

# This Week at NJ21st: Unanswered Questions, Hidden Revenues, and a Simple Transparency Solution

### John Migueis | Editor

#### The Sewage Deal Smells Worse

John did a write-up on the <u>fifth and final addendum</u> to the Berkeley Heights Sewage Plant RFB, as already-weak job protections continue to shrink and the public is left holding the bag on a long list of unanswered questions.

#### **Show Us the Summary... and the Money**

Shauna provided a <u>summary of the 06/26/2025 Town Council Meeting</u> that, in true Berkeley Heights fashion, crammed a lot of major decisions into a single meeting—once again, with no real discussion or dissent. John also shared a <u>concerning analysis of construction code fees</u> collected by the Township and the legally permissible—but highly opaque—way the revenue is being tracked.

#### Where Does NJ Government Shop?

John breaks down <u>state vendor data released by the Department of Treasury</u>, showing which companies receive the most public dollars, and provides a tool for residents to explore top vendors by agency.

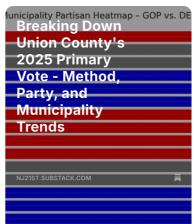
#### Calls to Strengthen the Open Public Meetings Act

NJPEC founder Michael Gottesman offers a brief <u>history of how School Boards</u> <u>increasingly obscure public agendas</u> and proposes a simple, legislative fix to restore basic transparency.

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