# Great Day Gazette

The crown jewel of the Jersey Shore

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Information on the City's historic Employee Raises, Investment in the ACFD, Employees of the month, Tax Decreases and much more!

## GRANTS GALORE

Mayor Small kicked off the summer season with the announcement of multiple, long-awaited projects in Atlantic City.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Looking for some fun in the sun at the shore this summer? Be sure to check out our list of upcoming events in the great City of Atlantic City.

## UNLOCKING OF THE ATLANTIC OCEAN

The traditional unlocking of the ocean took place at the North Carolina Avenue Beach outside of Resorts Casino & Hotel. See photos inside!

## The Official Start of Atlantic City's Summer!

### FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Atlantic City residents and guests,

I hope you got to enjoy a safe and relaxing Memorial Day Weekend. While it's always nice to spend some time with family and friends at the beach, let us not forget what the holiday is truly about and that's honoring and remembering those individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Now that the summer season has arrived, I'm making this promise: this will be the biggest summer ever in the history of Atlantic City!

From the return of popular events to spectacular new ones, from our beautiful beaches to our world class dining and entertainment, we assure you Atlantic City will once again be the place to be as the weather heats up. Our motto this summer is 'We Live, We Lit, We Outside.' We want you to come here, we want you to have a great time, we want you to take advantage of everything our City has to offer.

One of the highlights of the season comes early this year. The inaugural Mayor Small Gala Weekend is June 3-5. This is a nonstop, weekend long party featuring some amazing musical talents, including an appearance by none other than Mary J. Blige! Buy your tickets here: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/marty-small-mayors-gala-weekend-tickets-331464849287.

ALL PROCEEDS from the weekend benefit various children's charities throughout the City.

Thanks for reading our newsletter and remember, it's a GREAT Day here in the City of Atlantic City!

Sincerely,

Mayor Marty Small, Sr.

# Historic City Employee Raises

City Hall employees filled City Council Chambers in anticipation of a "major announcement" from Mayor Small. They weren't disappointed in the result.

"I've always been on the frontline for our employees," Mayor Small said before delivering the unprecedented news. "I've been pro employee as a Councilman and I'm pro employee as Mayor. I want everybody to make money as long as it's fiscally responsible."

Effective July 1, 2022 the new minimum salary for City Hall employees will increase from $25,500 to $31,200, the new minimum salary for communications workers increases from $27,000 to $35,000 and all City employees get a $4,500 raise to their base salary. Effective January 1, 2023 all City employees get an additional $3,000 raise to their base salaries.

"We have a slogan that the Small Administration says what it means and means what it says," said Mayor Small. "If we say we're going to do something we're going to do it. I've been around a long time, we have never seen employees rewarded like this."

"(Mayor Small) is the ultimate cheerleader for the City," said Atlantic City Auditor Leon Costello. "We talked a lot all through this process, he's constantly fighting for more and more and more for the employees and the taxpayers."

***Also: Taxes Decrease for Third Consecutive Year***

Watch the full announcement on Facebook.

The other big news to come out of this press conference is Atlantic City taxpayers will see a decrease for a third year in a row. This latest decrease is 4.8 cents.

The 2022 fiscal Year Budget is $218,638,224.50. You can view the full breakdown here:

- Tax decrease of 4.83 cents
- minimum salary in City Hall goes from $25,500 to $31,200 effective 7/1
- Minimum salary for communications workers goes from $27,000 to $35,000 effective 7/1
- City employees get a $4,500 raise to their base salary effective 7/1.

  $3,000 raise coming 1/1/2023

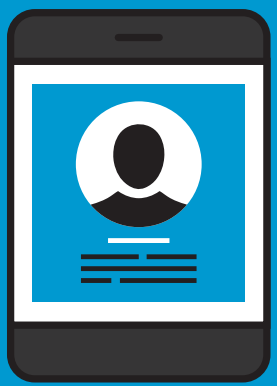
## Your Government on Social Media

Learn more about City of Atlantic City happenings by following us on social media!

Twitter: AtlanticCityGov

Facebook: AtlanticCityGov

Instagram: AtlanticCityNJGov



## Sign Up for 'AC Alerts'

Atlantic City is officially launching "AC Alerts" - our new notification system to keep the public informed of potential dangerous, or even life-threatening situations in the City. These can include severe weather, road closures, public safety incidents, and more.
The public is being asked to fill out a profile through this link: https://www.acnj.gov/pages/acalerts. Alerts are sent via phone and/or email, you choose how you'd like to receive them.

## *Investing in the Fire Department*

Wanting to address "dangerous and disturbing rumors" regarding the Atlantic City Fire Department, Mayor Small called a press conference to let the public know in the event of an emergency, they are in good hands.

"We want to ensure the public we have the proper equipment and staff to respond to an emergency any time of day," said Atlantic City Fire Chief Scott Evans.

The City has been hard at work to address equipment issues with the Fire Department. The Small Administration invested in a $1M ladder truck, two new pumpers and two new trucks expected to arrive later this year, and purchased a fire truck from Ventnor that will be used as a reserve until the new apparatus arrive.

"I am the first mayor in eleven years to invest in such equipment," said Mayor Small.

"We understand we have apparatus issues," added Chief Evans. "We're taking every action we can to fix and repair the apparatus. This has become very cumbersome over the years. This problem did not happen overnight. Mayor Small's Administration did not create this problem, but they are committed to fixing this problem."

There are plans in place to purchase even more fire trucks down the line. Atlantic City can also receive assistance from fire departments in neighboring towns if the situation calls for it, just as the Atlantic City Fire Department is willing to assist those neighboring towns.

As for staffing, "we have a plan to increase our personnel," said Chief Evans. Chief Evans said staffing is currently at a "comfortable" level, but positions have been added to the budget so additional hires can be made down the line. There are at least 38 firefighters on duty at all times of the day.

## TEMPORARY OFFICE RELOCATION

The Atlantic City Tax Collector and Cashier Offices in rooms 125 and 126 at City Hall have been temporarily closed due to renovations.

The temporary location for tax payment and inquirers, residential parking permits and payments for various departments is room 106 in City Hall. Please contact 609-347-5630 with any questions.

We apologize for any inconveniences.

## EMPLOYEE NEWS

**The City of Atlantic City is thrilled to announce the return of our Employee of the Month program. We'd like to recognize our current honorees, chosen by the supervisors of their respective departments:**

- **Anthony Abrams – Police**
- **Frank Becktel – Revenue & Finance**
- **John Callahan - Fire**
- **Rodney Hammock – Health & Human Services**
- **Sydney Karrer – Licensing & Inspection**
- **Kashawn McKinley – Administration**
- **Jaimee Moore – Police**
- **Robert Murray – Public Works**
- **Mona Tally – Human Resources**

## MEET THE NEW YOUTH SERVICES TEAM!

In an effort to further engage with Atlantic City's youth, the City has built an entire Youth Services team.

This group has already accomplished a lot in a short period of time, and we can't wait to see what else they have in store! Give them a follow @atlanticcityyouthservices.

And while you're at it, check out some of our other wonderful community groups on social media @atlantic_city_recreation_ , @atlantic_city_senior_services and @cityofac_multiculturalservices.

# Mayor's Inaugural Gala Weekend!

**The Atlantic City Mayor Marty Small Sr. Inaugural Gala, "Together We Rise," will benefit several youth-serving organizations in Atlantic City.**

**The star-studded Gala will include celebrity entertainers, a VIP Sponsor Reception, and an After Party.**

**The Mayor Small Gala Weekend kicks off Friday, June 3rd at Harrah's. The official Mayor's Gala is Saturday night, June 4th at Harrah's followed by the afterparty.**

**The grand finale is Sunday, June 5th at the Harrah's pool.** https://www.eventbrite.com/e/marty-small-mayors-gala-weekend-tickets-331464849287.

## UPCOMING EVENTS: SUMMER 2022

- On June 11th, spiritual uplifting & healing along with social services will be taking place at Kennedy Plaza beginning at 11a with the "First Love Unbroken" concert.
- Atlantic City's very own Stay Hungry Basketball Tournament returns this summer. The first game of the season will take place at Bader Field on June 18th.
- Ole! AC welcomes two distinct Mexican Festivals throughout the summer, beginning this month.
- The 2nd Annual Pride Month celebration will take place in the City Hall Courtyard on June 15th.

# *Atlantic City Beer & Music Festival*

The Atlantic City Beer & Music Festival returns to Bader Field June 4-5. https://www.acbeerfest.com/.

Starting in 2006 with 3,000 people and less than 30 breweries, the original Atlantic City Beer Festival or "Celebration of The Suds" was born. Over the past 16 years, the event has undergone countless changes, added innumerable breweries to the roster, and to date has seen nearly half a million people!

"We're proud of our history, and we know first-hand that evolution has played a factor in our success," says event producer Jon Henderson, CEO of Good Time Tricycle. "From our first year seeing 3,000 people, now we annually see over 27,000 throughout the festival weekend. This year (2022) we switched it up and are taking the festival to its new outdoor location on Bader Field, covering well over 1.4 million square feet."

Don't forget about the Annual Hops Trot 5K taking place Sunday Morning of June 5th which ends at the famous Beer & Music Festival.

- Are you ready for some football? Registration is now open for NFL Flag Football in Atlantic City, for grades 5-8.

The action begins June 24th. https://app.teamlinkt.com/register/find/acrec

It's three straight days of food, drink and entertainment at Bader Field, from June 24-26 during the AC Seafood and Music Festival, presented by Steel Pier. https://www.acnj.gov/News/View/213/steel-pier-presents-atlantic-city-seafood-and-music-festival-this-june

Le Diner En Blanc is coming to Atlantic City on June 25th. The allure of the event is that the location is a secret until the day of.

To find out more or to register go to: https://register.dinerenblanc.com/atlanticcity/en/register?

## LOOKING BACK AT PAST EVENTS

1. The power of prayer was felt in Atlantic City on National Day of Prayer as City employees joined hands with members of the community

2. City employees planted blue pinwheels into the City Hall Courtyard in honor of Child Abuse Prevention Month.

3. We Live, We Lit, WE FIT, We outside! The City kicked off an employee weight loss challenge lasting through the end of July.

   This is a contest, but Mayor Small is organizing various employee events encouraging his staff to exercise and drop some pounds this summer.

# Grants Galore

Mayor Small kicked off the summer season with the announcement of multiple, long-awaited projects in Atlantic City made possible through Federal and State funding.

**Boardwalk Rehabilitation**
The United States Economic Development Authority is awarding a $6 million grant to fund the reconstruction of the Atlantic City Boardwalk.

Construction is planned to start in the Fall of 2022 and be completed by the Summer of 2023. The City plans to replace a section of the Boardwalk that is over 100 years old. The project will start at Florida Avenue and continue to at least Missouri Avenue. The total cost to replace the entire Boardwalk is estimated to be $60 million.

**Street Paving**
The City received various Federal and State street paving grants to pave MLK Blvd from Mediterranean Ave to Route 30 and Baltic Avenue from Maine Ave to Missouri Ave.

The City does not dictate the start dates of these projects, which are slated for 2023 and 2024, however Mayor Small said he will make efforts to expedite this process.

Paving projects on 31 Atlantic City streets are scheduled to be completed by the end of 2023.

**Firehouse Preservation**
The National Park Service has awarded a $500,000 African American Civil Rights grant towards the preservation of Atlantic City Fire Station 2, located at the corner of Indiana and Baltic Avenues.

This grant is in addition to the $750,000 grant that was awarded by the New Jersey Historic Trust recently. The City budgeted $750,000 to match that grant. The $500,000 grant will go toward that $750,000, saving the Atlantic City taxpayers money.

The African American Civil Rights grant is provided by the Historic Preservation Fund, as administered by the National Park Service, Department of Interior.

## OPENING OF THE SEA

As is tradition in Atlantic City, Mayor Small "unlocked" the ocean for the summer during a pre-Memorial Day Weekend Ceremony.

Mayor Small then headed out to sea with the help of the Atlantic City Beach Patrol to toss a wreath into the water to honor our fallen heroes.
Watch Mayor Small unlock the ocean: https://fb.watch/dIQRIoqb9U/

This was all followed up with the beach ball drop on the Boardwalk outside Resorts Casino Hotel.

## SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

Atlantic City is receiving an $800,000 grant that the City has been seeking since the start of the Pandemic for small business recovery. The City is matching $200,000.

This funding will support three different programs:

1. A concierge service will be established to provide staffing to promote economic development and provide service to all prospective developers.

2. Business outreach through professionals who will provide one-on-one service to local businesses, financial advice and assistance, and will directly train and assist businesses.

3. Marketing focused on helping smaller businesses develop a marketable brand and identify the appropriate targets to attract tourists, businesses and residents.

## NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION

Atlantic City's Chelsea, Ducktown and Midtown neighborhoods have been awarded $2 million from the State in neighborhood revitalization grants.

The State provides funding to nonprofits that qualify for the Neighborhood Revitalization Tax Credit Program. Neighborhoods receiving this funding have nonprofit sponsors.

The remaining Atlantic City neighborhoods are currently working on their plans. The City is working with them to secure funding for implementation.