



**Summary of the Meeting of the
Joint Council of Taxpayers Associations of LBI
Monday February 2, 2026**

► **PRIORITY TOPICS**

Southern Regional School District tax situation. JCTA has urged the mayors of the six Long Beach Island towns to commission a feasibility study to explore options around changing the island's relationship with the Southern Regional School District (SRSD). A letter encouraging support of the study was sent to each LBI mayor in mid-January by JCTA President Ron Fiore.

The feasibility study would consider the impact of a full range of options and offer conclusions about the results of each change, including, but not limited to, ensuring that unnecessary organizational overhead does not divert tax dollars from educational quality and the financial impact on taxpayers.

The issue is that LBI taxpayers fund 80% of SRSD's budget with only 8% of the students *and* LBI has only three seats on the nine-seat school board, which seems out of balance given LBI's financial contribution.

Bringing this issue forward is timely, given the recent verdict in a New Jersey Supreme Court case and increased interest throughout the island about understanding the possibilities for change created by the legislation affirmed by this recent decision.

Your JCTA representative has further details about this effort.

Pedestrian/Bike Safety. Further discussion has been tabled until the March meeting, although plans for a successful safety awareness campaign during season are well underway.

Your JCTA representative has more information about this effort.

First Responders. We continue to support our volunteer fire companies and volunteer emergency medical squads through communicating with our members and the community about all their activities and outstanding service.

Your JCTA representative has more information about these efforts.

Dune Preservation. The instructional video about how to choose, plant and care for plants that preserve the dunes is expected to be available by the beginning of April. We appreciate all the work done by the members of the Holgate Taxpayers Association to produce this video.

Building Relationships With OC Commissioners (“OCC”). JCTA representatives continue to be a monthly presence at the OCC meetings.

Two major projects spearheaded by JCTA are in place with county buy-in – one on-going from last year and a new, recent proposal. Your JCTA representative has the details.