

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### BRIDGING THE TRANSLATION GAP: EFFECTIVELY ENGAGING WITH POLICY MAKERS

"Business and government speak two totally different languages," said Kay LiCausi, President and CEO of Hoboken Strategy, at a Hudson County Chamber panel discussion hosted in partnership with the Guarini Institute for Government and Leadership at Saint Peter's College. I couldn't agree more with Ms. LiCausi's assessment. The two sectors and their leaders at times operate with opposing world views, which often entails approaching problems with very different assumptions.

That said, for business owners, understanding how to engage in effective discussion with policy makers at all levels of government is essential. Businesses, large and small, are impacted daily by legislative changes and the regulations that often emanate from new laws.

#### BE INFORMED & BE INVOLVED

In addition to Kay LiCausi, the recent Government Affairs panel discussion, entitled *Understanding Trenton & Issue Advocacy* featured Frank Robinson, First Vice

President at the New Jersey Business & Industry Association and John B. Wilson, President & CEO of AICUNJ (Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of NJ). All of them experts on the topic of issue advocacy, the panel was moderated by none other than the Honorable Joseph Doria.



Kay LiCausi, Frank Robinson and John Wilson with panel moderator Joe Doria (left to right) discuss how to be informed and involved at a May 8 Hudson Chamber Government Affairs Panel.

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Thursday, June 21:

Breakfast at the Liberty Science Center

8:30 AM

Meet President & CEO Paul Hoffman

#### Monday, June 25:

The Liberty CEO Cup

8:30 AM Registration Start Time

Bayonne Golf Club

## MEMBER PROMOTIONS

- Marist High School's 18th Annual Blue & Gold Alumni Golf Classic is June 19.
- Powerful Summer Fun at the Liberty Science Center with a bevy of activities and exhibits Got Power? and In the Dark.
- Ad deadline for the 4th Annual (201) Restaurant Week is July 3.

[Click here](#) to see all of our Members' June Promotions.



## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

### Bills to Overhaul State's UEZ Program Move Forward

NJ bills [S-429](#) and [A-2925](#), both of which seek stricter requirements to increase the accountability of municipalities participating in Urban Enterprise Zones, have been approved and referred to the respective Appropriations Committees of the State Senate and Assembly. These bills continue the UEZ Program with a focus to stimulate the economy and create jobs.

There are 37 UEZs in NJ and 7 of them are in Hudson County. The Chamber believes the pending UEZ bills provide a framework for greater accountability. We encourage Members to find your respective State Senator and Assembly person to let them know your perspective. [Click here](#) to learn more.

### Deadline Looms for Federal Surface Transportation Funding

The United States Senate recently passed [Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century \(MAP-21\)](#), which would reauthorize the nation's surface transportation programs for 2 years. The bill would also provide NJ with \$519M per year for public transportation, the highest amount of federal formula funding in history, without increased overall federal spending. In addition, the bill provides \$1 billion per year for New Jersey's roads.

Hudson County needs the MAP-21 legislation to move. This bill is fully paid for and would help create or save 1.9M jobs and would create an additional 1M jobs while providing for continued development of infrastructure that has powered the County's growth. The Chamber encourages Members to contact their [Congressional Representative](#) to urge passage of the funding provisions in MAP-21.