

MCGREEVEY: “SOLOMON PROMISED SIX DEBATES. NOW HE’S DOWN TO FIVE, WHILE PUSHING A \$3 BILLION SCHEME THAT WOULD SEND TAXES THROUGH THE ROOF.”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2025

JERSEY CITY, NJ – Mayoral candidate Jim McGreevey today called out Councilman James Solomon for breaking his public commitment to participate in six debates before the December 2nd runoff, and for promoting a financially reckless housing plan that would burden Jersey City families with billions in new costs.

Solomon publicly pledged to take part in six debates, including “at least two TV debates,” as reported here:

<https://www.insidernj.com/press-release/james-solomon-challenges-jim-mcgreevey-to-six-debates-with-at-least-two-tv-debates-in-jersey-city-runoff/>

Yet Solomon has already rejected three debates:

- Chamber of Commerce Debate
- Downtown Neighborhood Community Association Debate
- Urban Community Cares Debate

“As of today, we will only have five debates before December 2nd, falling short of the six debates Councilman Solomon promised the community,” McGreevey stated. “I accepted every debate proposed. Councilman Solomon has not.”

While the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Neighborhood Association events did not move forward, McGreevey emphasized his continued commitment to community dialogue.

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“I still met in person with the Urban Community Cares group yesterday at 6 PM at 492 Communipaw Avenue,” McGreevey stated. “The community deserves real engagement on fiscal responsibility, housing, public safety, infrastructure, and youth programs, whether Councilman Solomon chooses to show up or not.”

A Risky \$1,000-Rent Promise That Could Explode Taxes

McGreevey also highlighted a deeper concern: Solomon’s financially dangerous proposal to mandate \$1,000 rents citywide, a plan that independent analysis shows would require almost \$3 billion (\$2.95 billion) in taxpayer-funded subsidies for the construction, land acquisition, and long-term rent support of 5,000 units.

“That price tag doesn’t fall on the State of New Jersey or the federal government,” McGreevey said. “It falls directly on Jersey City taxpayers.” To cover the enormous cost of Solomon’s plan, the city would face only two options:

- Massive property-tax increases on homeowners, including retirees and seniors on fixed incomes;
 - Massive rent increases on working families, as landlords pass through the cost of new mandates.
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“Councilman Solomon talks about affordability, but his plan would drive property taxes up and push rents up just to pay for a government-run subsidy scheme that has no basis in reality,” McGreevey stated.

A Walking Fiscal Disaster, While He Lives in a \$1.4 Million Home

McGreevey noted that Solomon himself is shielded from the consequences of his proposals.

“It’s easy to promise billion-dollar giveaways when you live in a \$1.4 million home and won’t feel the impact of skyrocketing taxes,” McGreevey stated.

“But families in Greenville, the Heights, Journal Square, and the West Side will feel every dollar.”

“What Solomon is proposing is a walking fiscal disaster for Jersey City families,” McGreevey continued. “It threatens the stability of our city’s budget and the affordability of every home in this community.”

McGreevey: Responsible Leadership, Real Solutions

“As mayor, I will never gamble with Jersey City’s finances or the homes of our residents,” McGreevey concluded. “Our families deserve responsible budgeting, honest math, and real solutions, not empty promises that put every taxpayer at risk.”
