



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

*Executive Order 22-06 for the City of Trenton
Authorizing An Emergency Temporary Budget
To Maintain City Services For Trenton Residents*

WHEREAS, on or about March 23, 2022, the City Administration presented the President of the City Council (Council President) with a proposed City of Trenton Calendar Year 2022 Budget (Proposed Budget) for inclusion on the City Council agenda for consideration and vote by the members of the City Council, but Council President refused to include the Proposed Budget on the City Council agenda; and

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2022, City Council accepted a resolution introducing the Proposed Budget; and

WHEREAS, since the April 5, 2022 City Council meeting, Council President has refused to hold budget meetings unless the City hires a budget officer to “explain” the Proposed Budget, despite: (i) the last three budgets having been assessed and passed by City Council without a budget officer; (ii) the Proposed Budget being the third budget cycle without a municipal tax increase; (iii) members of the City Administration with appropriate knowledge of the budget standing at the ready to answer any Council questions; and (iv) representatives of the State Department of Community Affairs (DCA) having reviewed the Proposed Budget and having no objections; and

WHEREAS, at the June 2, 2022 City Council meeting, Council voted down an emergency Resolution to fund the City’s Interest and Debt Redemption charges (Debt Service), with Councilwoman Vaughn citing the absence of an enacted budget as one of the reasons for the negative vote; and

WHEREAS, at the June 16, 2022 City Council meeting, Council failed to pass a temporary emergency appropriations resolution, including the Debt Service, and failed to provide sufficient time to advertise and hold public hearings for the budget to be adopted by June 30, 2022, in order to make the first Debt Service payment scheduled on July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, City Council’s failure to adopt temporary emergency appropriations or a budget for Calendar Year 2022, including Debt Service, will result in a cessation of City services essential for

the health, safety and well-being of Trenton residents and business owners, and also cause the City to default on its bond payments, resulting in more costly Debt Service for the City; and


WHEREAS, by Executive Order 22-04 dated June 30, 2022, I issued an Executive Order authorizing any and all steps necessary to ensure the continued provision of goods and services needed for the health, safety and well-being of Trenton’s citizenry, as well as the financial stability of the City; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 22-04 expired by its terms on July 30, 2022, and City Council has continued to fail to pass a budget for Calendar Year 2022, including most recently during the November 3, 2022 City Council meeting.

NOW THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority vesting in the Office of the Mayor of the City of Trenton, to ensure the provision of uninterrupted City services to the residents and business owners of Trenton, I hereby issue this Executive Order, authorizing any and all steps necessary to ensure the continued provision of goods and services needed for the health, safety and well-being of Trenton’s citizenry, as well as the financial stability of the City, including payment of Debt Service, for a period not to exceed 30-days or whenever City Council passes temporary emergency appropriations or the budget for Calendar Year 2022, whichever of the three (3) events is sooner; and will further follow the guidance and direction of the DCA with regard to the foregoing directive.

The provisions of this Executive Order do not exceed the limitations of N.J.S. 40A:4-19. Nevertheless, if any provision of this Executive Order, or the application of any provision to any party or conditions, shall be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Executive Order, to the extent applicable at law, shall remain in full force and effect.

This Executive Order shall be kept on file in the Office of the City Clerk and Business Administrator. It shall be made available to the public upon request.

By: 

W. Reed Gusciora
Mayor, City of Trenton

Executed this 4th day of November 2022