





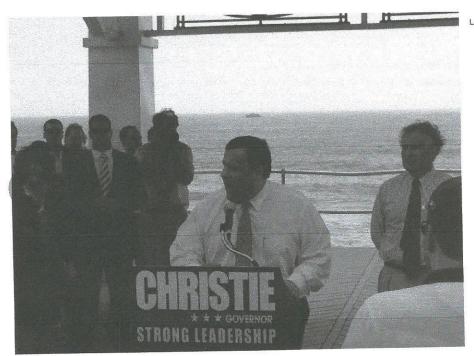
Politics & Government (Https://Patch.com/New-Jersey/Longbranch/Politics)

Long Branch Mayor Endorses Christie, Says 'Party Lines Don't Always Matter'

Mayor Adam Schneider is a Democrat and Christie is a Republican

By Christopher Sheldon, Patch Staff (https://patch.com/users/christopher-sheldon) | Jun 17, 2013 4:18 pm ET | Updated Jun 17, 2013 10:06 pm ET

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Long Branch Mayor





Long Branch Mayor Adam Schneider, a Democrat, publicly endorsed Gov. Chris Christie in Pier Village on Monday.

"He knows I'm a mayor of a town with 45,000 people, he doesn't care that I'm a Democrat," he said. "Party lines don't always matter."

Schneider said he has voted for Democrats during his 22 years as mayor of the city.



(https://

"We need somebody who doesn't care about the next job," Schneider said. "We need someone who cares about doing this job well. I'm happy and proud to endorse for governor, Gov. Chris Christie."

Schneider recently said the work Christie's administration did with the response to Hurricane Irene and said Sandy in the past two years and has earned his respect. He also said Christie's criticism of House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) for holding up Hurricane Sandy Aid, also led to his endorsement.

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Christie agreed that party lines are not bigger than the problems the state is facing after Hurricane Sandy.

"The problems in NJ are more important than any political label we wear," Christie said. "When the storm him, nobody cared if the person helping you was a Republican or a Democrat."

Christie thanked Schneider for his support and others who do not look at party lines.

"I can't thank Adam enough, nobody finds it easy to step across political lines," Christie said. "He's stepped forward to say he believes I am best person to finish the job in New Jersey."

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NEW JERSEY POLITICS

Democratic mayor of Long Branch to endorse Christie

Updated Jun 12, 2013; Posted Jun 12, 2013

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By <u>Matt Friedman</u>, <u>mfriedman@njadvancemedia.com</u>
NJ Advance Media for NJ.com

Long Branch Mayor Adam Schneider is shown in this file photo.
Schneider, a Democrat, plans to endorse Gov. Chris
ChristieNoah K. Murray/The Star-Ledger
TRENTON — The longtime Democratic mayor of Long Branch said today he is endorsing Gov. Chris Christie.

Mayor Adam Schneider told The Star-Ledger in a phone interview that he planned to formally announce his support of Christie on Monday.

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"He understands New Jersey and there's no doubt in my mind is right now the last thing we need to do is reinvent the wheel," Schneider said.

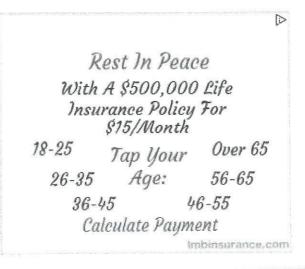
Schneider, who has been mayor for more than 20 years, is the latest in a string of Democrats to back Christie since he kicked off his bid for re-election in the winter.

Although a registered Democrat, Long Branch voters choose their officials in non-partisan elections. Schneider often works with Republicans and has endorsed that party's candidates in the past. But Schneider said he always votes Democratic in federal elections.

He said he decided to endorse Christie when he criticized House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio) for holding up Sandy aid.

"As a Democrat who has watched Republicans do nothing but obstruct what's right for this country, I thought it was about time a Republican called them out for doing so," he said.

Schneider also said he chose to endorse Christie because his staff is responsive and he opposes a proposal to require towns that receive state and federal aid for Sandy recovery to make beach access free.



On Tuesday, Christie was <u>endorsed by Essex County Executive</u>
<u>Joseph DiVincenzo</u>, Sheriff Armando Fontoura and five Essex
County mayors. On Monday he was <u>backed by state Sen. and</u>
<u>Union City Mayor Brian Stack (D-Hudson)</u> and his two Assembly running mates.

Long Branch is the hometown of U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone (D-6th Dist.), who is running for U.S. Senate in the August special primary. Pallone was one of Democratic gubernatorial candidate Barbara Buono's earliest high profile backers. Schneider, who said he supports Pallone's Senate bid, said Pallone "wasn't thrilled" when he told him he planned to back Christie.

"Look, Frank is a Democrat who supports only Democrats," Schneider said. "I'm a mayor who supports whoever helps my town the most."

Monmouth County Democratic Chairman Vin Gopal downplayed the significance of Schneider's endorsement in a statement, noting he backed a Republican for state Assembly as recently as 2011.

"Congressman Frank Pallone, the Democratic Municipal Chairman in Long Branch and his Democratic municipal committee is aggressively supporting Senator Barbara Buono's campaign for Governor," Gopal said. "Senator Buono opposed the cuts in UEZ funding in Governor Christie's budget and she will also support an increase in the minimum wage - two issues which are important to Long Branch. I am confident that Long Branch residents will overwhelmingly support Senator Buono in November"

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