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NEWS RELEASE

## **COUNCILMAN DUNCAN HARRISON PROPOSES UPGRADING TRENTON'S PAYMENT SYSTEMS**

**Tuesday, March 15, 2016**

**Trenton, New Jersey:** Thousands of residents, nonresidents, and businesses pay their property taxes, water and sewer bills, and landlord license payments through the City's website and at several payment locations. The only payment method available on our website is with a checking account and when paying in person the options are: cash, money order, or check.

The City also collects fees for: taxi licenses, contractor licenses, zoning board fees, property auctions, birth, death, and marriage certificates, dog licenses, business licenses, bingo, raffle, health permits, and so much more.

"I believe there is a more efficient manner to collect these payments that benefits everyone. That is why I am proposing that the City bring on a credit card processing vendor. We need to better embrace technology that streamlines government operations and improves customer service," stated Councilman Duncan W. Harrison.

The addition of a credit card processing system would add no extra expense to the City budget. The system would pay for itself with a small convenience fee on each transaction. This fee would go directly to the credit card processing vendor. Most of our neighboring municipalities (East Windsor, Hamilton Twp., Ewing, Princeton, and West Windsor) already accept credit card payments with convenience fees ranging from 2.45% to 2.9% per transaction.

"I have already had discussions with Mayor Jackson and members of his administration about this proposal. Those discussions have been very productive. I look forward to more discussions and then tangible action that will improve the experience of those who do business with the City of Trenton," stated Councilman Duncan W. Harrison.

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