



# CITY OF PLAINFIELD

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **The City of Plainfield Pays Off NJ American Water Bill For Residents in Danger of Service Interruption**

**May 31, 2022 - Plainfield, NJ** | In light of the ongoing economic struggle of many Plainfield residents as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, in partnership with the City Council will pay over **1.1 million dollars** to NJ American Water to pay off arrears for residents who are more than 60 days behind in their payments and in danger of having their services interrupted.

The intent behind this one-time payment is to alleviate the economic pressure stemming from COVID and to preserve the quality of life of Plainfield residents. The highest amount paid was \$20,000 but the average arrear was \$600.

Letters have been mailed to the residents impacted informing them of the payment on their behalf. Our resident's financial well-being and coverage of essential needs remain a top priority for the administration.

In addition to the almost 2000 households who will benefit from this relief program - since the beginning of the year, the City of Plainfield has implemented several other COVID Relief programs. These include paying property taxes for Plainfield Senior Citizens, Rental Assistance for residents in danger of eviction due to the COVID pandemic, and employment placement through Plainfield Action Services.

"In the City of Plainfield we look out for one another," said Mayor Adrian O. Mapp. "When one resident suffers we all suffer. As Mayor of this wonderful Queen City, It's my passion and my duty to continuously seek ways to elevate the quality of life of our residents and to alleviate hardships if at all possible. But I cannot do this alone, I encourage everyone to *#LovePlainfield*, and get involved by sharing your feedback, volunteering, and spreading the word that Plainfield is a great place to Live, Work, and Play! We are One Plainfield, working toward One Future."

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*The City of Plainfield, also known by its iconic nickname "The Queen City," is 153-years-old, home to 54,586 individuals according to the 2021 United States Census. The City of Plainfield is currently recorded as the third-largest city in Union County in terms of population. The current Mayor of Plainfield is Mayor Adrian O. Mapp, who won a third term in 2021. Mayor Mapp is the first Mayor to serve three consecutive terms.*