



# City of Orange Township

29 North Day Street  
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## ***News Release***

For Release: Immediate

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### **Orange Submits Recommendations For Federal Stimulus Package**

Anticipating that the federal stimulus package will be available shortly, the Orange city administration and the Board of Education have prepared a list of local infrastructure projects that might be eligible for funding. The list was compiled by Valerie Jackson, Acting Director of Planning and Economic Development

The list has been submitted to the United States Conference of Mayors which is gathering a master list of eligible projects from cities across the country. The two most important criteria for a project to be selected are the creation of jobs and the readiness of the project to move forward quickly.

The projects submitted by Orange total in excess of \$100 million dollars and include general infrastructure, energy infrastructure, transit infrastructure, and school improvements. They would create over 1000 jobs.

The largest project on the list is the \$50 million dollar installation of solar panels in conjunction with Essex County at the Orange Reservoir and Codey Arena at South Mountain in West Orange which would generate revenues from the sale of electricity.

Among the other projects are renovation of the Orange Library, park improvements, public school improvements, streetscape improvements, improvements to the Highland Avenue Train Station, renovation of City Hall and replacement of the Chestnut Street Pump Station. With regard to the Pump Station, the City must receive funds from the stimulus program before it can supplant funds from the bonds sold on its behalf by the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust (NJEIT). (full list attached)

### **Statement by Mayor Eldridge Hawkins, Jr.**

“The federal stimulus package has enormous potential to benefit America’s cities. In Orange, it holds the promise of funding many infrastructure projects that have been delayed for lack of funding. Without the stimulus package, most of these projects would require the floating of bonds by our city and the payment of principal and interest that Orange taxpayers cannot afford.

I have been working with the ad hoc coalition of New Jersey’s urban and suburban mayors to coordinate infrastructure and program recommendations for action by the incoming Obama administration. I serve on the Public Safety Committee of that ad hoc group and have contributed to the recently released report entitled New Jersey Mayors’ Municipal Issues Recommendations. ”