



**BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS**  
**MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT**  
22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732  
Wednesday, February 1, 2023, at 7:00 PM

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The January Report is as follows. All constructions dates are weather & supply-chain permitting. The 2023 assessed value of all Borough property made a year over year jump of over \$145 million dollars to just over \$1 billion dollars.

- Construction Updates
  - **Municipal Building** – Building enclosed in January. Interior work is ongoing.
  - **Snug Harbor Park Updates** – Court surface and mulch to be completed in February.
  - **Marine PI Elevated Walkway West [Snug Harbor]** – Completed installation of rails in January.
  - **Waterwitch Pump Station** – Construction began 11/28/22. Should be complete by May.
  - **Ederle Park Updates** – Work started 12/2/22. Should be completed by March.
  - **Skate Park** – Work start 1/23/23, should be done by May.
  - **I-Bank large sanitary sewer project for Waterwitch Area Phase 1** – Starting 1/30 with de-watering on Bay Ave. Streets in this order starting in Feb: Bay from Gravelly to Snug, Gravelly, Ocean, Central, Beach, Waterwitch, Linden, William, Ralph, Bay, North. Hopefully completed by June.
  - **171 Bay Ave EV Charging Station** – Charging station has been ordered. Installation by May.
  - **Jones Creek** – County will do East section [Snug Harbor] CAFRA permit was submitted in Dec.
  - **Portland Road Guard Rail** – Engineering plans submitted to the County. Waiting on the County to repair.
- Projects Planned
  - **Reconstruction of Bayside Drive & Marie St** – From Shore Dr to Borough border. Work includes sanitary sewer main replacement, storm drainage improvements and paving. DOT grant \$246,850.
  - **Update Frank Hall Park** – Joint venture with the Open Space/Lions Club/Green Team looking for grants.
  - **Update Vets Park** - Plans are with Engineering. Local Recreation grant from DCA \$75,000.
  - **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** – Submitted for 2023 Local Recreation Grant.
  - **Marine PI Elevated walkway East [Sea Drift]** – CME submitted Monmouth County Open Space grant.
  - **2021 Resiliency Plan** – Received a grant for design & engineering for living shoreline & bulkhead at Veteran's Park. We are working on funding for the Snug Harbor pump and surrounding area.
- Regionalization Update
  - At a combined BoE meeting on 1/31, the BoEs decided to move forward a unanimous resolution to petition to the Department of Education, without any involvement of the Borough of Highlands, to regionalize the 3 boards and not include Sea Bright. The funding formula is 100% Equalized Value/0% Enrollment. They spoke of a \$400,000 cost savings equally divided by the 2 towns.
- Grants/Funding Update – We were awarded **\$261,804** so far in 2023.
  - 2023 DOT for Bayside Drive & 2023 Drug Enforcement Demand.
- Monmouth Hills Runoff
  - On-going discussions with Monmouth Hills HOA, State, County and Middletown officials.
- Community Rating System [CRS] program for lower flood insurance.
  - We are waiting for Region 2 Floodplain Management & Insurance (FM&I) Branch to complete a Compliance Audit. We were notified this will not happen in 2022, no date has been given to us yet.
  - We need to enter into an Information Sharing Access Agreement (ISAA) with FEMA to gain access to their records of noncompliant properties. An email requesting next steps has been sent to FEMA.

All the best to you and yours.  
Mayor Carolyn Broullon