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### **County Executive Curran and Comptroller Schnirman Unveil New Open Budget and Open Payroll Websites**

*New open data platforms bring a new level of transparency to Nassau County Government*

**HEMPSTEAD, NY** – Nassau County Executive Laura Curran and Nassau County Comptroller Jack Schnirman today launched the *Open Nassau Transparency Portal* [[www.opennassau.nassaucountyny.gov](http://www.opennassau.nassaucountyny.gov)] an online hub that now includes *Nassau County Open Budget and Nassau County Open Payroll*, two new cloud-based web portals that display data related to payroll expenses and budget information.

“Nassau County has long been plagued by a culture of corruption due to lack of transparency and accountability,” said County Executive Curran. “Introducing the Open Budget and Open Payroll websites is another significant step towards restoring fiscal integrity and bringing County government into the 21st century. The creation of a comprehensive user-friendly platform furthers our commitment to transparency, enhancing accessibility and empowering our residents to explore how their tax dollars are being spent.”

“When the County Executive and I entered office last year, we found that the way the County displayed this information was woefully outdated and confusing,” Schnirman said. “The people of this County put us into office so that we can get all of this information out of the proverbial political back rooms and show it to our residents in a transparent and easy-to-understand way. I can’t think of another County that needs these types of modernization and transparency initiatives more than Nassau.”

The technology and support for these programs are provided by Tyler Technologies through its Socrata Open Expenditures platform. It is the same partnership the County used to create its *Nassau County Open Checkbook* platform in January.

*Nassau County Open Payroll* allows the County to display salary information on its own website in a database that is searchable by department and job title. It is updated annually and has data going back to 2015.

“This platform allows the public to see the size of departments, the scope of different pay types like overtime, and track that information over the years,” Schnirman said. “We’ve created a way to display this information that is actually useful to improving the way Nassau County does business.”

Now when there are debates regarding our workforce, policymakers and the public can quickly and easily be informed about where exactly the money is going.”

*Nassau County Open Budget* is a cloud-based platform that takes the County’s annual approved budget document and displays it in a manner that clearly shows where the County expects to receive its funds from each year and where that money is proposed to be spent. It has a dynamic search feature that allows information to be sorted and can automatically track and display changes in the budget going back to 2015.

These platforms are just the latest transparency and modernization initiatives Curran and Schnirman have launched this year.

In March, Curran launched a new online application that will allow the more than 400 county employees designated as ‘policymakers’ to submit their annual Statement of Financial Disclosure electronically. The new applications—developed through collaboration between the County Executive’s Office and the Board of Ethics—will not only eliminate the byzantine and inefficient paper submission process but will also improve the usefulness of the disclosed information in the contract compliance and ethics review process.

The County Executive also launched the Nassau County vendor portal, which offers online services for vendor registration, solicitation, and vendor disclosure submissions.

“We’re seeing governments shift to the idea that successful communities are connected communities—that means departments are connected with their data, their peers, and the people they serve,” said Franklin Williams, president of Tyler Technologies’ Data & Insights Division. “Nassau County is on that path. These new apps add another layer of transparency and accountability by making payroll and budget data available and usable to everyone, regardless of their technical skill level.”

In 2018, Schnirman formed a Policy and Research Unit in the Comptroller’s Office which has been analyzing data to create innovative reports and policy proposals. They have released studies on Veterans affairs in Nassau County, local issues surrounding food insecurity, and most recently a groundbreaking demographic study that for the first time provided hyperlocal looks at the changing face of our local communities.

Schnirman and his Policy and Research Unit also led the County’s first analytics accelerator workshop in December to further jumpstart the process of developing data-based solutions as part of government’s everyday operations.

In January, Schnirman launched *Nassau County Open Checkbook* which shows how County pays its outside contractors, displaying information on more than a \$1 billion worth of spending each year.

There is no cost or registration requirements for the public to access these new platforms.

All of these platforms are accessible from the new *Open Nassau Transparency Hub*, [www.opennassau.nassaucountyny.gov](http://www.opennassau.nassaucountyny.gov), which includes links to Open Checkbook, Open Payroll, Open Budget, and reports from the Comptroller’s Office Policy and Research Unit.