



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, November 6, 2024, at 7:00 PM

Borough Updates from October:

- **New Website Address** – Reminder that our new website address: www.highlandsnj.gov
- **Emergency Services** – Calls answered: First Aid Squad = 35; Fire = 17; Police = 705
- **Code Enforcement** – Summons = 5; Warnings = 11; Reports = 17; Inspections = 37; Permits = 15; OPRA = 7
- **Building Department** – Inspections = 94; Passed = 86; Failed = 8; Not Ready = 0; Permits issued = 51
- **Grants** – Awarded amount so far this year is \$1,762,954
- **Borough Events** – Check the Recreation page on the Borough website and highlandsnj.com for event info.

Current Project Updates – Dates are weather permitting

- **Sanitary Sewer Project** – October marked the completion of this project with paving on Central, Beach & Ocean on 10/21 and County paving Linden, Waterwitch & Bay Ave 10/23 - 10/27. Striping completed on 10/30.
- **Updates to Vets Park** – This project is complete with the installation of solar picnic tables on 10/24.
- **REPI Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Design & Permitting** - US DOD grant, pre-construction documents submitted, working on vegetative list Grant = \$219,676. Permits have been submitted and are expected by end of 2024. Once permits are approved, we will apply for the REPI construction grant.
- **Portland Road Drainage** – Stormwater improvements, DOT grant \$261,900. Awarded 10/6. Start 10/30.
- **Asset Activation James T. White Clam Plant** – NJEDA Grant for \$50,000 for planning upgrades, awarded 10/16.
- **US DOT Safe Street & Roads for All** – Comprehensive transportation safety action plan for the entire Borough spanning 28 months by the County, \$1,475,000 total cost, Fed grant = \$1,180,000 + County grant = \$295,000.

Planned Projects for 2025 – Bid in Fall 2024 for construction in Spring 2025

- **Overlook Park Creation [empty lot on NJSH 36]** – Survey & concept plan in works. MCOS \$148k + DCA \$74k
- **Frank Hall Park Updates** – We received the Monmouth County Open Space grant for \$86,000.
- **Jones Creek Dredging** – DEP approved 7/31/24, the County will complete, waiting for dates.
- **Marine Pl Elevated Walkway East [Sea Drift]** – Monmouth County CDBG grant \$167,000.
- **Shore Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – Sidewalks from Waterwitch to Willow. DOT \$284,
- **Washington Avenue Paving** – Mill & pave of Washington Ave from Marine Pl. to Cheerful Pl.

Grants won – projects to be permitted & awarded

- **Linden, WW, Bay & Snug Harbor** – Estimated \$1.7 Million project to improved Drainage on these roads \$1.3 Million from DOT Local Aid. Waiting for DEP approval of the project.

Grants waiting to hear back

- **2022 FEMA BRIC** – Combines flood mitigation and green infrastructure. In pre-award stage while Environmental Assessment [EA] ongoing, once EA completed [around March 2025], final DEP review will begin. Project = \$16,205,280; Grant = \$12,193,960. Engineering and permitting should be completed in 2024.
- **Reconnect Communities Walkway over 36** – Planning grant for walkway from Waterwitch Ave to Kavookjian. Submitted for \$111,780.
- **American Firefighter's Grant** – New radios for the FD, submitted for \$160,725.
- **American Firefighter's Grant** – Pump Truck for the FD, proposal for grant writing submitted by Colliers.
- **Grand Tour Drainage Improvements** – Improve stormwater drainage.

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
We continue to work with businesses and residents in the flood zone to build resiliently.