



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 7:00 PM

Borough Updates from May:

- **Arborvitae Planted** – At the Skatepark to soften noise for the neighbors on 5/22.
- **Parking Lot Opened** – Shore Drive lot was cleared out, cleaned and opened 5/23 for the first time since Sandy.
- **Shadowlawn AINR** – Successful DEP pre-application meeting. In negotiations for Developer's Agreement.
- **Captain's Cove AINR** – A prospective redeveloper has expressed interest but has not yet submitted plans.
- **Bay Avenue AINR** – Conditional Redeveloper for 289 Bay is in negotiations for Developer's Agreement.
- **Emergency Services** – Incidents: First Aid Squad = 28; Fire = 16; Police = 863
- **Code Enforcement** – Summons = 9; Warnings = 2; Reports = 12; Inspections = 23; Permits = 19; OPRA = 3
- **Building Department** – Inspections = 73; Passed = 53; Failed = 17; Not Ready = 3; Permits issued = 20

Current Project Updates

- **Central/Beach/Ocean** – Punchlist items from sanitary project began 5/28. It should be done by mid-June.
- **Portland Road Drainage Improvements** – Drainage work is completed. Mill & pave in June.
- **Shore Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – Install sidewalks from Waterwitch to Matthews. DOT grant \$284,000. Work started 5/28.
- **Marine Pl Elevated Walkway East [Sea Drift]** – Monmouth County CDBG grant \$167,000. Start in June.
- **Washington Avenue Paving** – Mill & pave of Washington Ave from Marine Pl. to Cheerful Pl. Start in June.

Planned Projects in 2025

- **Frank Hall Park Updates & Overlook Park Creation** – Survey & concept plan completed. MCOS \$86,000 FHP & OP MCOS \$148k + DCA \$74k. Will be bid together to maximize potential cost savings. Go to bid in July.

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. This work has been moved to 2026.

Grants waiting to hear back

- **Flood mitigation & Green Infrastructure** – Project = \$16,205,280. Waiting for State Historic Preservation Office. BRIC cancelled by E.O. Looking elsewhere for funding.
- **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 for funding with Federal, State & County options.

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