



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 7:00 PM

Borough Updates for May:

- **HES News** – New roof will be installed over summer break. The PTO's Gift Auction on May 3rd made \$13,000.
- **HHRS News** – Capital Projects have been approved at all 3 schools in the amount of \$1,412,514.
- **Emergency Services** – Calls answered: First Aid Squad = 31; Fire = 20; Police = 851
- **Code Enforcement** – Summons = 14; Warnings = 3; Reports = 27; Inspections = 23; Permits = 14; OPRA = 18
- **Building Department** – Inspections = 83; Passed = 66; Failed = 18; Not Ready = 2; Permits issued = 29
- **Department of Public Works [DPW]** – Installed the banners for the First Aid Squad's sponsored Hometown Heroes Program along Bay Ave.
- **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. The remaining work on the county portion of Bay Ave stalled due to conflicts with the water mains that run too close, and sometimes embedded in the side walls of manholes. The Borough is working with NJAW to find a solution. **Planned for June:** Punchlist items and sidewalk replacement & paving of Central, Beach, Ocean, as well as the Borough portions of Waterwitch and Bay Aves. **Planned for July:** County to pave Linden, Waterwitch and Bay Ave. Any replacement work on Bay Ave not completed in Phase I will be moved to Phase II [Snug Harbor to Sea Drift from Marine Pl to Bay Ave].
- **Updates to Vets Park** – Local Recreation grant DCA \$75,000. Waiting for delivery of the amenities listed below. Project includes removing three planting beds at the request of the Garden Club, adding Belgian Block to beds, 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. Work completed in 5/10.
- **Army Corp of Engineer's Project** – We had a public meeting on 5/14 at HHRS to discuss updates to their floodwall plan which is only 30% complete. The most updated materials are on the Borough Website at <https://highlandsborough.org/highlands-public-information-meeting-14may-2024/>

Projects Planned for 2024

- **Marine Pl 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.
- **Jones Creek** – County will do dredging [Snug Harbor]. Resubmitted CAFRA permit, now with DEP for review.
- **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.

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, adding 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 is setting up a meeting for June with FEMA II to discuss our entrance into the first phase of CRS.