

THE BOROUGH OF JENKINTOWN

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On May 22nd, 2024 at their regularly scheduled public meeting Jenkintown Borough Council unanimously approved submitting a "Letter of Intent" to the Governor's Center for Local Government Services a division of the Department of Community and Economic Development administering the 'Peer Assistance Program'.

The "Letter of Intent" has now been submitted and requested assistance in areas of Police Management, Fire Services, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to include a 'Police Cost Benefit Analysis'.

As per the Peer Assistance Program's own literature:Upon approval by the agency a Peer Consultant will be "matched" with the Borough. Persons with practical experience and a working knowledge in the areas of municipal and financial management and administration, police, fire, emergency medical services, general government, and intergovernmental cooperation, who have demonstrated superior management and administrative skills, are selected to serve as Peer Consultants. Consultants are selected who have a specific area of technical expertise, are far enough away from the community and have no ties to the municipal operation being studied. An initial meeting will be held to develop a scope of services between the municipality, the Peer Consultant, and the Governor's Center for Local Government Services is executed. The scope of *s*ervices outlines the nature and type of technical assistance provided by the Center and Peer Consultant at no cost to the municipality.

The Program is designed to make local governments more efficient and effective in the use of their resources to serve the needs of residents and taxpayers. The purpose of the Program is to provide technical assistance to local government officials to improve operations and the municipal service delivery system.

The Peer Consultant begins the assistance effort by requesting, collecting, and analyzing data, by providing hands-on technical expertise, conducting on-site interviews with officials, and reviewing operating policies and procedures, and then making recommendations to improve operations and service delivery. Also, the Peer Consultant serves as a source of advice and information while the project is ongoing and is available for follow-up assistance in the implementation process. Once the Peer Consultant completes the technical assistance effort or management study, a report is prepared, and a meeting is held with the Peer Consultant, Governor's Center for Local Government Services, and the municipal officials to have it presented and discussed. The Borough will then share the final report at a regularly scheduled public meeting.

George Locke CBO Borough Manager Jenkintown Borough