

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS 2025

A NEW VIEW OF PATERSON



MADAM CLERK JACQUELINE MURRAY



Madam Clerk Murray's exemplary service, integrity, and unwavering commitment to the public good have made a lasting impact on the municipality. The City of Paterson extends its deepest condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues. Her dedication, professionalism, and many contributions to the community will be remembered with the highest respect and appreciation.

PROGRAM



MASTER OF CEREMONIES & WELCOME REMARKS

ELI BURGOS
DEPUTY MAYOR

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

CITY OF PATERSON
POLICE HONOR GUARD

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

TONY VANCHERRI
DEPUTY MAYOR

NATIONAL ANTHEM

LEON MOSES

MAYOR'S INTRODUCTION

FARHANNA SAYEGH
FIRST LADY, CITY OF PATERSON

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

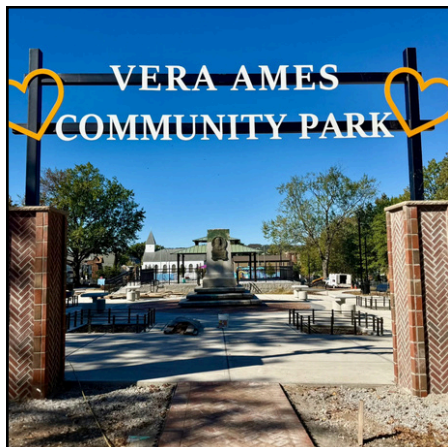
MAYOR ANDRE SAYEGH
CITY OF PATERSON

TRANSFORMATION & TOURISM

- **Vista Park** – the highest point in Paterson, offering breathtaking views of the city.
- **Great Falls Visitor Center** – welcoming more tourists and sharing Paterson's story with the world.
- **The Riverwalk** – connecting people to the Passaic River and creating a vibrant waterfront experience.
- **The Cosmos** are coming to Paterson – bringing cultural excitement and economic opportunity through soccer.
- **Hinchliffe Stadium** – preserving history, honoring legacy, and energizing our community.
- The **Raceways restoration** – revitalizing a beloved landmark that celebrates our heritage.
- **Restaurant Week** – This year we showcased Paterson's rich food culture and local talent. During restaurant week, half of participating restaurants saw an increase in social media followers and 60% saw an increase in customers.



LARRY DOBY FIELD



**VERA AMES
COMMUNITY PARK**



VISTA PARK



**VREELAND AVE
PURPLE PLAYGROUND**



THE COSMOS



**QUARRY LAWN AND
RIVERWALK**

PUBLIC SAFETY

Crime & Fire Reduction:

- 92% reduction in vacant and abandoned properties.
- 60% reduction in major fires since 2022.

Technology Upgrades

- Launch of a \$1 million camera project adding 70 new cameras and repairing 20 more.
- AI-assisted monitoring to alert officers faster and improve response times.
- New drones to assess dangerous situations before officers arrive.
- New equipment including a ladder truck, ambulances, all-terrain utility vehicles, and double-stack boat trailer for lifesaving rescues.
- Perry Weather Alert System automatically notifies residents near parks of lightning strikes and severe weather, and enables emergency broadcasts.

Community Partnerships

- Strengthened community policing, including through programs like *Park Safe Spaces* and *Community Fun Days*, in all wards.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Paterson continues to strengthen communities and empower residents through targeted programs.

- **Paterson Community Solutions (PCS):** Supports first-time, low-level, non-violent offenders to prevent reoffending. A powerful example comes from Marlon, who completed detox, stayed sober for 150 days, participated in GED, ESL, and therapy, reunited with his family, gained employment, and graduated with no pending court charges.
- **Paterson Re-Entry Assistance Program:** Helps recently incarcerated residents adjust to life outside prison. In 2025, 59 clients were active and 43 received food support. One shining example of this program's impact is Ms. McKinnon, who avoided eviction thanks to rental assistance and program support.
- **1-833-RealFix:** Delivers opioid treatment within 90 minutes to over 700 clients, reducing overdose risk by 40–60% and hopefully expanding statewide. One powerful example is a client who was eight months pregnant and navigating opioid use and homelessness. RealFix stayed persistent, helped her secure a job as a home health aide, and today she lives in stable housing with her partner and child and is expecting again, possibly twins.
- **Financial Empowerment Center (FEC):** Offers free one-on-one financial counseling. Since 2023, clients increased 83%, saving over \$3.2 million. Take, for instance, the experience of a local resident- a single mother on the verge of homelessness gained a job, rental assistance, and groceries, transforming her family's future.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS

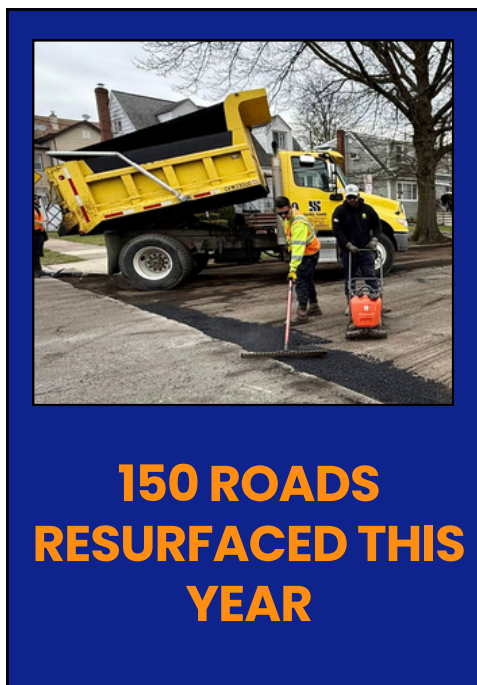
- **Vera Ames Park** – renovated and reimagined for families and children.
- **Westside Park** enhancements – improving safety, lighting, and recreational access.
- **New Pickleball court** – expanding recreational options for all generations.
- **Totowa Library upgrades** – Library visits are up over 6%, reflecting growing community engagement and the renewed excitement around our public spaces.
- **Division of Community Development** provided Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Program for over 150 residents in 2025. A consultant is also helping to revamp the Paterson Homebuyer Rehab program for 2026.

TOTOWA LIBRARY BRANCH REOPENS WITH A FRESH NEW LOOK!



INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

RECONSTRUCTION OF RIVER STREET



PATERSON IS PICKING UP

CLEAN COMMUNITIES

#KeepingPatersonClean

The Paterson Clean Communities Team continues to lead our city's efforts to keep streets and neighborhoods clean and safe. Our monthly cleanups, running from Earth Day through the Green Fair in October, have removed thousands of pounds of litter, bringing together residents, volunteers, and local organizations. We are proud to be officially affiliated with Keep America Beautiful, reflecting our commitment to environmental stewardship. In addition, a \$1 million camera initiative has added over 70 new cameras and repaired more than 20 others, using AI and connections to resident-owned cameras to quickly flag suspicious activity and improve response times. These efforts, combined with 55 solar trash receptacles installed through the UEZ, are strengthening public safety, reducing illegal dumping, and making Paterson cleaner and greener for all.



PATERSON CLEAN COMMUNITIES



Mayor Andre Sayegh signed an executive order establishing the "Keep Paterson Clean" Committee, marking a key step in the city's commitment to cleaner streets and stronger community engagement. This action also aligned the City of Paterson with the Keep America Beautiful Affiliation Program, reinforcing efforts to promote a cleaner, and greener city.



2025 Clean Communities Champion

Mayor Andre Sayegh and the City of Paterson were honored to be named the 2025 Clean Communities Champions by the New Jersey Clean Communities Program. Under Mayor Sayegh's leadership, Paterson has emerged as a model for urban cleanliness and community engagement through comprehensive citywide cleanup initiatives, enhanced street maintenance efforts, and the successful "Paterson is Picking Up" campaign, which was also recognized with the award for Best Municipal Slogan. These initiatives reflect the City's unwavering commitment to maintaining clean, vibrant neighborhoods, fostering civic pride, and combating illegal dumping.

HONOR THE HEROES

WATER MAIN BREAK

In August, Paterson faced a 12-day emergency water main break, and Passaic Valley Water Commission, along with our own city staff, worked around the clock to restore service. Mayor Andre Sayegh honored the community heroes who stepped up during this crisis, demonstrating remarkable dedication and unity. A special acknowledgement goes to Troy Ayers, our Office of Emergency Management Coordinator, who oversaw the distribution of 35,000 cases of water to residents, ensuring families had what they needed throughout the emergency. Their efforts reflect the strength and resilience that define Paterson.



**THANK YOU FOR ALL
YOUR EFFORTS**



City of Paterson UPCOMING EVENTS

Happy Holidays

- **Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway**
Friday 11/14 at 5pm at City Hall
- **Christmas Parade of Lights & Tree Lighting Ceremony**
Saturday 11/29 at 4pm

For Questions, Contact our Office at
(973) 321-1600

visit us at www.patersonnj.gov



MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR - A NEW VIEW FOR PATERSON

As your Mayor, I'm proud to share that the 2025 State of the City reflects a Paterson that is moving forward with purpose. We're seeing real progress across our neighborhoods: renewed parks and public spaces, stronger services, safer streets, and new opportunities taking shape every day. But the most exciting part is where we're headed next.

I'm asking all of you to stay engaged and join us in the fight for a cleaner, stronger, and more vibrant Paterson. When we work together, we turn challenges into progress and big ideas into real results. With your partnership, we will continue building a city where every resident has access to opportunity and where our collective success becomes the standard. Our future is bright, and we're building it together.