



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 7:00 PM

REMINDER: Local Government Week Open House at Borough Hall 6:30pm on April 7th

Borough Updates from March:

- **Shadowlawn AINR** – The Redeveloper looking at designs & preparing for a DEP for a pre-application meeting.
- **Captain's Cove AINR** – A prospective redeveloper has expressed interest but has not submitted plans.
- **Bay Avenue AINR** – Conditional Redeveloper for 289 Bay is in negotiations for Developer's Agreement.
- **Emergency Services** – Calls answered: First Aid Squad = 27; Fire = 12; Police = 759
- **Code Enforcement** – Summons = 13; Warnings = 5; Reports = 17; Inspections = 21; Permits = 17; OPRA = 2
- **Building Department** – Inspections = 64; Passed = 53; Failed = 5; Not Ready = 3; Permits issued = 29

Current Project Updates

- **Portland Road Drainage Improvements** – NJNG & NJAW work completed. Installing stormwater pipe & spot repair ongoing. Work should be complete by May, weather permitting.
- **Asset Activation James T. White Clam Plant** – NJEDA Grant of \$50,000 for planning upgrades, due 4/18. Scheduled the Public Discussion for 2/5 in Other Business at the Council Meeting. Please participate in our online survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ClamPlant>

Planned Projects for 2025

- **Washington Avenue Paving** – Mill & pave of Washington Ave from Marine Pl. to Cheerful Pl. Award 4/2.
- **Shore Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – Waterwitch - Willow sidewalks. DOT \$284,000. Award 4/2.
- **Marine Pl Elevated Walkway East [Sea Drift]** – Monmouth County CDBG grant \$167,000. Award in May.
- **Frank Hall Park Updates** – Survey & concept plan in works. MCOS \$86,000. Will be bid with Overlook to maximize potential cost savings. Environmental review in April. Go to bid in May.
- **Overlook Park Creation [empty lot on NJSH 36]** – Construction docs near finished. MCOS \$148k + DCA \$74k
- **Jones Creek Dredging** – DEP approved 7/31/24, exploring options for completion.

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 NJDOT Local Aid. Waiting for DEP approval of the project to go out to bid.
- **Grand Tour Drainage Improvements** – Project estimate \$1 million, Grant \$217,456. Survey area, move to 2026.

Grants waiting to hear back

- **2022 FEMA BRIC** – Combines flood mitigation and green infrastructure. In pre-award stage now while Environmental Assessment [EA] is ongoing, once EA is completed [expect results April 2025], final DEP review will begin. Project = \$16,205,280; Grant = \$12,193,960. Waiting for Historic Preservation review.
- **American Firefighter's Grant** – Pump Truck for the FD, grant not awarded, exploring options for purchase.
- **T-Mobile Hometown Grant** – A \$50k grant to fund the sculpting and installation of a statue honoring Captain Joshua Huddy, a local American Revolutionary War hero. The proposed installation will be located at Huddy Park in Highlands, just 150 feet from where Captain Huddy was hanged in 1782. We should hear by the end of May.
- **REPI Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Design & Permitting** - US DOD grant OF \$219,676, permits are approved by DEP. Submitted to Army Corps. After ACE approval, looking to submit for the grant for implementation.
- **Overpass Walkway over R36** – Did not win USDOT grant. Looking to resubmit with County & State.

Community Rating System [CRS] Update

The CRS Certification process continues as we work with property owners in the flood zone to build resiliently.

Floodplain Town Hall workshop, watch it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_xlr6_ff-Q

Floodplain Design Guidelines can be found here: bit.ly/CBDFloodplainDesignGuideline