

CITY OF ASBURY PARK  
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**ASBURY PARK GAINS POINTS IN THE 2017 MUNICIPAL EQUALITY INDEX SCORECARD**  
**National Survey by the Human Rights Campaign Measures LGBTQ Inclusivity in City Laws and Policies**

*10/20/17, Asbury Park, NJ* – The Human Rights Campaign [HRC] has released the results of their 2017 Municipal Equality Index [MEI], measuring different aspects of LGBTQ inclusivity in municipalities around the country. The survey evaluates the degree to which cities' laws, policies and services explicitly include the LGBTQ community.

The 2017 Municipal Equality Index rates 506 municipalities of varying sizes drawn from every state in the nation. This includes 50 state capitals, the 200 largest cities in the United States, the five largest cities or municipalities in each state, the cities home to the state's two largest public universities, 75 cities and municipalities that have high proportions of same-sex couples and 98 cities selected by HRC and Equality Federation state groups members and supporters.

Asbury Park's final score was 91 out of 100, up 8 points from the City's 2016 score of 83. Asbury Park's full scorecard is available at [www.hrc.org/mei](http://www.hrc.org/mei).

Out of the twelve cities in New Jersey included in the Index, Asbury Park came in fourth behind Jersey City (100), Lambertville (98) and Hoboken (92). MEI rated cities in New Jersey showed a statewide average increase of 7 points in 2017.

"The LGBTQ community has been a long-standing part of Asbury Park's history, and an instrumental part of the City's current period of revitalization and growth. We are proud that the HRC is recognizing our pledge to support this vibrant community." Said Deputy Mayor Amy Quinn. "Our score continues to increase year over year and serves as a testament to the City's ongoing commitment to protect and serve."

For more information on the Municipal Equality Index visit [www.hrc.org/mei](http://www.hrc.org/mei).