



FYI NEWSLETTER

Promoting Responsible Economic Development Since 1967

February 14, 2020

Legislative Update

The 150th General Assembly began its second session on January 14, 2020 with bills remaining active from last year including raising the minimum wage and legalizing recreational marijuana.

Governor Carney used his State of the State address on January 23rd and his Fiscal Year 2021 Budget presentation on the 30th to highlight economic development spending priorities, including infrastructure investment, support for small businesses, and growing the next generation workforce. Priority investments include:

- The Clean Water for Delaware Act to establish a \$50M Clean Water Trust account to clean up Delaware's drinking water and waterways, including increased funding for low-income and under-served communities.
- Wilmington Schools Initiative to direct \$50M toward building a new school on the East Side, renovations at Stubbs Elementary and Bayard Middle School, and establishing a workforce training center for Gulfstream at Palmer Elementary.
- Modernizing infrastructure with a focus on small business, innovation and entrepreneurship with \$50M that includes \$20M for the Strategic Fund, \$10M to expand Graduation Laboratory Space for growing biotechnology companies, \$10M for creation of a Site Readiness Fund to quickly convert existing properties to meet the needs of prospective employers, and \$10M for the Transportation Infrastructure Investment Fund (TIIF).

"Many emerging companies have outgrown the Experimental Station or the STAR Campus, so we're investing in lab space where they can keep growing here in Delaware." --Governor John Carney

The TIIF was established with \$10M in FY2020 to provide economic assistance for renovation, construction or other transportation infrastructure on job-creating projects. The TIIF Council held its first meeting last week to review responsibilities and establish their process for making funding recommendations. Learn more and download TIIF Submission Forms [here](#). The first submission deadline is March 31, 2020.



February Member Reception

Last Chance to Register!

Join us on Tuesday, February 18, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the new Hyatt Place Wilmington Riverfront.

Special Thanks to Our Reception & Bar Sponsors



[Register](#)



#DELAWARECOUNTS

Every year Delaware gets about \$3 Billion in federal funding, based on census information.

Participation in the 2020

Governor Carney continues to support the “budget smoothing” process and recommends sending surplus funds of \$161.5M to reserves and allocating the remaining \$233M for one-time funding in the Capital Budget. This continued trend toward one-time and capital investments is a welcome one.

Governor Carney proposed a General Fund Operating Budget of \$4.63 Billion, limiting operating budget growth to 3.99 percent, which is less than the benchmark established by last year’s Executive Order 21.

Rounding out the Governor’s budget proposal, he recommends spending for Grants-in-Aid at \$55.1M and a Bond Bill totaling \$892.8M.

The Joint Finance Committee (JFC) and Bond Bill Committee are meeting in February into early March to consider these recommendations and hold hearings to discuss budget items with agencies and advocates.

Census will help Delaware gets its full share for:

- Schools
- Health Care (e.g. Medicaid, Medicare)
- Police
- Fire
- And Much More!

You can help achieve an accurate 2020 Census by encouraging your employees and customers to complete their census questionnaires. Download a Census Toolkit for Business [here](#).

Land Preservation Task Force Survey

The Committee of 100 is part of the New Castle County Land Preservation Task Force that was launched in August 2019 with a focus on developing a countywide land preservation strategy. Land preservation has traditionally been approached in two broad categories, farm land and open space, which is reflected in this survey. Your answers to the following questions will help guide the Task Force in our work and development of recommendations.

[Take the Survey](#)

100 SUPERSTARS Scholarship Endowment

Throughout our history, The Committee of 100 has sought to advance more than just a legislative agenda by awarding college scholarships as our chief philanthropic focus.

Our scholarships are awarded based on academic excellence, extracurricular activities and community involvement. Each year we struggle to select just one \$3,000 scholarship recipient from among the extraordinary finalists.

We need your help! Your corporate and/or individual pledge to the 100 SUPERSTARS Endowment Campaign will allow us to expand the number of scholarships awarded and increase each cash award.

[Pledge Today!](#)

WE'VE MOVED - PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS IN YOUR RECORDS

The Committee of 100

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