



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

# News

**For Immediate Release**

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## **CITY OF TRENTON'S MASTER PLANNING INITIATIVE TO RECEIVE "PRESIDENT'S AWARD" FROM THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION**

Trenton, N.J. — Mayor Eric Jackson announced today that the city's community-driven Trenton250 master-planning initiative will receive the "President's Award" from the American Planning Association – New Jersey chapter at the New Jersey State Planning Conference on January 29 at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick.

"I am delighted that we have been recognized for our work to connect the master planning of our city with community engagement, which is a critical component of Trenton250," said Mayor Jackson. "It is very important that the people of Trenton share with us their perspectives on what Trenton should look like in the years ahead and that we incorporate this dialogue into the master-planning process."

Part of Trenton250's comprehensive master-planning initiative, which currently focuses on land use, environmental impacts, transportation and economic development, is a community-driven "Vision Element" that sought input from residents—what they would like to see Trenton become by the year 2042, the city's 250th anniversary.

Input was gathered using web and paper-based surveys, the **trenton250.org** Internet site and through stakeholder meetings and community forums. In addition to an overall vision statement and set of principles, residents' contributions will be used to establish the creation and direction of all future master-planning elements, policies, programs and projects.

The American Planning Association's "President's Award" is given to original, creative and visionary planning initiatives of high merit that advance the planning of communities and promote understanding of sound planning principles, while also engaging and empowering residents in the process. The "Vision Element" of Trenton250 has done just that during the past year. For example, a 2014 Youth Summit engaged 200 Trenton high school students in the master planning process, the **trenton250.org** website recorded 3,000 visits, and thousands of people from the greater Trenton community shared their perspectives during open forums.

"We believe the award reinforces our belief that Trenton250 is indeed innovative and visionary and will serve as a guide for the revitalization of our city. We are honored that the American Planning Association has highlighted our work in planning the future development of Trenton," said Monique King-Viehlend, the city's Director of Housing and Economic Development.

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