



Council President Patricia Perkins-Auguste is the first African-American woman elected to the Elizabeth City Council in 355-year history of the city. Elizabeth the 4th largest city in New Jersey, is rich in tradition, history and state politics. Honorable Patricia Perkins-Auguste is currently serving in her 29th year as an at-large council member. Her public service has allowed her to serve on national, state and local committees concentrating on such issues as crime, public safety, affirmative action and economic development. She has been instrumental in acquiring grant monies for numerous nonprofit organizations to conduct youth programs, HIV/AIDS victims support and the opening of a number of small local businesses. In February of 1996, she graced the City with a 100 member all male singing choir from South Africa.

Additional, in her early years as an elected public servant, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste has been instrumental in establishing a number of community initiatives designed to aid and assist Elizabeth residents such as the Retail Skills Center at Jersey Gardens Mall which is now the Mills at Jersey Gardens, this program was designed to provide training for city residents and a Juvenile

Curfew Program which promoted counseling instead of criminal punishment for violators of the City's curfew law. A strong advocate for individual human development and family development, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste continually initiates and conducts programs designed to strengthen and empower women and men to explore their individual and family highest potential. A very strong advocate for equality in the workplace, home and in the marketplace, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste is an active member as a Commissioner for the Division of Civil Rights for NJ and works tirelessly to eradicate all forms of racism and discrimination.

In August of 2020, during the COVID-19 Pandemic, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste additionally assumed the responsibilities of Interim Business Administrator for the City of Perth Amboy. As a former personal trust bank investment officer, this opportunity allowed her to demonstrate her leadership, professionalism and organizational skills for another NJ municipality plagued with many uncertainties for its residents, public school community, businesses, medical and first responders, non-profits organizations and the faith based community.

Nationally, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste served on the Platform Committee for the Democratic National Convention in 1996 and was a Delegate for the Democratic National Committee (DNC) in Chicago, Illinois. She was a member of the Steering Committee for the National League of Cities' (NLC) Public Safety and Crime Prevention (PSCP) for all of 1996 and served on the Policy Committee of the PSCP. In 1996 Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste was elected Secretary of the Democratic Municipal Officials (DMO) for the NLC, and she is a member of the National Caucus of Black Local Elected Officials previously holding the office of state representative for New Jersey.

In the State of New Jersey, Councilwoman Perkins-Auguste served on the Steering Committee for the African American Political Alliance, which is chaired by the Late Congressman Donald M. Payne, she is a past member of the State Executive Board of the NAACP. In Union County, the Councilwoman is a founding member of the Union County Black Leadership Caucus which discusses policy issues relating to County wide delivery of services to black and brown communities. Locally, the Councilwoman served on the YMCA Board, is an emeritus board member for the Union County Greater United Way, former Elizabeth Branch President of the NAACP and a founding member of the National Council of Negro Women {NCCW}, Greater Elizabeth Area Section. A graduate of Rutgers University, Newark, the Councilwoman holds a BS in Marketing.

A mother of two young adults sons, the Councilwoman is dedicated and focused on making servicing the public with passion her life purpose and her life mission.