

**IT'S ALL HERE.**

The Rahway Review is the definitive go-to-guide for every Rahway resident. Stay informed about what's going on in our City. Right here. Right now.

# THE rahway review

PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF MAYOR RAYMOND A. GIACOBBE

VOL XXX ISSUE 2 | SUMMER 2020 EDITION

## A Message From The Rahway City Council President

**Greetings Rahway!**

2020 has been a transformative year world-wide. The global outbreak of COVID-19 quickly changed our perspective on the truly important things in life, like health and family, and how we must protect ourselves and those around us. The City of Rahway has lost over 40 members of our community to this virus and over 800 have been infected. Beyond the immediate public health concern, the pandemic had a tremendous economic toll on many residents.

The world was also shocked as we witnessed the murder of George Floyd by Police Officer Derek Chauvin in Minneapolis. Our nation no longer sat quietly with the long and painful history of unjustifiable deaths among African-Americans. The Black Lives Matter movement spread across our country through protests in every major city, Rahway included.

The Rahway City Council and Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe would like to offer our condolences to the families of those we have lost to COVID-19 as well as express our outrage over the death of George Floyd and all who have suffered unjustly due to racial biases.

As Rahway City Council President, I would like to take this opportunity to share the

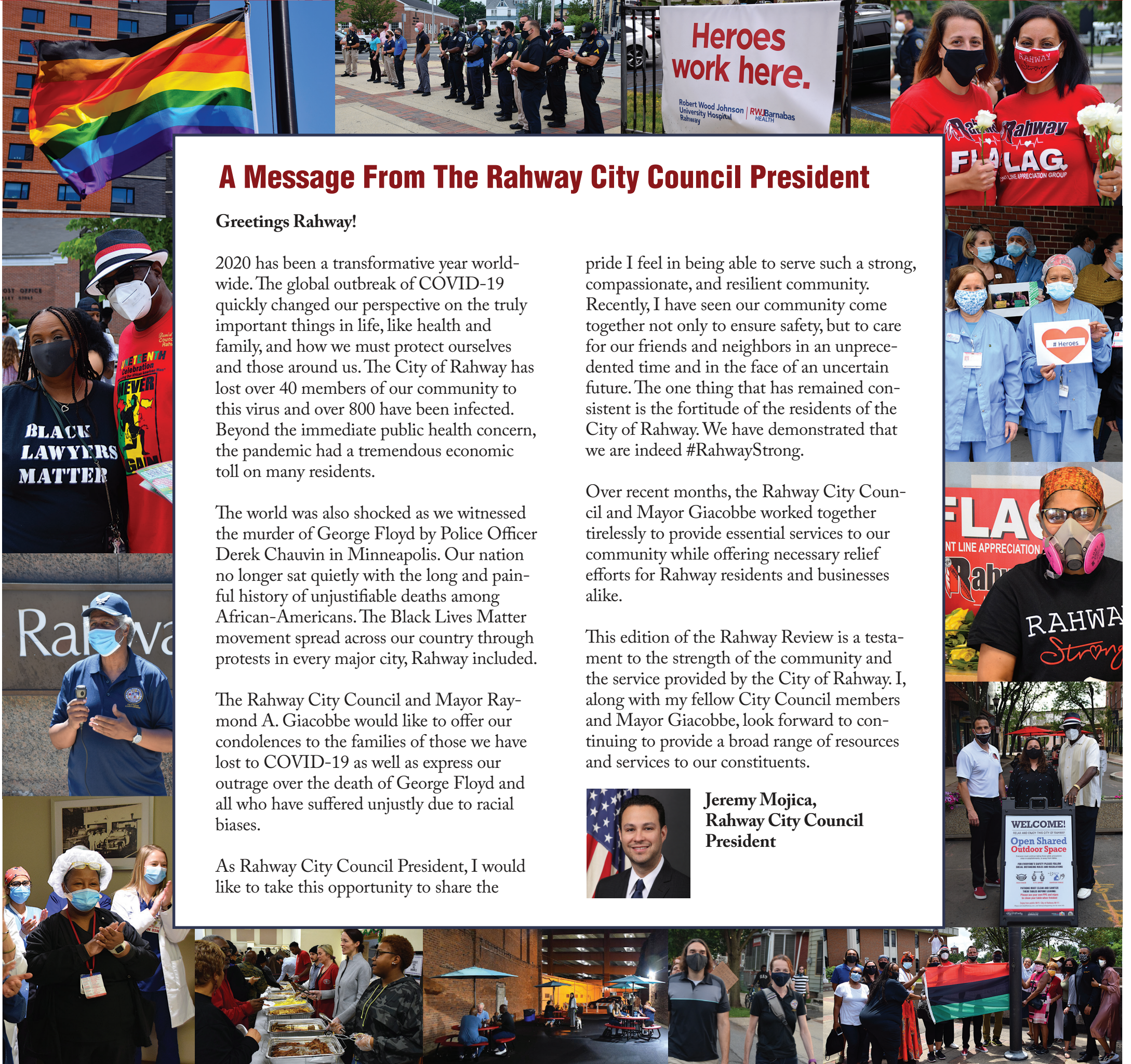
pride I feel in being able to serve such a strong, compassionate, and resilient community. Recently, I have seen our community come together not only to ensure safety, but to care for our friends and neighbors in an unprecedented time and in the face of an uncertain future. The one thing that has remained consistent is the fortitude of the residents of the City of Rahway. We have demonstrated that we are indeed #RahwayStrong.

Over recent months, the Rahway City Council and Mayor Giacobbe worked together tirelessly to provide essential services to our community while offering necessary relief efforts for Rahway residents and businesses alike.

This edition of the Rahway Review is a testament to the strength of the community and the service provided by the City of Rahway. I, along with my fellow City Council members and Mayor Giacobbe, look forward to continuing to provide a broad range of resources and services to our constituents.



**Jeremy Mojica,  
Rahway City Council  
President**



PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #105  
RAHWAY, NJ

**POSTAL PATRON**

Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe  
City of Rahway  
1 City Hall Plaza  
Rahway, NJ 07065

THE rahway review

# rahway IS STILL HAPPENING!



Stay in the know with upcoming events that are added to the calendar throughout the year.

Please visit the Rahway Recreation Center, the Rahway Public Library and UCPAC on the web and social media for the latest information.

## the rahway recreation center

The Rahway Department of Recreation and Senior Services is your one-stop family fitness and fun place, providing affordable, high quality recreation and leisure services for our friends and neighbors.

3 City Hall Plaza  
(732) 669-3600

RahwayRecreationCenter



2 City Hall Plaza  
(732) 340-1551  
www.rahwaylibrary.org

RahwayPublicLibrary

**RIDDLE AROUND RAHWAY**

12 CLUES  
1 MONTH TO FINISH

STARTS AUGUST 5, 2020  
\$10 PER CLUE SHEET

ALL COMPLETED CLUE SHEETS  
WILL BE ENTERED INTO  
PRIZE DRAWING

TO RECEIVE YOUR CLUE SHEET  
CALL 732-581-1464 OR GO TO  
FRIENDS OF RAHWAY LIBRARY FB PAGE

## RAHWAY'S UNIQUE SENIORSCENE

3 City Hall Plaza  
 RahwayRecreationCenter

**BINGO!**

STARTING AUGUST 10  
EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

YOU MAY REGISTER FOR  
ONE BINGO SESSION A WEEK.

SOCIAL DISTANCING  
REQUIRED AT ALL TIMES  
MASKS MUST BE WORN!

10 WINNERS  
PER SESSION!

9:30AM  
RAHWAY SENIORS CENTER  
13th FLOOR

TO REGISTER, CALL (732) 827-2016

**SENIOR WALKING CLUB  
WALK IN THE PARK**

Starting 9:00am-9:00am  
at Rahway River Park  
Meet at the parking lot by the bathrooms

Instructor: Tracey  
Dates: Thursdays  
Weather: Varies

Transportation available,  
call 732-669-3605 to schedule a ride

Rides must be booked 48 hours in advance  
Limited amount of rides available  
Masks and Social Distancing required

Free, but registration required.  
Call 732-669-3600 to register

## TAI CHI

Mondays, August 10, 17, 21, 24  
9:00am - 9:45am  
\*WEATHER PENDING

Location: Outside - between the Recreation Center and Library  
Instructor: Thomas

Transportation available, call 732-669-3605 to schedule a ride  
Request must be made by Friday of the previous week

FREE, but registration required. Call 732-669-3600 to register

Rahway Division of  
Senior Services may  
be reached by calling  
(732) 827-2016

## UNION COUNTY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT RAHWAY

1601 Irving Street • (732) 499-8226  
www.ucpac.org UCPAC

presented by  
the UCPAC

**MOVIES  
UNDER THE  
STARS**

7:30 Pre-Show  
8:15 Movie Starts

FREE!

in the UCPAC  
Main Stage parking lot

Will continue until October 30!

THURSDAY  
8/16 - The Princess Bride  
8/19 - Men In Black  
8/20 - Crazy Rich Asians  
8/27 - Remember the Titans  
9/3 - The Greatest Showman  
9/10 - Black Panther

FRIDAY  
8/17 - School of Rock  
8/14 - Captain Marvel  
8/21 - The Grinch  
8/28 - Back to the Future  
9/4 - Space Jam  
9/11 - Jungle Book

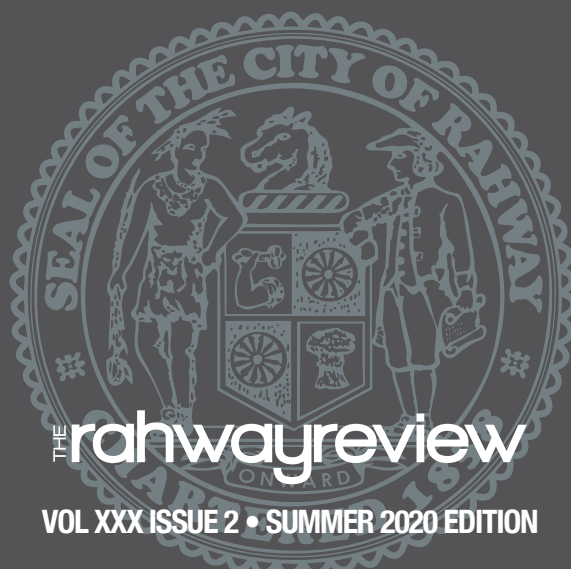
## Don't miss Comedian DREW LYNCH

Outdoor  
Main Stage  
9/26 at 8pm!



## New UCPAC Escape Room Events!

Thursday-Saturday in October. Visit  
the UCPAC website/facebook for  
dates and times, and for reservations.



The Rahway Review is published by the Office of the Mayor, Raymond A. Giacobbe. Its purpose is to keep citizens informed of important programs and events that the administration has developed in efforts to improve the quality of life in Rahway.

13,000 newsletters are printed and mailed to each postal customer in the City of Rahway. Others are distributed by request to individuals, companies and organizations interested in living or doing business in the City.

Although great care has been taken to ensure that information contained in this newsletter is accurate, the City of Rahway assumes no liability for errors or omissions.

The Rahway Review welcomes comments and concerns from its readers. These may be sent to:

City of Rahway • Office of the Mayor • 1 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, NJ 07065



## RAHWAY MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

If you get an answering machine when calling any of the following numbers, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible. All area codes are 732 unless otherwise specified.

### Municipal Offices

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Building Inspector.....      | 827-2087 |
| City Clerk.....              | 827-2100 |
| Community Development.....   | 827-2193 |
| Comptroller/Finance.....     | 827-2020 |
| Municipal Court.....         | 827-2039 |
| Economic Development.....    | 827-2181 |
| Emergency Management.....    | 827-2120 |
| Engineering.....             | 827-2183 |
| Fire (non emergency).....    | 827-2155 |
| Fire Prevention Bureau.....  | 827-2133 |
| First Aid.....               | 911      |
| Health Department.....       | 827-2085 |
| Mayor's Office.....          | 827-2009 |
| Municipal Administrator..... | 827-2001 |
| Police (non emergency).....  | 827-2200 |
| Public Works.....            | 827-2060 |
| Recreation.....              | 669-3600 |
| Recycling.....               | 827-2159 |
| Tax Assessor.....            | 827-2030 |
| Tax Collector.....           | 827-2050 |
| SUEZ-Rahway.....             | 827-0748 |
| Vital Statistics.....        | 827-2085 |

### Helpful Numbers

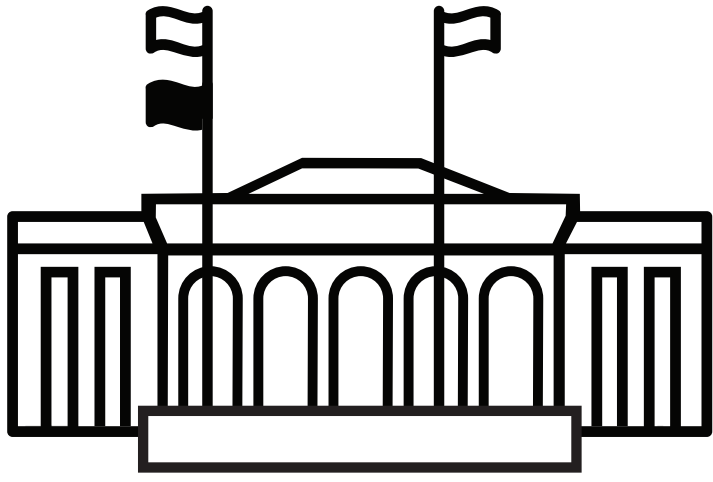
|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Board of Education.....          | 396-1000     |
| RWJU Hospital at Rahway.....     | 381-4200     |
| Rahway Library.....              | 340-1551     |
| NJ Transit.....                  | 973-275-5555 |
| P.A.L. Hot Line.....             | 827-2097     |
| Parking Utility.....             | 381-8778     |
| Post Office.....                 | 388-3264     |
| Rahway Redevelopment Agency..... | 827-2001     |
| Rahway Y.M.C.A.....              | 388-0057     |
| Union County.....                |              |
| Performing Arts Center.....      | 499-8226     |

### Rahway Schools

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Superintendent's Office..... | 396-1020 |
| Business Administrator.....  | 396-1010 |
| Services for Children.....   | 396-1035 |
| Rahway High School.....      | 396-1090 |
| 7th & 8th Grade Academy..... | 396-1025 |
| Grover Cleveland School..... | 396-1040 |
| Franklin School.....         | 396-1050 |
| Madison School.....          | 396-1070 |
| Roosevelt School.....        | 396-1060 |



Like us! Follow us on social media or contact the City of Rahway on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/CityOfRahwayNJ](http://www.facebook.com/CityOfRahwayNJ)



# rahway

## CITY COUNCIL

The Rahway City Council is made up of nine members elected by the citizens of Rahway. There are six wards in the City of Rahway and a Councilmember is elected by the citizens from each respective ward. There are three Councilmembers-at-large who represent the entire City. The City Council looks to the City's goals, major projects and infrastructure improvements ranging from community growth to land use to finances and strategic planning.



**Fifth Ward**  
Danielle "Danni" Newbury  
dnewbury@cityofrahway.com

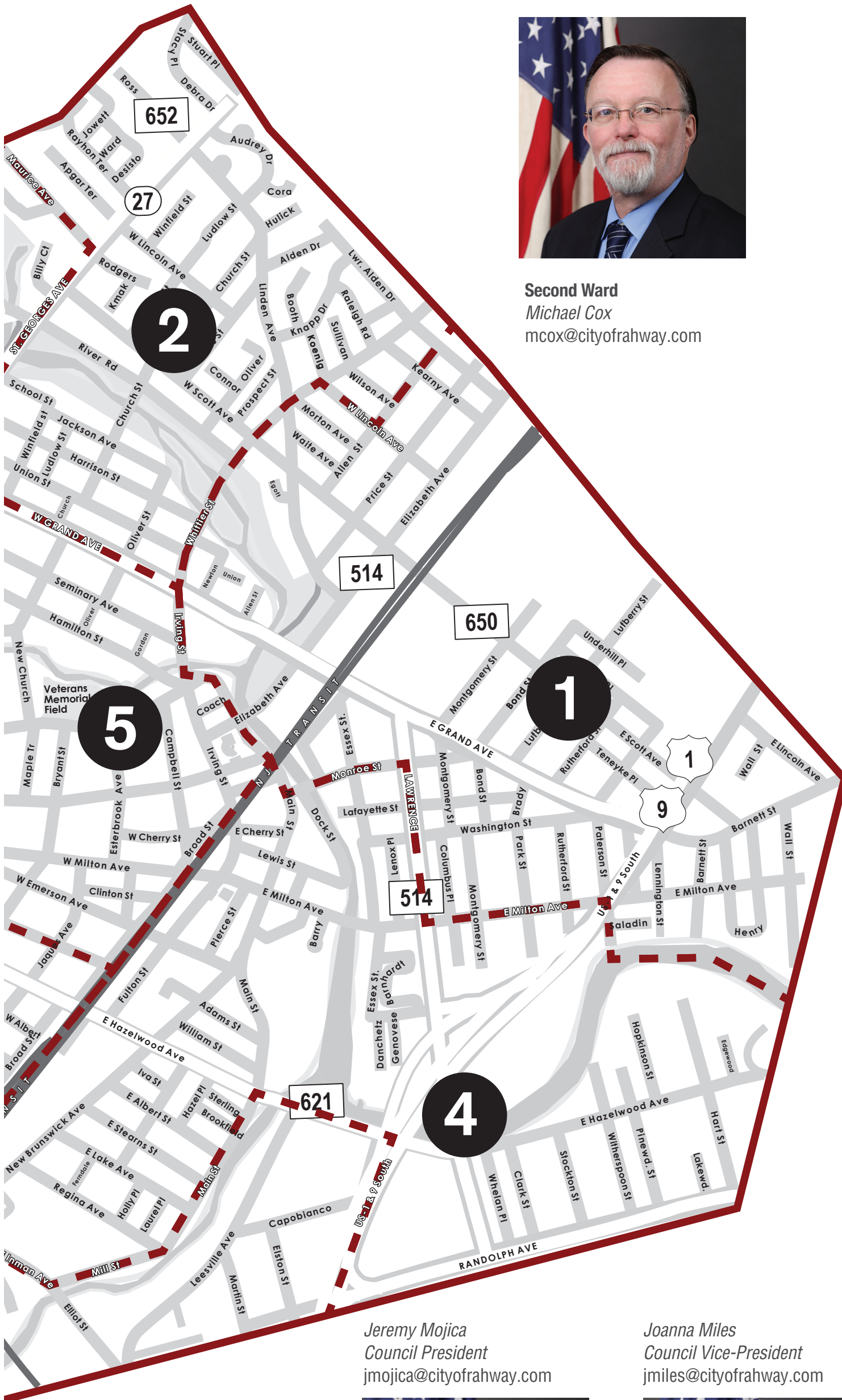


**Sixth Ward**  
Joe Gibilisco  
jgibilisco@cityofrahway.com



**Third Ward**  
Vannie Deloris Parson  
vdparson@cityofrahway.com

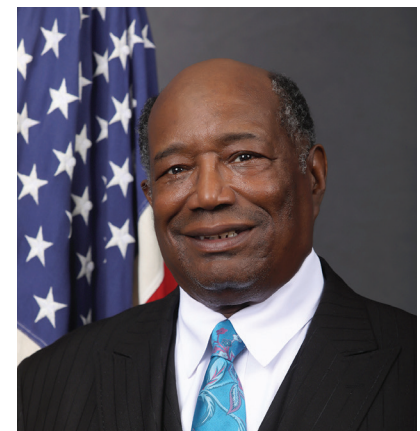




**Second Ward**  
 Michael Cox  
 mcox@cityofrahway.com



**First Ward**  
 Rodney Farrar  
 rfarrar@cityofrahway.com



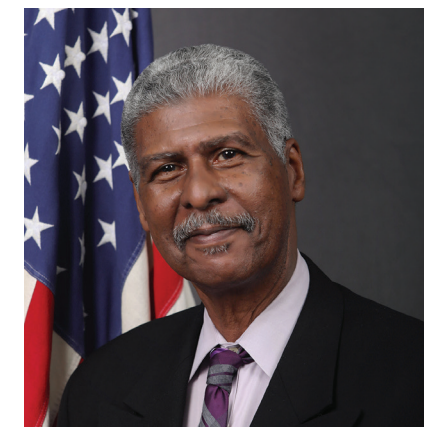
**Fourth Ward**  
 David Brown  
 dbrown@cityofrahway.com

Jeremy Mojica  
 Council President  
 jmojica@cityofrahway.com

Joanna Miles  
 Council Vice-President  
 jmiles@cityofrahway.com

James Baker  
 jbaker@cityofrahway.com

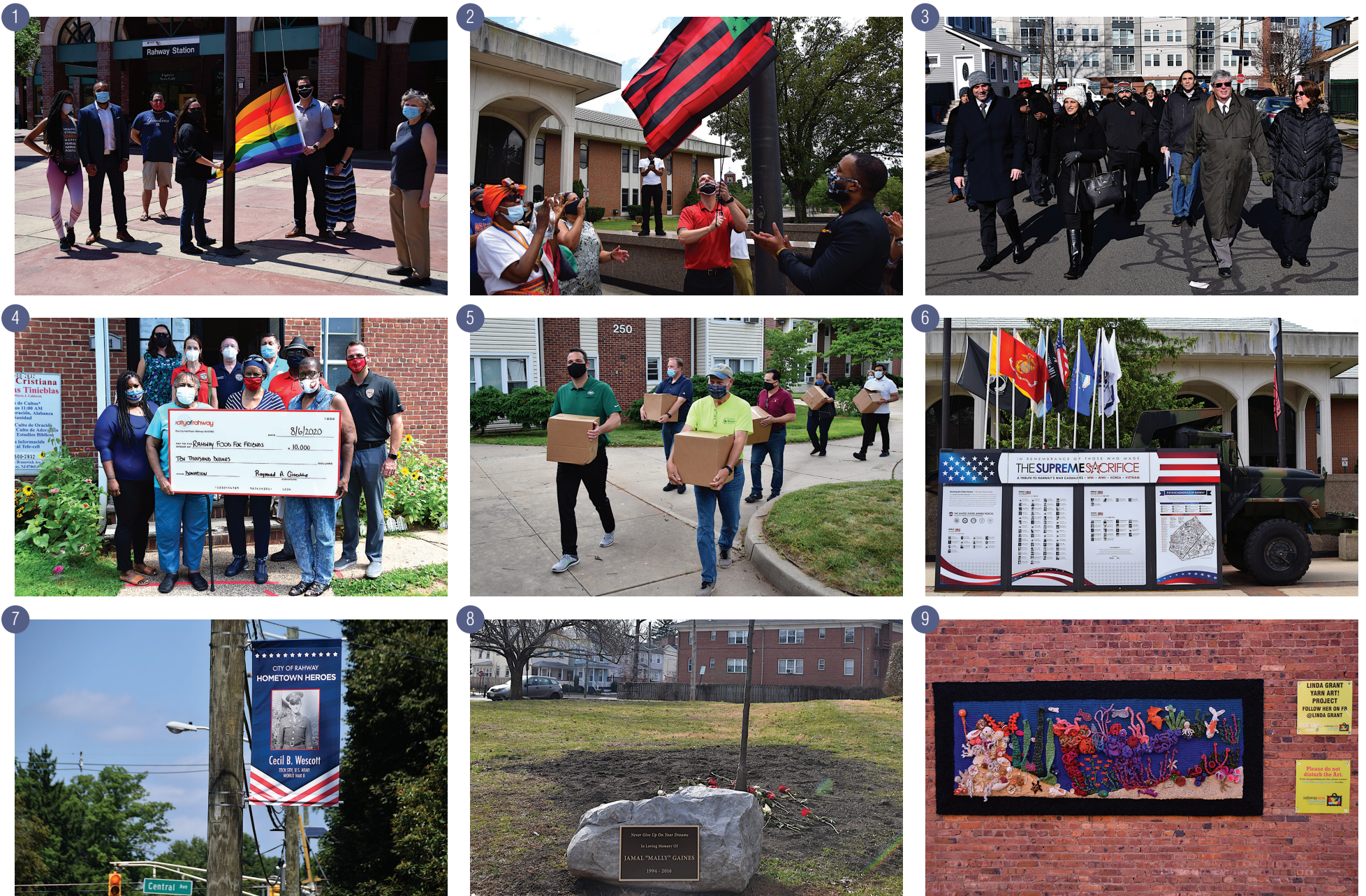
**Councilmembers  
 At-Large**



Throughout 2020, the City of Rahway continued to exhibit its collective strength, working together to overcome the challenges faced throughout the community. The Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic took a toll, not only on Rahway’s residents, but also on Rahway’s small business community. The pandemic prompted state government to mandate the closings of non-essential businesses to avoid group gatherings as a strategy to curb the spread of the virus. As the Black Lives Matter movement continued to expose social injustices occurring on a nationwide scale, the City of Rahway created more avenues to for the community to address concerns, as well as for the community to come together to affirm a commitment to diversity and racial equity. The Rahway community has showcased its spirit by facing any adversity with resilience and strength. To pay homage to that, the Rahway City Council and Mayor Giacobbe implemented the “Rahway Stronger Every Day” Campaign, focusing on Social Justice and Community Support, Business Assistance, Recreational Activities, City Planning and Development and Municipal Operations to provide residents with essential services and necessary relief efforts.

# RAHWAY STRONGER EVERY DAY.

## Social Justice and Community Support



1-Pride flag raising, inclusive of black and brown stripes 2-Juneteenth flag raising 3-MLK Celebration/March  
 4-Supported Rahway Community Action Organization and Rahway Food for Friends with \$10,000 donations 5-Food distribution for seniors in partnership with Union County  
 6-Memorial Day/Supreme Sacrifice/Taps Across America 7-Hometown Heroes Banners 8-Mally Gaines Tree Dedication 9-Cherry Street Yarn Art

- 8 Can't Wait Resolution
- Social Justice Commission Creation
- Police/Community Dialogue Event
- Wellness Calls by Council to Seniors

- Shared social services to seniors
- Modified Senior Transportation Service to better serve our seniors in a safe manner



## Business Assistance



1-Created outdoor dining spaces to assist local business 2-Supported FLAG (Front Line Appreciation Group of Rahway)  
3-Created Rahway CARES forgivable loan program to local businesses suffering through pandemic totaling \$250,000



Released TV commercial at the lift of the stay-at-home order to attract visitors to Rahway to help local businesses



15-minute parking to help accommodate pick-up services offered by businesses



Free parking in the downtown

**“The Rahway City Council has been instrumental in assisting the Rahway community and businesses with essential services and necessary relief efforts. I look forward to continuing this important work for our City.”**

-Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe



Mayor Raymond A. Giacobbe

## Recreational Activities



1-Movies Under the Stars @ UCPAC  
2-Madden Field Improvements Phase 1 (Upper Field – two baseball, one football)



Removed basketball hoops at height of the pandemic to protect our residents. Once safe, reinstalled them to provide a recreational outlet for residents



Drive-in Movies @ Hamilton Stage



Youth Art workshops



Splash Park at Brennan Field



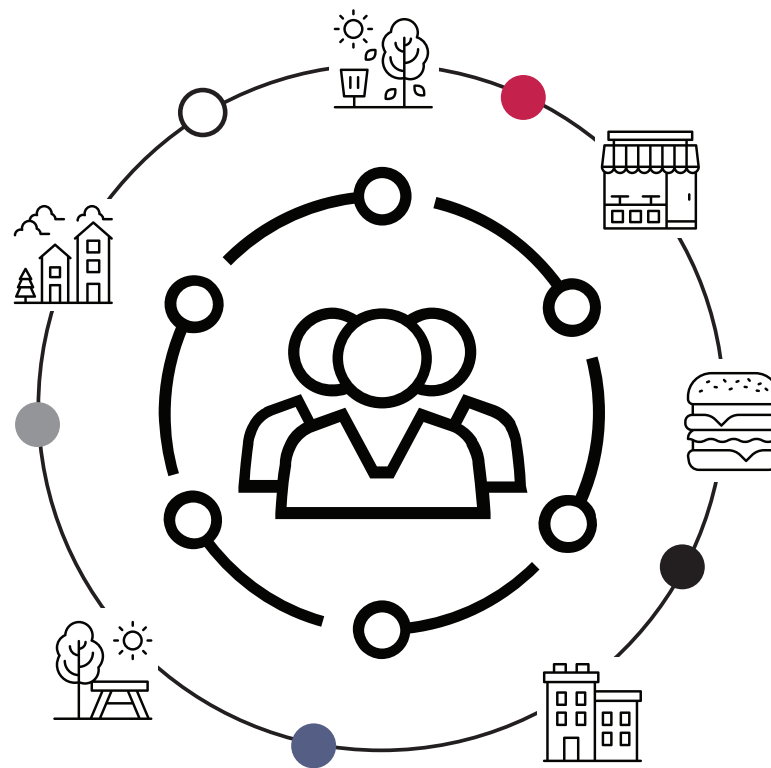
Outdoor Recreational Spaces offered to businesses



Stein Field re-opening



Installed a “creative inclusive activity panel play center” at Tully Field, for special needs children



## Municipal Operations



Continuity of Government Plan for stay-at-home order to ensure the public still has access to City Hall



Closed municipal parks, the Rahway Public Library, Rahway Recreational Center, Rahway Senior Center ahead of the state



Suspending meter parking as well as alternate side parking rules so homebound residents wouldn't have the additional burden of parking enforcement



Took action providing taxpayers with 0% interest rate on property taxes before the Governor implemented his property tax extension



Established queuing entry system for City Hall



Established COVID website

## WELCOME!

RELAX AND ENJOY THIS CITY OF RAHWAY

### Open Shared Outdoor Space

Everyone must continue taking these safety precautions when in establishments, or away from tables.

FOR EVERYONE'S SAFETY PLEASE FOLLOW SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES AND REGULATIONS



FACE MASK



6 FT. APART



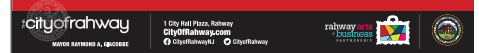
SANITIZE TABLE

PATRONS MUST CLEAN AND SANITIZE THEIR TABLES BEFORE LEAVING:

Please use your own PPE and wipes to clean your table when finished

Enjoy free public WiFi: City of Rahway Wi-Fi

Please visit CityOfRahway.com, and RahwaysHappening.com for more info.



## City Planning/Development



Issued over 200 Temporary Certificates of Occupancy



Issued over 250 zoning permits



Facilitated continued construction for major developments within the City (Meridia Brownstones and The Mint)



Repaired roadway sinkholes (sewer utilities) at three locations



Completed hydrant flushing City-wide