

Neighborhood Aid Network

We hope that you and your families and friends are staying well and safe during this difficult time, and we want to remind you that if you are in need of or are able to offer non-emergency assistance, we have formed a Neighborhood Aid Network where neighbors can sign up to help each other out with non-emergency needs at the link displayed on the next slide...

Neighborhood Aid Network

Please sign up to offer or request assistance at:

[https://tinyurl.com/Pway
Neighbors](https://tinyurl.com/PwayNeighbors)

Neighborhood Aid Network

Recently the Network has partnered with Zion Hill Baptist Church (ZHBC) to distribute food to those who need assistance.

We are collecting donations of non-perishable food items on an ongoing basis to make weekly drop-offs at ZHBC.

They have continued their efforts to get food to the needy during this difficult time, and we thank them and Pastor Hampton for their dedication to serving the needs of our community!

Neighborhood Aid Network



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Neighborhood Aid Network

We have set up locations in each Ward where donations of food can be dropped off.

There will be a bin to collect donations at each of these locations, either in the driveway, or, if it is raining, on the front porch, and dropoffs can be made at any time. Dropoff locations are on the next slide...

Neighborhood Aid Network

Food Donation Drop Off Locations

Ward 1: 411 New Market Rd

Ward 2: 10 Seward Ave

Ward 3: 233 Ellis Parkway or
102 Stratton St South

Ward 4: 24 Ross Hall Blvd. North

2020 Primary Election Timeline

Last week we mentioned that the date for the Primary has been moved to July 7th and that many of the important deadlines for the election have been changed.

We now have some more information on election deadlines, and this information is presented on the next slide...

2020 Primary Election Timeline

<https://nj.gov/state/elections/assets/pdf/chrons/2020-chron-primary-election-041420.pdf>

May 13: Last day for Party change of affiliation

May 30: Mail-in Ballots start to be mailed

June 16: Voter registration deadline

June 30: Last day to apply for Mail Ballot by mail

July 6: Last day to apply for Mail Ballot in person

July 7: Primary Election Day

This coming Wednesday, April 22nd, is Earth Day, so we would like to wish a Happy Earth Day to Piscataway.

It is hard to believe that 50 years after the first Earth Day we are still struggling for government and policies that place a priority on protecting and improving our environment so that we can pass down a planet that is clean and healthy and livable for our children and grandchildren, and yet here we are...

If anything, the threats posed to the environment by man-made climate change are worse than ever, and there is consensus among scientists that urgent action is needed if we are to avoid disastrous environmental consequences. So we thought that today would be a good day to focus on environmental issues, and specifically some things that are happening in Piscataway right now.

Happy Earth Day Piscataway!



Last week we discussed in detail the economic impact of the recent trend towards developing truck warehouses all over Piscataway.

We are joined today by a special guest, Quiyana Butler from the Environmental Committee of the Piscataway Progressive Democratic Organization, who is going to share with us some of the Committee's recent research and conclusions on this issue.

WHAT'S WAHLER HIDING?

Part 1: Tax Giveaways to Developers

Posted on Facebook @pwayprogressivedems 4-11-20

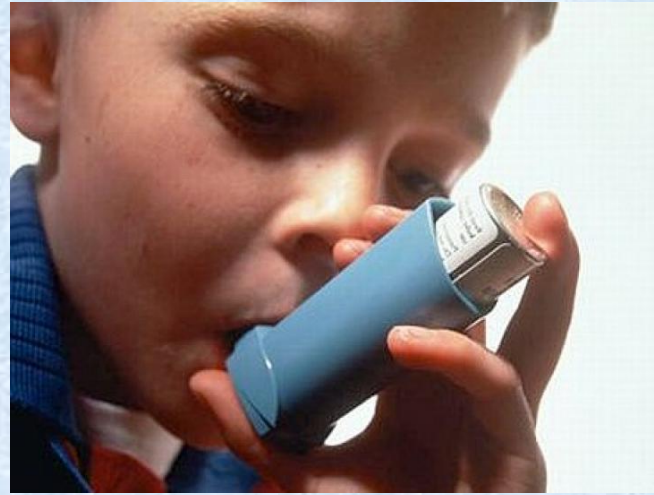
Part 2: Environmental Issues

Piscataway, we have a pollution problem

- American Lung Association rates Middlesex County an “F” for ozone air pollution—for 19 years in a row!
- Climate warming is increasing the number of “air quality alert days” every summer.
- Wahler’s new diesel truck depots threaten recent gains in particulate matter pollution.
- Why go backwards?

* “Annual State of the Air Report,” American Lung Association, 2019

What about Health Impacts?



Ground-level ozone and particulate pollution from vehicles and industrial emissions directly contribute to:

- Childhood asthma and allergies
- Older residents with COPD and respiratory illness
- Heart and lung disease, including lung cancer
- **Vulnerability to respiratory viruses like Covid19**

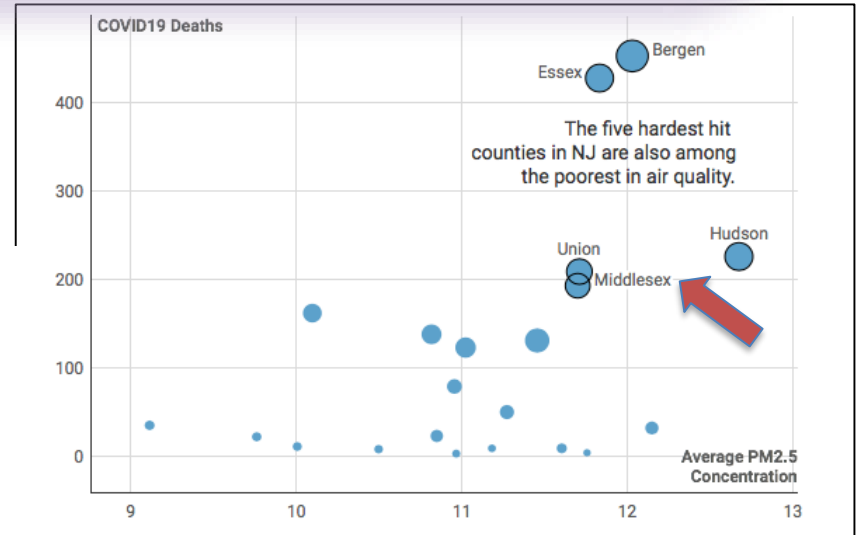
Pollution Linked to Covid19 Mortality Rates



N.J.'s coronavirus death toll is likely higher thanks to decades of dirty air

Updated Apr 13, 2020; Posted Apr 13, 2020

The researchers concluded that a small increase in a county's long-term exposure to the particle pollution led to a large increase that county's COVID-19 death rate. In other words, while New Jersey's air quality is much better now than it was decades ago, people who have lived in areas with historically high air pollution are at greater risk from the coronavirus.



New Research Links Air Pollution to Higher Coronavirus Death Rates

www.nytimes.com/2020/04/07/climate/air-pollution-coronavirus-covid.html?



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

HARVARD.EDU

COVID-19 PM2.5

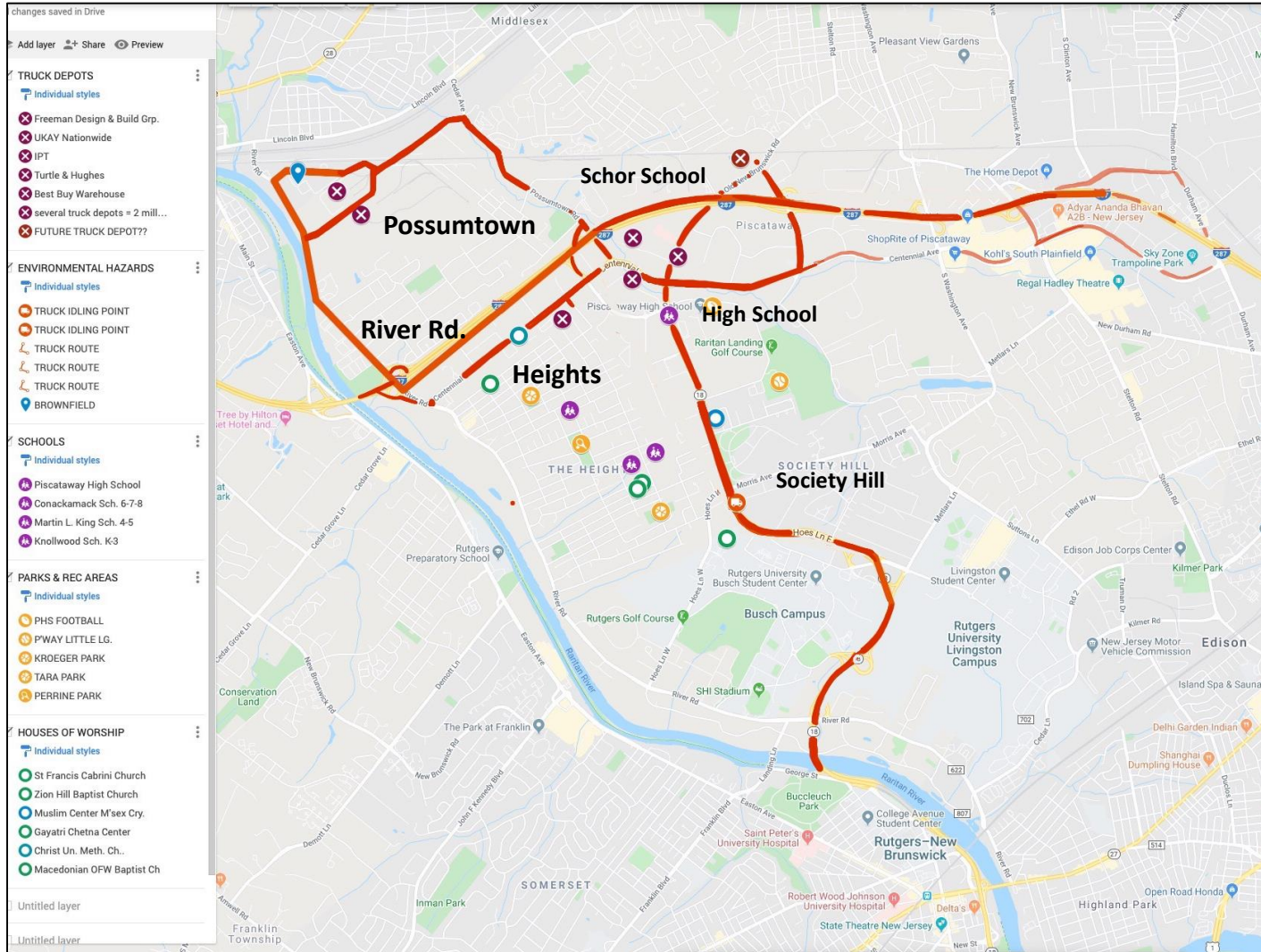
A national study on long-term exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 mortality in the United States

Who Pays? Not the Polluters...

The costs of air pollution are paid by residents:

- Poor health and increased health risks
- Increased health care costs
- Lost days from work and school
- Poor environmental ratings erode home values

...especially for those living right next to the new warehouses and truck routes:



Time for Action, not Denial!

- Last November, 64% of Piscataway's voters recognized the need to act when we passed the Clean Air/Energy Aggregation Referendum.
- Our Energy Aggregation Program allows town government and all residents to access clean, renewable energy sources and lower air pollution.
- Mayor Wahler and the Council refused to pass the Energy Aggregation Program. We, THE VOTERS, made this happen.

Fossil fuels only seem cheap, Mayor Wahler.
Because the costs are hidden. Like your
reasons for not getting on board!

- Since then, Wahler has talked more about how to opt out than how to benefit from EAP options.
- But if you dig into the town website, you learn:
 - You'll be getting a letter this week about the EAP, now slated to start in June 2020.
 - Residents will be able to save energy costs with the basic plan (about \$23/yr.) and start getting renewable energy.
 - Plus you'll have options to go to 50% or 100% renewable energy right away at reasonable rates.

Time for Open Communication, not Hidden Agendas!

- Wahler and the Council refused to discuss the EAP.
- Wahler and the Council refused to disclose or debate the truck depot deals they've made with developers, adding hundreds of diesel truck bays to our town.
- Wahler and the Council refuse to consider Zoning and Planning for new environmental impacts—but they control these boards!

and where's our Environmental Commission?

- The town website says it meets “as needed.” It **never** meets. Period.
- It has only two current appointees with **no** contact information, **no** staff, **no** events.
- Piscataway residents have **no** place to raise and advance environmental issues: from trucking to flooding, from open space to water quality, from climate crisis to climate action...
- We have **no** Green Team, **no** input, **no** say.

Piscataway's Green Future

How to protect our environment, our health, and our children

- ✧ **Prevent new warehouse development** next to residential neighborhoods and schools.
- ✧ **Expand & enforce regulations** to limit truck emissions and traffic congestion.
- ✧ **Commission an environmental health study** across all Piscataway neighborhoods:
 - ✧ The PPDO Environment Committee is already working with scientists at Rutgers to assess trucking impacts.



✧ **Activate the Environmental Commission**

- ✧ appoint informed residents, not cronies
- ✧ publicly broadcast all sessions

✧ **Preserve Open Space**

- ✧ prioritize the Halper Farm/Ecology Park

✧ **Create an Office of Sustainability**

- ✧ attract green businesses, green jobs and training
- ✧ plan smart development: like *electric* truck hubs
- ✧ get state/federal grants for green infrastructure
- ✧ improve our environmental ratings
- ✧ prepare for climate change impacts

We can do a lot better

for our kids and grandkids

for the elderly and vulnerable

for our parks and our planet



With open government and honest leaders

who work for every neighborhood

who are ready for change and challenges

who aren't bossed or bought

Who are on your side!



Piscataway Progressive Democrats

Ready for change!

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Part of Quiyana's presentation discussed the Clean Energy Aggregation program that was passed overwhelmingly by Piscataway's voters last November.

This is a timely topic, as letters about the program were arriving in our mailboxes just yesterday.

The choice about whether to participate in the program is yours - that's your choice and we are not here to tell you what to do. But this is a complicated topic that hasn't been made any easier by a lot of misinformation floating around on it, so what we do want to do is give you some facts to help you understand your options.

Personally, we are happy to be a part of the program, and here's why:

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Reasons to be Part of the Program

1. The CEA provides at least 30% of your energy from **clean, renewable sources**

Clean energy reduces emissions and air pollution caused by burning fossil fuels, and is good for the environment

2. You can **save money** while protecting the environment

The average household in Piscataway using 750kWh/month will save \$23/yr in the 30% renewable energy option versus PSE&G

3. **It is easy** to save money and protect the environment

*If you take **no action**, you will **automatically be enrolled** in the 30% renewable option to start saving – you can opt-out at any time*

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Understanding Your PSE&G Bill

The electricity on your PSEG is broken out into two separate charges: electricity delivery, and electricity supply

Your electricity will still be delivered by PSE&G - with CEA you have a choice about where your electricity supply comes from

There are **two important things to understand** about the electricity supply portion of your current PSE&G bill:

1. The rate you are charged is variable – as your use more electricity, you are charged increasingly more per kilowatt hour
2. PSE&G changes its rates each year and each season – the charge you are seeing on your bill now is **not the rate** you will be charged starting June 1, 2020.

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Understanding Your PSE&G Bill

The rate you are charged is variable – there are separate rates for the first 600 kilowatt hours of usage and for usage above 600 kWh.

Delivery charges		
Monthly service charge		\$4.95
Charges for delivering electric to you:		
kWh charges		
For the first	600 kWh x \$0.044200	\$26.52
For the next	478 kWh x \$0.044205	\$21.13
Total electric delivery charges		\$52.60
Supply charges		
Cost of electric supplied by PSE&G:		
Charges		
For the first	360 kWh x \$0.126778	\$45.64
For the next	286 kWh x \$0.126783	\$36.26
For the next	240 kWh x \$0.134875	\$32.37
For the next	192 kWh x \$0.134896	\$25.90
Total electric supply charges		\$140.17

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Understanding Your PSE&G Bill

PSE&G changes its rates each year and each season – the charge you are seeing on you bill now is not the rate you will be charged starting June 1, 2020. To see the proposed PSE&G rates as of June 1, 2020, go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/PSEGRates2020>

This is what you will find:

PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY

XXX Revised Sheet No. 75

B.P.U.N.J. No. 16 ELECTRIC

**Superseding
XXX Revised Sheet No. 75**

**BASIC GENERATION SERVICE – RESIDENTIAL SMALL COMMERCIAL PRICING (BGS-RSCP)
ELECTRIC SUPPLY CHARGES**

APPLICABLE TO:

Default electric supply service for Rate Schedules RS, RHS, RLM, WH, WHS, HS, BPL, BPL-POF, PSAL, GLP and LPL-Secondary (less than 500 kilowatts).

BGS ENERGY CHARGES:

Applicable to Rate Schedules RS, RHS, RLM, WH, WHS, HS, BPL, BPL-POF and PSAL

Charges per kilowatt-hour:

Rate Schedule	For usage in each of the months of <u>October through May</u>		For usage in each of the months of <u>June through September</u>	
	Charges	Charges Including SOT	Charges	Charges Including SOT
RS – first 600 kWh	\$0.126003	\$0.134351	\$0.124164	\$0.132390
RS – in excess of 600 kWh	0.126003	0.134351	0.133120	0.141939

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Understanding Your PSE&G Bill

Rate Schedule	<u>October through May</u>		<u>June through September</u>	
	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Charges Including SUT</u>	<u>Charges</u>	<u>Charges Including SUT</u>
RS – first 600 kWh	\$0.126003	\$0.134351	\$0.124164	\$0.132390
RS – in excess of 600 kWh	0.126003	0.134351	0.133120	0.141939

- The proposed PSE&G charge for October – May is **\$0.134351** per kWh
- The proposed PSE&G charge for June – September is **\$0.132390** per kWh for the first 600 hours of usage, and **\$0.141939** for usage over 600 hours.
- Every single one of those PSE&G numbers is **HIGHER** than the fixed rate **\$0.1319** per kWh you will be charged under the CEA program
- You will be ***paying less for every single kWh you use with the CEA*** – by definition this has to save you money

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Calculating the Savings – (Just a Little) MATH

The CEA Program estimate for the average electric supply charge from PSE&G for a household using an average of 750kWh per month is \$0.1345 per kWh.* The CEA fixed rate is \$0.1319 per kWh.

PSEG Yearly Charge =
 $\$0.1345 \times 750 \times 12 = \1210.50

CEA Yearly Charge
 $\$0.1319 \times 750 \times 12 = \1187.10

Savings = $\$1210.50 - \$1187.10 = \$23.40$

*Note: We double-checked this estimate and we think it is very, very, close, but not exactly right. At PSE&G June-Sep rates of \$0.1329 for the first 600 kWh and \$0.141939 thereafter, the weighted average cost for a household using 750 kWh is $(.8 \times 0.1329) + (.2 \times 0.141939) = \0.13430 for June-Sep. The Oct-May PSE&G charge is \$0.13451. The weighted average of those numbers equals $(2/3 \times 0.13451) + (1/3 \times 0.13430) = 0.134334$. Using the \$0.1343334 per kWh number yields a yearly savings of \$21.91 for the CEA instead of \$23.40

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

Summary

- By participating in the CEA program you **help protect the environment** by getting more of your energy from clean and renewable sources
- By participating in the CEA program you save money
- The CEA program **CHARGES YOU LESS** PER kWh, regardless of how much energy you use
 - ✓ Paying less for each kWh means you **WILL SAVE MONEY BY DEFINITION**
 - ✓ The amount you save will depend on your energy usage – households that have greater energy usage will realize greater saving

Politicians may lie, but math doesn't -

This is a win-win for all Piscataway residents.

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

An Important Question

Unlike the **PILOT tax giveaways** we talked about last week, which **are a bad deal** for Piscataway residents, the **CEA is a good deal for Piscataway residents.**

Why have Mayor Wahler and the Council refused to support, and *distanced themselves at every opportunity*, from something that is so obviously a good deal for Piscataway residents???

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

An Important Question

There is literally no reason that makes any sense for Mayor Wahler and the Council to oppose a Clean Energy Aggregation plan for Piscataway, unless you....

If you want to know why these things happen,

FOLLOW THE MONEY

To research campaign contributions go to:

www.elec.state.nj.us/publicinformation/searchdatabase.htm

PSE&G Campaign Donations

- As a regulated industry, PSE&G is barred from making direct political contributions to New Jersey candidates
- To get around that law, PSE&G executives formed a Political Action Committee known as PSEXEC PAC
- PSEXEC PAC makes political contributions to New Jersey politicians so that they can influence policy
- PSEXEC PAC has donated \$21,800 to the campaigns of local Democratic Party Boss Senator Bob Smith

PSE&G Campaign Donations to Sen. Smith

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data:

	A	B	C	D
	CONTRIBUTOR_LNAME	RECIPIENT NAME	CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT	ELECTION_YEAR
1	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 2,600	2018
2	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 2,600	2018
3	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 5,000	2017
4	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 2,500	2015
5	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 2,600	2015
6	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 2,500	2014
7	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 2,500	2013
8	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 1,000	2011
9	PSEXEC PAC	SMITH BOB	\$ 500	2007
10				
11				
12		TOTAL	\$ 21,800	
13				
14				

Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA)

An Important Question - Answered

Why have Mayor Wahler and the Council refused to support, and *distanced themselves at every opportunity*, from something that is so obviously a good deal for Piscataway residents???

FOLLOW THE MONEY

- Through its PSEXEC PAC, PSE&G funds the campaigns of local Democratic Boss Bob Smith
- PSE&G does not want competition from energy aggregation programs
- PSE&G tells Boss Bob that CEAs should be opposed
- The Boss says “Jump!” and Mayor Wahler and the Council ask “How high?”

If you want elected officials to represent your interests, you have to stop electing officials who are *financed by special interests*.

For more information, you can read
our Platform at:

<https://tinyurl.com/PwayPlatform>

The Dems on YOUR Side!

2020 Campaign Platform

4. Be a Green Community:

- **Stop building more trucking depots next to residential neighborhoods! Remediate diesel pollution and environmental health hazards.**

The Dems on YOUR Side!

2020 Campaign Platform

4. Be a Green Community:

- Stop building more trucking depots next to residential neighborhoods! Remediate diesel pollution and environmental health hazards.
- **Bolster the Clean Air Piscataway ordinance, a bulk purchase plan for renewable energy.**

The Dems on YOUR Side!

2020 Campaign Platform

4. Be a Green Community:

- Stop building more trucking depots next to residential neighborhoods! Remediate diesel pollution and environmental health hazards.
- Bolster the Clean Air Piscataway ordinance, a bulk purchase plan for renewable energy.
- **Preserve Open Space with the smart development practices already used in other towns.**

The Dems on YOUR Side!

2020 Campaign Platform

4. Be a Green Community:

- Stop building more trucking depots next to residential neighborhoods! Remediate diesel pollution and environmental health hazards.
- Bolster the Clean Air Piscataway ordinance, a bulk purchase plan for renewable energy.
- Preserve Open Space with the smart development practices already used in other towns.
- **Employ Green & Complete strategies to make our neighborhoods more walkable.**

The Dems on YOUR Side!

2020 Campaign Platform

4. Be a Green Community:

- Stop building more trucking depots next to residential neighborhoods! Remediate diesel pollution and environmental health hazards.
- Bolster the Clean Air Piscataway ordinance, a bulk purchase plan for renewable energy.
- Preserve Open Space with the smart development practices already used in other towns.
- Employ Green & Complete strategies to make our neighborhoods more walkable.
- **Support the Green New Deal to create new job and training opportunities in Piscataway.**

Let's Review

1. There are **serious environmental and health consequences** to continuing to *build truck depots* all over Piscataway
2. We need open communication from government, including a **functioning environmental commission** to address these issues
3. Participating in **the Clean Energy Aggregation (CEA) program** will help *protect the environment AND save you money – it's a win-win!*
4. *Mayor Wahler and the Council have not supported the CEA* – could that have something to do with PSE&G contributions to their Political Boss?
5. **The Dems on YOUR Side** are committed to making Piscataway a greener and healthier place for *all of us to enjoy*

Today's presentation slides will be
posted at:

[https://www.pwayprogressives.com/2020-
candidates](https://www.pwayprogressives.com/2020-candidates)

For more information, you can read our Platform at:

<https://tinyurl.com/PwayPlatform>

2020 Primary Election Timeline

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The Dems on YOUR Side!



Bill Irwin
Candidate for Mayor



Kamuela Tillman
Candidate for Council



Ralph Johnson
Candidate for Council



Laura Leibowitz
Candidate for Council

Thank you for viewing our presentation! Please remember to VOTE IN THE DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ON JULY 7TH. We will be located in **Column A** on the ballot.

We want to hear from you! Please send you questions and comments to:
PWAYProgressives@gmail.com