practices) – pursuant to P.L. 2001, c.30
- Operation of an Internet-bidding pilot program that permits waiver of many traditional contracting requirements
- Providing guidance on using Internet - based “e-quotation” systems
- Funding a technology “best practices” study with 13 municipalities through the REDI shared services program, and other REDI-based technology studies.
- Funding a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) pilot program through the REDI program and the State’s Office of Geographic Information Systems. (*Formal announcement is coming in September*)
- Adopting rules on using third party electronic payment systems
- Providing guidance on using Internet based “activity registration” services
- Partnering with the N.J. State League of Municipalities and Conference of Mayor’s on their own technology initiatives.
- Developing LUBARS, the long planned Local Unit Budget Approval and Reporting System – moving the Division of Local Government Services budget and financial reporting system from paper system to an electronic one.
- Working with the Division of Taxation on its update to tax assessment systems: PAMS, the Property Assessment Management System.

We will also be communicating information about these and other programs through at an EGG website that is currently under development. Watch for that at www.state.nj.us/dca/lgs/egg.

EGGs are also about you...our constituents. Tell us about your technology success stories, and we will include them in upcoming EGGs. There are a lot of great local government technology success stories and we want to help share them.

You can also expect more and more State agencies to be providing their services to you electronically, as the public grows to expect it as well. We all have an obligation to meet these new challenges. I am sure that these efforts will help. Let us know: e-mail us at egg@dca.state.nj.us.

Jane M. Kenny, Commissioner
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