



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, December 3, 2025, at 7:00 PM

Borough Updates for November:

- **Shadowlawn AINR** – We signed the agreement with the redeveloper on 11/5. Some highlights of the plan for the property are a five-story building with 292 units, 44 of those are affordable. There will be a scenic overlook for the public to use and installation of curbs & sidewalks from Linden to Scenic Drive.
- **Captain's Cove AINR** – A prospective redeveloper has expressed interest but has not yet submitted plans.
- **Bay Avenue AINR** – 289 Bay Developer's Agreement completed, they are waiting County approvals.
- **Regionalization to include Sea Bright** – The NJ Supreme Court heard arguments 10/21, waiting for ruling.
- **Emergency Services** – Incidents: First Aid Squad = 25; Fire = 17; Police = 728
- **Code Enforcement** – 6 Summons; 7 Warnings; 20 Reports; 25 Inspections; 10 Permits; 16 OPRA
- **Building Department** – 68 Inspections where 57 Passed 11 Failed 0 Not Ready; 14 Permits issued
- **2025 Merit Awards from Monmouth County** – Highlands was recognized for its foresight and innovation for creating the Central Business District Floodplain Design Guidelines to highlight the DEP changes in construction and the New Jersey Asset Activation Plan which explored revitalizing the J. T. White Clam Depuration Plant including the possibility of creating a maritime museum with an educational component. Both Awards were made possible by Construction Official Steve Winters and CRS Coordinator Kathy Shaw.

Current Project Updates- Weather Permitting

- **Marine PI Elevated Walkway East [Sea Drift]** – As of 10/31 substantially complete, last work done by early Dec.
- **Frank Hall Park Updates & Overlook Park Creation** – Hardscape work to be done late Dec.
- **Coves Valves** – New valves will be installed on the 3 outfalls at Coves. Awaiting favorable low tides to measure.

Grants won – projects to be permitted & awarded

- **Linden, WW, Bay & Snug Harbor Drainage Improvements** – Estimated \$1.7 Million project to on these roads \$1.3 Million from NJDOT Local Aid Grant. Waiting for DEP Letter of Support of the project to go out to bid.
- **Grand Tour Drainage Improvements** – Project estimate \$1 million, Grant \$217,456. Work moved to 2026.
- **County Open Space** – Won \$225,050 to resurface playgrounds at Vets, Huddy and Rec, also fix courts at Snug.

Grants submitted waiting to hear back

- **Safe Roads to Transit** – 7/2025 New sidewalks on 36 from Waterwitch to Valley Ave.
- **REPI Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Design & Permitting** - US DOD grant of \$219,676 for design, permits are approved by DEP & Army Corps. Implementation grants to be announced early 2026.

Grants being explored

- **Sanitary Sewer Phase II** – NJ Water Bank, USDA Water, NJ Champs & other options being explored.
- **Overpass Walkway over R36** – Looking to resubmit for funding with State & County options.
- **Flood mitigation & Green Infrastructure** – Project = \$16,205,280. Exploring NJ Water Bank & NJ Champs.
- **New First Aid Building** – Possible Congressionally Directed Spending, also looking at modular solutions.
- **New Pumper Truck for FD** – Put seed money in the 2025 budget & exploring grant options for purchase.
- **Bronze Huddy Statute** – The proposed installation will be located at Huddy Park, just 150 feet from where he was hanged without benefit of a trial in 1782. We are looking for County & State grants.

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 We are setting up a meeting with the County before the end of the year.