

State of New Jersey

Department of the Treasury

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Citizens Guide to the State Budget Available Online

TRENTON – State Treasurer David Rousseau announced today that the Citizens Guide to the State Budget for Fiscal Year 2009 – an easy-to-follow and informational summary of the Budget for the public -- is now available on the Treasury Department's web site.

"This is the second year we've put out the Guide as part of a series of transparency and presentation-focused Budget reforms recommended by the leadership of the Legislature and Governor Corzine," Rousseau said. "The guide navigates readers through the multiple phases of the budget process and details spending as adopted for the fiscal year. It's a precise look at how tax dollars are put to work and returned to taxpayers."

The Citizens Guide provides a comprehensive view of the budget process and highlights the major funding decisions and policy initiatives of the Corzine Administration. There is also a snapshot of the Budget; highlights of the budget bill (Appropriations Act) as exacted by the Legislature; an economic overview and revenue forecast; and summarizing charts and graphs for major issue areas.

The Citizens' Guide also includes a section titled "Where Does the Money Go," which details how the Fiscal Year 2009 budget benefits New Jersey residents through aid to school districts and municipalities, the funding of higher education and hospitals, and even the number of traffic lanes repaved.

The complete document for the full \$32.9 billion Budget can be accessed through the NJ Treasury Department home page, <u>http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/index.shtml</u>