



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR VICTOR G. CARSTARPHEN



As Mayor of the City of Camden, I am committed to our residents, our businesses, our community stakeholders and building upon the strong public-private partnerships which have been established. My administration remains dedicated to strengthening our neighborhoods and improving the quality of life for all of our residents. The City of Camden will ensure that new development and pivotal policy reforms are not mutually exclusive from our holistic revitalization efforts.

The progress Camden has made over the past decade should be celebrated; but I also recognize that a lot of work remains. My goal is to take a collaborative approach to revitalization and to ensure the entire Camden community plays a role of the city's renaissance. That's why I am working along with my colleagues on the city council, our elected officials, residents, faith leaders, businesses, and local non-profits. Camden will continue to work closely with Governor Phil Murphy, the State of New Jersey, and Camden County to leverage resources and maximize Camden's growth.

I am a strong believer in teamwork, and because of that team effort, Camden is quickly becoming a model 21st century City and a shining example for urban revitalization. Our holistic strategy will remain intensely focused on bolstering public safety, promoting economic growth, and improving educational outcomes. These reforms are the three main pillars upon which Camden is building its new foundation. These are the building blocks for vibrant neighborhoods, a safe community, and a healthy economic climate which will foster new investment and result in new opportunities like jobs for residents.

Camden is realizing record setting reductions in crime and is a safer place to work, visit, and do business. Our City is also financially stable and looked at as a solid place to invest. Standard & Poor's Ratings Services (S&P), the global municipal rating agency, has upgraded the City of Camden's investment grade bond rating three times in ten years from BBB+ to A-, and recently to A with a "stable" outlook. Camden has witnessed nearly \$3 billion in new investment as businesses have begun to call our City home. The City and our partners are undertaking more than \$150 million in improvements to the park system and open spaces. An addition, millions in City road resurfacing, water & infrastructure enhancements are underway.

During my term as Mayor, Camden will reinvest in our roads, strengthen our community policing practices, expand quality housing options for residents, beautify neighborhoods, develop neighborhood parks, tackle blight and illegal dumping, prepare students for college and career, rebuild the arts economy, grow job prospects, support small businesses, attract new businesses, invest in senior services, and create new opportunities for our children, youth and families.

These are historic times for the City invincible. We ask for your partnership and invite you to join "Team Camden" on this remarkable journey. Let's come together to champion the resiliency of our residents, businesses, non-profits, faith-based leaders, and community stakeholders. Camden will continue to face adversity, but through strong leadership, hard work and teamwork, the probability for a continued revitalization is greater than ever. Together we are Camden Strong!

Honorable Victor G. Carstarphen
Mayor, City of Camden