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Video & Transcript: Governor Christie: These Funds Will Help Hardest Hit Communities Rebuild

Wednesday, July 17, 2013

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Governor Christie: These Funds Will Help Hardest Hit Communities Rebuild

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sD31cOuXcdE&feature=youtu.be>

Transcript:

Governor Christie: Our Essential Services Grant Program will help prevent the shift in property tax burden for property owners whose properties were not affected by Sandy. Had this shift occurred, it would have resulted in a property tax increase of between 30 and 40 percent. Which obviously is not something we'd want to see happen and would not be affordable for many of the homeowners here in Toms River Township, especially our seniors. So as the hardest hit communities face these difficult budget decisions, we're confident that through this Essential Services Grant Program we'll be able to help fill their unmet needs and keep essential services running while the rebuilding process continues. Now, the idea behind this program was to avoid what a lot of people were worried about, which was with the obvious decrease in ratable base that happened because of homes that were destroyed or significantly damaged. The towns would have to raise property taxes in order to be able to meet the costs of providing services. By providing these funds, we're avoiding that problem for the property tax payers in the affected towns.

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