



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT - MARCH
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at 7:00 PM

Borough Updates

- **HES News** – New roof will be installed over summer break. Be sure to go to the Gift Auction on May 3rd.
- **HHS News** – Spring sports have started for both Middle and High School. Sports include baseball, softball, track & field, tennis and Girl's Flag Football. Go to a game and help root on our Admirals.
- **Emergency Services** – Calls answered: First Aid Squad = 38; Fire = 24; Police = 816
- **Code Enforcement** – Summons = 5; Warnings = 4; Reports = 28; Inspections = 31; Permits = 14; OPRA = 5
- **Building Department** – Inspections = 122; Passed = 68; Failed = 44; Not Ready = 8; Permits issued = 36
- **Department of Public Works [DPW]** – Continue to keep our parks, beaches and public places tidy.
- **Borough Events** – Please check the Recreation page and highlandsnj.com for event info.
- **Sanitary Sewer Project** – This is the replacement of sanitary sewer lines installed in 1925. Ralph & William Streets were paved on 4/11. The remaining work on the county portion of Bay Ave is to finish from Atlantic Street to North and then a small portion near Veterans Park and Bahrs. The county will pave all its roads before school starts in the fall. **Planned for May:** Manholes, mains & laterals Bay between Atlantic & North streets.
- **Updates to Vets Park** – Local Recreation grant DCA \$75,000. Waiting for delivery of amenities listed below. The project includes removing three planting beds at the request of the Garden Club, adding picnic tables, adding water fountain, adding solar lighting, upgrading the basketball courts, and adding a stone checkers/chess table.
- **Reconstruction of Bayside Drive & Marie St** – From Shore Dr to Borough border. Work includes storm drainage improvements & paving. DOT grant \$246,850. Most work has been completed by 4/24. Punchlist items in May.

Projects Planned for 2024

- **Marine PI Elevated walkway East [Sea Drift]** – Awarded Monmouth County CDBG grant \$167,647.
- **Shore Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – Sidewalks from Waterwitch to Willow. DOT \$284,000.
- **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** – Environmental completed. MCOS \$148k + DCA \$74k.
- **Update Frank Hall Park** – We are submitting a grant request to DCA Local Recreation Improvement in April.
- **Jones Creek** – County will do East section [Snug Harbor]. We resubmitted CAFRA permit 9/2023.

2021 Resiliency Plan Updates

1. **Veteran's Park – Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Combination** - US DOD REPI grant, pre-construction documents submitted. 2. **Snug Harbor Avenue Pump Station** – New Pump Station & 3. **North Street Pump Station Upgrades and Storm Drainage**. Awarded 1.3-million-dollar 2023 NJDOT Local Transportation Projects and 2022 FEMA BRIC, includes updates to current pump stations, a new pump station at Snug Harbor, combining flood mitigation and green infrastructure. Engineering and permitting should be completed in 2024. The entire project is estimated at \$16,205,280 and our grant award is for \$12,193,960, our largest grant ever. 4. **Steel Bulkhead on Marine Place** – Painting water side – Exploring finish options.

Community Rating System [CRS] Update

The Coordinator continues to update elevation certificate information and ensure building department upgrades are properly logged in the flood plain and building department tracking software. She is currently working on removing now compliant properties from the National Non-Compliant Properties List. This is one of the first steps to becoming CRS Certified and enjoying lower flood rates for all properties in the flood zone.