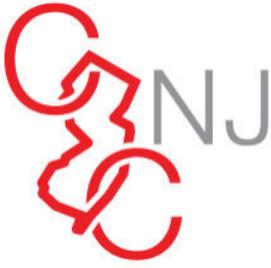


# There is a logical way to **reduce** **property taxes** in new jersey.



## It just takes **Courage to Connect.**

Courage to Connect NJ is an independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization that provides a forum for New Jerseyans to get information, discuss solutions and become involved in creating a sustainable and cost effective local government structure for the state.

**Why Now?** New Jersey is verging on bankruptcy. Our state owes billions of dollars and is stripping the towns of financial aid to cover the gap. Local officials are slashing municipal staff to adapt to reduced state funding and mandated budget caps.

In the near future municipalities will run out of services and positions to cut. This will result in severely reduced services and even higher taxes that continue to feed the current inefficient structure.

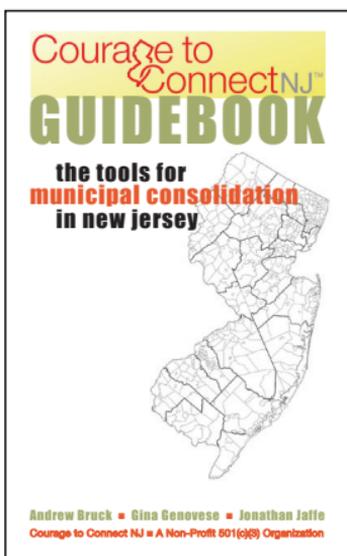
*Courage To Connect NJ Executive Director Gina Genovese stands beside an 11.5 foot stack of placards representing each one of the 566 municipalities in New Jersey. These 566 redundant governments cause our property taxes to be the highest in the nation.*



**Courage to**  
**ConnectNJ™**

**What is the vision for New Jersey?** Courage to Connect NJ (CTC-NJ) was founded in 2009 to educate the public about the redundancies and inefficiencies created by New Jersey's 566 municipalities. CTC-NJ works with taxpayers and lawmakers to reform the state's fractured system of local government with a specific focus on municipal consolidation. Our organization advocates connecting between five and ten municipalities under one administration, creating more efficient towns of 30,000-100,000 residents while preserving the individuality and character of the existing communities. Consolidation allows each connected municipality to offer better quality services for less and to have access to more state and federal aid.

**How can I get involved?** Courage to Connect NJ is presenting a series of public conversations about the need to consolidate municipalities. We help residents recognize that their local government is not the sole creator of their sense of community. We teach residents how they can start a petition in their community to study how services are improved and taxes reduced by connecting with five to ten neighboring towns.



We have a free downloadable Guidebook at [www.CouragetoConnectNJ.org](http://www.CouragetoConnectNJ.org) that takes both residents and local officials through the steps to start a study of the benefits of consolidating with surrounding communities. Please contact us if you would like to sponsor a free presentation in your community.

Contact us at  
[Gina@CouragetoConnectNJ.org](mailto:Gina@CouragetoConnectNJ.org)  
[Facebook.com/CouragetoConnectNJ](https://www.facebook.com/CouragetoConnectNJ)

The only way to make a *real* change is if *you* get involved.

[www.CouragetoConnectNJ.org](http://www.CouragetoConnectNJ.org)

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