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Piscataway's National Night Out is held on Stelton Road in the vicinity of clock tower of the Westergard Library. COURTESY OF PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP

'Influential seal of approval'

Piscataway named in Best Places to Live in America

Susan Loyer Central Jersey Courier News
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PISCATAWAY - The township has been named in Money Magazine's Top 100 list of places to live in the United States.

Piscataway ranked 68th of the magazine's 2019 Best Places to Live in America, coming in just behind Moore, Oklahoma and ahead of Flagstaff, Arizona.

"The Township Council and I are thrilled that

Piscataway has achieved this national designation," Mayor Brian C. Wahler said in a release. "The quality of life we enjoy in our community has been awarded a prominent and influential seal of approval."

To create Money's Best Places to Live ranking, only places with populations of 50,000 or greater were looked at, according to the magazine. Places with 300,000 or more people were broken down

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Perrine Park in Piscataway is home to a large playground, outdoor adult fitness area, walking/jogging path, basketball court, tennis courts, a softball field and a roller hockey rink. -COURTESY OF PISCATAWAY TOWNSHIP

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into neighborhoods, and from there only neighborhoods with estimated populations between 5,000 and 200,000 people were considered. Places that had more than double the national crime risk, less than 85% of its state's median household income, or a lack of ethnic diversity were eliminated, resulting in 1,796 places.

Data on each place's economic health, cost of living, ethnic and economic diversity, public education, income, health and safety, ease of living, and amenities were considered, all provided by research partner Witlytic. The greatest weight was on economic factors, housing, health and safety, diversity and cost of living. Quality of life, education and local amenities were also critical components, according to the magazine's website.

For two years, the township has had a 12.8 % lower township tax rate, while building a \$32 million community center with no residents' tax monies and maintaining an "AA+ stable" bond rating with Standard & Poor's, according to the release.

The economic growth and stability of the township is due, in part, to the new companies settling in the township, several of them with state-of-the-art logistics centers that are providing good paying jobs for hard working residents, the release states.

"Whether it is building the Piscataway Community Center, refurbishing parks or resurfacing roads, our community continues to move forward," Wahler said.

To view the list, visit <http://money.com/money/collection/best-places-to-live-2019/>.

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