



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR’S MONTHLY REPORT MARCH 2022
 22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
 Wednesday, April 06, 2022 at 7:00 PM

We continue to work closely with the Administrator and Department Heads, we continue to balance the management of the health crisis and do the Borough’s business.

The February Report is as follows:

- Construction Updates
 - **North St pump upgrades** Award to Vulcan on 11/10/21 for \$199,100. Work began 1/14. As of 2/28: New piles were driven, and the bulkhead was repaired. Platform and electric shed have been built. New HDPE piping has been installed. The new electrical service should be completed by June 1.
 - **Snug Harbor Park Updates** playground area, basketball & tennis courts – Award 4/6. This project is funded through matching Open Space grants.
 - **Skate Park Upgrade** – Award engineering to Colliers 3/2/22. Award construction to Sporn Ranch 4/6/22.
 - **Barberie Ave drainage** [by Shore Drive] Improvements to start in April. Award to Compass Construction \$35,275 on 1/19/22. Work to start in April and will take about one week to complete.
 - **Marine Place Wall – Inside** – Award to Agate Construction, \$637,804 on 10/10/2021. Staging began 3/21, work to start 3/28 and should be completed within 60 days.
 - **Matthews & King Streets improvements** Award to James R. Ientile Inc. \$349,943. Staging started 3/30. Work to start in April. This includes \$165,000 in FY2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid funding for curb & sidewalk repair, replacement of sanitary sewer system, and stormwater upgrades.
 - **South Bay & Hillside Ave** - The improvements will include sanitary sewer, storm sewer, concrete improvements and repaving. The project received a NJDOT Municipal Aid grant of \$212,800. Award 4/6.
 - **I-Bank large sanitary sewer project for Waterwitch Area Phase 1** - The bid opening 3/3. Put bonds in place 3/16 & 4/6. Award 4/6.
 - **Municipal Building** – Advertised for bid 1/20/22. 30 construction companies asked for bid packets and 15 submitted bids. Bid opening was 3/9. Awarded to Kappa Construction \$10,599,000 on 4/6.
- Grants Submitted
 - 3/18 Community Energy Plan to aid meeting the goals of the state’s Energy Master Plan. \$10,000.
- Grants Awarded
 - 3/23 EV Tourism Program up to \$75,000 to cover half the project cost of installing a fast charge station.
- AINR Update
 - **Captain’s Coves** - Developer’s Agreement is in Attorney Review looking at the end of April.
 - **Shadow Lawn** – Developer is submitting a final DEP permit application for the project.
 - **Commercial Business District** - LUB determined revised plan is substantially consistent with the Master Plan 3/10. The LUB Resolution to be sent to Council after 4/14/22 LUB meeting.
- COVID-19 Update
 - For March, Highlands COVID-19 new cases were 15. Total cases since March of 2020 were 705.
 - March testing was conducted on Mondays from 8am-2pm until 3/28 when the vendor lost its funding.
 - Our percentages of population vaccinated are as follows:

	Total	12-17	12+	18+	30+	65+
1 shot	61%	53%	68%	68%	71%	86%
Complete	53%	51%	59%	60%	62%	72%

Detail on long-term Projects

- **2019 Waterwitch and Bay Avenues Sanitary Project** Replace mains, laterals and paving.
 - **Phase 1:** the entirety of Waterwitch Ave [from R36 to Marine Place], North St, Gravelly Point Rd, Ralph St, William St, Ocean Ave, Beach Blvd, Linden Ave, Bay Ave.
 - **Phase 2:** Snug Harbor Ave, Bedle Pl, Marine Pl, Washington Ave, Huddy Ave, Recreation Pl, Cheerful Pl, Barberie Ave, Sea Drift Ave. CME preparing I-Bank grant documents.
- **2021 Flood Mitigation Resiliency Plan** - This comprehensive plan targets four major areas. Each project can be constructed independently, and some will happen sooner than others due to complexity and funding.
 - **North Street Pump** Upgrade the electrical for the station, raise the equipment to BFE, and replace the old floats and upgrade the backflow prevention sluice gate system to reduce interior flooding during moon-tides. Later work includes, roughly 60-ft of Borough-owned bulkhead, as well as 60-ft of a private owner's bulkhead needs to be replaced/raised, to a minimum elevation of 8.50.
 - **Marine Place Steel Bulkhead** – The bulkhead to be cleaned and coated with a 3-coat system rust-proofing paint to slow the aging process of the steel. Cap replacement and street side coating happening first. Waterside will happen after funding is secured.
 - **Veteran's Park** – Living Shoreline & Bulkhead, a combination composite bulkhead and living shoreline to reduce flooding and sustain the shoreline. The living shoreline would extend into the water abutting the bulkhead. In moderate storm events, the living shoreline would provide the protection necessary for wave action mitigation and shifting of sands.
 - **Snug Harbor Avenue Pump Station** – A regional storm water pump station to be installed at Snug Harbor, adjacent to Bay Avenue, inside the top end of the man-made canal. This will eliminate the need for gravity outfall pipes that have been known to be a factor in the flooding of this area.
 - The plan will include the following grant submissions:
 - US Department of Defense Readiness & Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) – pre-proposal submitted 11/22/21 for joint Monmouth University, Highlands & Aberdeen. Pre-application accepted 12/21/21. Full sent 3/21/22.
 - FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) – FY2021 submitted to NJOEM 11/15/21, NJOEM sent to FEMA on 1/31/22.
 - FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) – This is a reimbursement grant.
 - NJDEP Shore Protection Program – submitted 11/10/21.
- **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** - Awarded to Engineering 11/10/21. Will go out to bid in April.
- **Update Vets Park** - Plans are with Engineering. Received Local Recreation grant from DCA \$75,000.
- **Update Ederle Park** – Plans are with Engineering.
- **Update Frank Hall Park** – Plans are with Engineering.
- **Update the Steep Slope Ordinance** - Waiting for recommendations from the Environmental Commission.
- **Skate Park Grants**
 - Submitted Green Acres 7/12/21, awarded 10/21/21 \$449,260 in low interest loan + \$149,753 in a grant.
 - Submitted Monmouth County Open Space 9/16/21, \$200,000 awarded on 12/9.
 - Submission of letter of intent to the Skatepark Project on 1/11 (aka the Tony Hawk Foundation).
- **Address runoff issues from Monmouth Hills** - On-going discussions with Monmouth Hills HOA, State, County and Middletown officials. Monmouth Hills HOA hired an engineering firm to study the area and we look forward to working on a solution together.
- **Enter the Community Rating System [CRS] program for lower flood insurance** - Named CRS Coordinator to be Gregory R. Valesi, PE, PP, CME, CFM of CME on 11/10. The next step is for FEMA to conduct a visit or contact the Borough to review National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements.

All the best to you and yours.

Mayor Carolyn Broullon