

NEWS

TOWNSHIP OF WOODBRIDGE



MAYOR JOHN E. McCORMAC

1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Phone: (732) 634-4500 ♦ Fax: (732) 602-6016

Web: <http://www.twp.woodbridge.nj.us>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Feb. 7, 2008

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

John R. Hagerty

732-602-6039

Mayor's Office of Communications

Woodbridge Mayor John E. McCormac and Carteret Mayor Daniel J. Reiman Announce Innovative Shared-Service Program to Collect Residential Trash

Cost-Effective Program Designed to Maximize Resources and Reduce Long-Term Municipal Costs for Solid Waste Collection & Disposal

Woodbridge Mayor John E. McCormac and Carteret Mayor Daniel J. Reiman today announced an innovative and cost-effective shared services agreement whereby the Township of Woodbridge will provide trash and solid waste collection and disposal services to the Borough of Carteret for a three-year period at a substantial reduction in cost to Borough taxpayers. The long-term, interlocal agreement – one of the first of its kind in the State – is geared to maximize the municipal resources of both communities while maintaining and improving trash collection service to residents of Carteret and Woodbridge.

Mayor McCormac and Mayor Reiman heralded the shared-service agreement as a significant step toward maximizing municipal resources and combining public services, noting that the two towns are moving forward on additional shared service programs including shared library services and the sheltering and care of abandoned pets and animals. The interlocal agreement for the collection of municipal solid waste calls for Carteret to pay \$1.8 million to Woodbridge over a three-year period (Feb. 1, 2008 – Jan. 31, 2011) – a savings of more than \$300,000 to Carteret taxpayers.

“It goes without saying that New Jersey municipalities are facing difficult financial times which demand innovative and creative solutions. The public demands – and deserves – their trash collected and their neighborhoods clean and free of debris. This agreement is a perfect example of what two communities can achieve when they have the same goal and are able to work together to provide effective municipal services at stable prices, using existing municipal resources and which results in shared benefits to the taxpayers of both communities. This agreement is a win-win for the residents of Carteret and Woodbridge... a win-win for shared services... and a win-win for our environment,” Mayor McCormac said.

“Shared services have become an important element in the ways we’re improving programs for area residents while also reducing the cost of government,” Mayor Reiman said. “Last year we expanded our senior meal on wheels program through Middlesex County to accommodate Woodbridge residents, and we are now completing studies that will enable both towns to share additional resources. This latest partnership with Woodbridge has not only enabled us to improve the efficiency of Carteret’s sanitation services, but will allow us to save our taxpayers \$300,000 in the first three years of the agreement. It’s a win-win for both communities, services for Carteret at a reduced price over the private sector; and additional revenue for Woodbridge township with minimal expenses.”

According to Mayor McCormac, the Woodbridge Department of Public Works has assigned 12 Sanitation employees, four rear-load trash trucks and one front-end load truck to collect and dispose of Carteret’s residential household trash (Type 10 solid waste that includes garbage, refuse and bulk waste.) Woodbridge sanitation crews will collect Carteret trash on Monday and Tuesday and Thursday and Friday each week. The collection of Carteret trash does not impact Woodbridge Township’s current trash collection schedule – each Woodbridge community still receives twice-weekly trash pick-up and consolidated curb-side recycling collection every Wednesday. Additionally, the collection of Carteret’s residential solid waste does not require any increase in Woodbridge Township Public Works staff, vehicles or equipment – the agreement utilizes existing Public Works resources.

Woodbridge Council President Rick Dalina said that the Township Council unanimously approved a Resolution authorizing the Interlocal Agreement on Jan. 29 during the public Council meeting. “On behalf of the entire Municipal Council, I am extremely pleased that we have secured a shared services agreement with Carteret that benefits the residents of both communities. Our goal as a Council is to explore any and all opportunities to share services within the Township and with neighboring communities. The agreement with Carteret is great starting point and serves our commitment to maximize tax dollars and municipal resources.”

Mayor’s McCormac and Reiman recently announced the opening of the Industrial Highway Extension which provides a real alternative to heavy commercial traffic by removing hundreds of trucks from local streets in Carteret, Woodbridge Township and Port Reading. The Industrial Highway project and the development of the Carteret – Port Reading commercial district into a viable economic engine that benefits the entire region is another example of how shared services between Carteret and Woodbridge, combined with a working partnership with the corporate community, achieves results that benefit the residents and businesses of both communities.