

# NJ THIRD DISTRICT

STEVE SWEENEY  
SENATE PRESIDENT  
JOHN BURZICHELLI  
DEPUTY SPEAKER  
ADAM TALIAFERRO  
ASSEMBLYMAN

## Newsletter



WINTER 2021—VOLUME 16—ISSUE 6

Dear Friend,

As we prepare to close out 2021, we wish to take this opportunity to thank you for the honor of serving you as your elected representatives in the New Jersey Legislature. Together, in our years of legislative service to you in Trenton, we have earned various leadership posts that have helped us amplify South Jersey's voice in the Legislature to get the job done for you.



### COVID-19

We are proud to have been partners with you in good times and in times of great uncertainty. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck, while the rest of the country was dealing with crippling shutdowns, our offices were open and operating at a full sprint. We were instrumental in aiding thousands of constituents receive lifesaving COVID vaccinations,

helping displaced workers collect millions of dollars in unemployment benefits, and supporting our small businesses impacted by the virus.



### Investments and Jobs

As we reflect on the Third District and its evolution, we are grateful to have witnessed a remarkable transformation in so many aspects of daily life. The Third District now has a distinctly different and vastly improved complexion. And it is not by accident.

Job growth and retention have been central to our commitment to our district. Ground has just been broken on the New Jersey Wind Port in Lower Alloways Creek, Salem County, which is poised to create 1,500 permanent jobs, employ hundreds of construction workers, and generate up to \$500 million in economic activity in Salem County.

The Port of Paulsboro, the first major port to be constructed on the Delaware River in more than 50 years, is now a thriving hub of activity. Hundreds of new jobs will be added at that location to support the Wind Port project in Salem County.

While we are proud to support these new, high-paying, skilled labor jobs that have come to the Third District in recent years, we are resolute about preserving existing jobs at our major employers, including the Salem and Hope Creek nuclear plants, and promoting growth opportunities for our small business community.



### Higher Education

The Third Legislative District is home to Rowan University, which enjoys the well-earned distinction of a public research university, funneling millions of critical dollars into our region, attracting the best and brightest minds who learn, work, and live in our district. Rowan University has been a place of robust growth, employing thousands of our neighbors, offering vast academic programs, and is pioneering new, world-class educational experiences for the next generation of leaders in business and industry in Southern New Jersey.

We were instrumental in helping Rowan College of South Jersey expand its footprint to campuses in Gloucester and Cumberland Counties, enabling so many of you to pursue a high-quality, affordable education, right here at home. We have supported the expansion of new and exciting academic offerings at Salem Community College, as well.



### Health Care

Gloucester County is home to New Jersey's newest hospital. Inspira Health-Mullica Hill opened its doors a couple years ago and boasts state-of-the-art medical technology where respected health care professionals provide top-notch care.

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### Agriculture, Open Space

We have stayed true to our Third District values, protecting South Jersey farmers and preserving land from development, and have made sound investments in our precious natural resources like Parvin State Park.



### Protecting Our Seniors

Our pledge to preserve and protect programs that benefit our seniors has remained steadfast, ensuring the Homestead Benefit and Senior Freeze, which offer vital property tax relief, are strengthened and continue uninterrupted.



### A Voice for Everyone

We have been a staunch voice for individuals with disabilities. We have led many legislative endeavors to support constituents with disabilities so they may have assurances of stable and reliable housing, care, and employment.



### Results in EVERY Municipality

Every county government and municipality in the Third District has been the beneficiary of various state and federal grant awards, totaling in the hundreds of millions of dollars, which have helped improve our schools and local infrastructure, including roads and bridges. We have worked to ensure non-profit agencies receive the funding that helps them provide vital services to our constituents, including programs for our veterans, emergency housing, energy assistance, and meals for those who are food insecure.



### Constituent Services

We have faithfully served you through the years, building an unrivaled constituent services program that has consistently delivered results for you in your time of need. It has been our solemn promise that we have fulfilled time and again.



As we reflect on our shared accomplishments, we are heartened and humbled to see just how far the Third District has come. It has always been our duty to serve as your voice in Trenton and fight for our fair share. You entrusted us to serve as your legislators. You inspired us. You are the catalyst that energized us and ignited exciting change that has exceeded all our expectations.

Thank you!

And as we prepare to usher in 2022, we extend our every good wish to you for peace, prosperity, and good health.

Sincerely,

Steve, John, and Adam

Stephen M. Sweeney  
Senate President

John J. Burzichelli  
Deputy Speaker

Adam J. Taliaferro  
Assemblyman



## First-Hand Look: Sweeney, Burzichelli, and Taliaferro Tour Upgraded Riverview Beach Park in Pennsville



Senate President Sweeney, Deputy Speaker John Burzichelli and Assemblyman Adam Taliaferro toured Riverview Beach Park in Pennsville to view the recent accessibility upgrades made to the recreational pathway, including a new wheelchair accessible walking path. The pathway improvement project was partially funded by a grant through the New Jersey Healthy Communities Network (NJHCN). The remaining funds for the project came from the Pennsville Rotary Club, the VFW and the Pennsville *Septemberfest* Committee.



“The accessibility upgrades to the Riverview Beach Park were essential, as all people, no matter their ability, should feel welcome to explore and enjoy the scenery,” said **Senator Sweeney**. “Ensuring that all of our public recreational spaces are accessible and able to accommodate individuals with disabilities is a top priority of mine. The NJHCN’s grants have helped disabled New Jerseyans over the last decade. It is my hope that more parks across the state will be inclusive in their accessibility. Riverview Beach Park is a glowing example for others to follow.”

“It is great to see local organizations giving back to the community to help make public spaces able to be enjoyed by all,” said **Assemblyman Burzichelli**. “The accessibility upgrades made to Riverview Beach Park show that the community recognizes the importance for parks like this to be easily accessible to all individuals, regardless if they have a disability.”



“All of our residents deserve to have equal access to enjoy the many great features Riverview Beach Park has to offer,” said **Assemblyman Taliaferro**. “The upgrades that were made to make this park more accessible were much-needed and now people of all abilities can visit this park with ease.”



## Sweeney, Burzichelli, and Taliaferro Announce \$5.7 Million in Grants to Repair Roads and Bridges Across the Third District

Senate President Sweeney, Deputy Assembly Speaker Burzichelli and Assemblyman Taliaferro lauded the Department of Transportation for awarding more than \$5.7 million to municipalities in the Third Legislative District for repairs and improvements to roads and bridges that will improve the quality of life of residents.

The following municipalities received *Municipal Aid* grant funding for transportation infrastructure projects:

### Cumberland County:

- Bridgeton City: \$490,386
- Deerfield Township: \$175,000
- Upper Deerfield Township: \$240,000

### Salem County:

- Alloway Township: \$161,000
- Carneys Point Township: \$171,000
- Elsinboro Township: \$181,000
- Lower Alloways Creek: \$171,000
- Mannington Township: \$202,979
- Oldmans Township: \$161,000
- Penns Grove Borough: \$61,527
- Pennsville Township: \$191,000
- Quinton Township: \$191,000
- Salem City: \$216,574

### Gloucester County:

- Clayton Borough: \$275,532
- East Greenwich Township: \$218,000
- Elk Township: \$240,000
- Franklin Township: \$218,000
- Glassboro Borough: \$242,106
- Greenwich Township: \$240,000
- Logan Township: \$218,000
- Newfield Borough: \$240,000
- Paulsboro Borough: \$250,000
- South Harrison Township: \$265,000
- Swedesboro Borough: \$218,000
- West Deptford Township: \$250,000
- Woodbury Heights Borough: \$218,000
- Woolwich Township: \$280,000



## Legislative News & Notes



- ▶ [Three bills](#) authored by **Senate President Sweeney** that would aid those with disabilities were approved by the Senate. The measures would set up training programs at county colleges to train direct care workers who care for the disabled, establish college-based transitional centers for adults with disabilities, and provide loans to businesses to make workplace accommodations to facilitate the needs of employees with disabilities.
- ▶ In an effort to better protect farmland, the Senate Economic Growth Committee approved [legislation](#) co-sponsored by **Senate President Sweeney** that would exclude farmland as a redevelopment or rehabilitation area. The bill would amend the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law to specify that farmland is not a redevelopment area or an area in need of redevelopment under that law.

## Sweeney Recognized as *Legislator of the Year* for Work on Behalf of Persons with Disabilities

Senate President Sweeney, who has been a tireless advocate for infants, children and young adults with disabilities, received the 2021 *Legislator of the Year Award* from the Association of Schools and Agencies for the Handicapped at the group's 43rd Annual Conference.

"I especially want to thank you for this award in connection with an issue that has been at the very center of my entire career in public service," said **Senator Sweeney**. "As many of you know, I got involved in government in the first place because my daughter, Lauren, was born premature, weighing just two pounds, and with developmental disabilities. Part of my reason for being, and my public service, has been about trying to make life a little better, more affordable and a little easier to navigate for those with disabilities.

The *Legislator of the Year Award* was presented to Senator Sweeney because of his lawmaking achievements and relentless advocacy on behalf of those with disabilities. Senator Sweeney's work has greatly improved the lives of both adults and young people by expanding pathways to educational opportunity, working to ensure those with disabilities have access to public transportation, and spreading awareness about the many positive contributions those with disabilities have made and continue to make in society.

In his role as Senate President, Senator Sweeney led the way for funding \$400 million for Extraordinary Special Education and guided passage of legislation that requires boards of education to provide an additional year of special education and related services to students turning age 21 to make up for learning loss due to the cancellation of programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"While we have accomplished much in recent years to open doors and make life more affordable and more accessible for people with disabilities in New Jersey, we must continue to do more," added Senator Sweeney. "Too often, there remains a disconnect in our state and a discrepancy in how those individuals with disabilities are cared for, whether they have access to public transportation, and how and where they can gain employment. I can promise you that my commitment to these issues, to people with disabilities and their families, will not fade, and my voice will continue to be heard loud and clear."



## Funding Awards Announced for Third District Schools

Senate President Sweeney, Deputy Assembly Speaker Burzichelli, and Assemblyman Taliaferro are pleased to announce [funding awards](#) for schools across the Third Legislative District. The funds, administered by the New Jersey Schools Development Authority, will be used to address maintenance needs as well as COVID-19 concerns to help schools ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for students. The funding awards are as follows:

### Cumberland County:

- ✂ Bridgeton: \$1,094,503
- ✂ Cumberland County Vocational: \$19,489
- ✂ Cumberland Regional: \$26,683
- ✂ Deerfield Township: \$6,528
- ✂ Upper Deerfield Township: \$17,957

### Salem County:

- ✂ Alloway Township: \$7,782
- ✂ Elsinboro Township: \$2,711
- ✂ Lower Alloways Creek: \$3,433
- ✂ Mannington Township: \$3,346
- ✂ Oldmans Township: \$6,339
- ✂ Penns Grove-Carneys Point Regional: \$48,199
- ✂ Pennsville: \$39,779
- ✂ Pittsgrove Township: \$41,995
- ✂ Quinton Township: \$6,750
- ✂ Salem City: \$202,239
- ✂ Salem County Special Services: \$4,136
- ✂ Salem County Vocational: \$21,279
- ✂ Upper Pittsgrove: \$6,999
- ✂ Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional: \$35,804



### Gloucester County:

- ✂ Clayton: \$33,077
- ✂ Delsea Regional H.S. District: \$42,495
- ✂ East Greenwich Twp.: \$28,466
- ✂ Elk Township: \$7,501
- ✂ Franklin Township: \$31,174
- ✂ Gateway Regional: \$23,249
- ✂ Glassboro: \$44,662
- ✂ Gloucester County Institute of Technology: \$40,851
- ✂ Gloucester County Special Services: \$14,348
- ✂ Greenwich Township: \$9,172
- ✂ Kingsway Regional: \$71,822
- ✂ Logan Township: \$17,728
- ✂ National Park: \$5,469
- ✂ Paulsboro: \$27,794
- ✂ South Harrison Twp: \$7,625
- ✂ Swedesboro-Woolwich: \$36,182
- ✂ West Deptford: \$68,334
- ✂ Woodbury Heights: \$4,807