



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

JON S. CORZINE
Governor

SUSAN BASS LEVIN
Commissioner

June 30, 2006

Melvin R. Primas, Jr., Chief Operating Officer
City of Camden
City Hall - 13th Floor
Camden, New Jersey 08101

Dear Mr. Primas:

Thank you for your letter of June 29, 2006. I want to clarify several items.

First, the Memorandum of Understanding outlining Local Finance Board oversight was originally provided to Camden on March 28, not June 26. We have already received Mayor Faison's executed copy of the Memorandum.

Second, after a meeting on June 7, we expected to hear from you, but we did not. Therefore, in order to proceed with the Local Finance Board hearing on June 27, I sent you another copy of the Memorandum.

Third, the Local Finance Board is requiring all communities receiving Special Municipal Aid to sign a uniform Memorandum. This requirement was discussed at length at the Senate and Assembly budget committee hearings.

We share your concern for the fiscal health of Camden and we want to work with you to improve the operations of the City. In this time of State budget crises, we are mindful of the fact that all State appropriations must be carefully monitored. Further, section 26 of the Municipal Rehabilitation and Economic Recovery Act specifically provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services "may provide for oversight or audit of the activities of each qualified municipality and report findings to the Local Finance Board and Chief Operating Officer." The Memorandum of Understanding implements this oversight and the changes you suggest are unacceptable.

Therefore, we would respectfully ask that you sign the Memorandum of Understanding that reflects the Special Municipal Aid appropriations of \$47,130,901.69 (this is in addition to the \$55,756,736 in formula aid that Camden receives from the State).

Sincerely,

Susan Jacobucci, Director
Division of Local Government Services

