



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 7:00 PM

Borough Updates for June:

- **HES News** – The Cardboard Boat Regatta at SeaStreak Beach on 6/9 was a great success. The beach was packed with parents & community members cheering the racers on. Graduation on 6/17 was a terrific event. The 6th Graders showed off their James T. White projects at the Historical Society meeting on 6/27.
- **HHRS News** – 8th Grade Step Up to High School 6/13 and the 12 Grade Graduation 6/18 were awesome. 53 Seniors boasted many awards including scholarships in the amount of \$3,461,467 awarded from nearly 30 different colleges. Other Seniors are headed: 1 to the Navy, 1 to the Police Academy, and 7 school to work.
- **Emergency Services** – Calls answered: First Aid Squad = 40; Fire = 28; Police = 999
- **Code Enforcement** – Summons = 10; Warnings = 5; Reports = 13; Inspections = 16; Permits = 32; OPRA = 9
- **Building Department** – Inspections = 39; Passed = 31; Failed = 4; Not Ready = 4; Permits issued = 19
- **Grants** – Won so far in 2024 is \$111,954
- **Borough Events** – Please check the Recreation page on the Borough website and highlandsnj.com for event info.
- **Army Corp of Engineer's Project** – There will be a non-binding referendum on the ballot 11/5/2024. See project materials here: <https://highlandsborough.org/highlands-public-information-meeting-14may-2024/>

Current Project Updates

- **Sanitary Sewer Project** – Replacement of sanitary sewer lines **installed in 1925**. All non-conflicted sewer work was completed in June. **Planned for July:** Paving: Local Waterwitch & Bay Ave, North Street, sidewalk replacement & paving of Central, Beach, Ocean. **Planned for August:** County to pave Linden, Waterwitch and Bay Ave. Any replacement work on Bay Ave not completed in Phase I moved to Phase II [Snug Harbor to Sea Drift from Marine to Bay].
- **Updates to Vets Park** – Local Recreation grant DCA \$75,000. The basketball court was milled and paved; striping is next. Waiting for delivery of the solar picnic tables and solar lighting.
- **Huddy Park Gazebo** – Taken down on 6/24. A replacement was donated by a resident, delivery in July.

Planned Projects for 2024 & 2025

- **Linden Ave curbs & sidewalks** – Bid 6/19. Bids due 7/3. Award 7/17. Work to start w/o 7/29. End 60 days.
- **Portland Road Drainage** – Stormwater improvements, DOT grant \$261,900. Bid in Aug.
- **Marine PI Elevated Walkway East [Sea Drift]** – Awarded Monmouth County CDBG grant \$167,647, bid Aug.
- **Shore Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – Sidewalks from Waterwitch to Willow. DOT \$284,000, bid fall.
- **Jones Creek Dredging** – DEP approved, working with County for timing.
- **Update Frank Hall Park** – We are submitting a grant request to MC Open Space in July, hear back in Nov.
- **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** – Survey & concept plan in works. MCOS \$148k + DCA \$74k

2021 Resiliency Plan Updates

1. **Veteran's Park – Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Combination** - US DOD REPI grant, pre-construction documents submitted, working on vegetative list. 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, 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.

Community Rating System [CRS] Update

The coordinator is setting up a meeting with FEMA II to discuss our entrance into the first phase of CRS. The floodplain workshop on 6/28 was very informative, watch it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_xlr6_ff-Q