



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

Borough Updates for January:

- **Emergency Services** – Incidents: First Aid Squad = 27; Fire = 17; Police = 853
- **Code Enforcement** – 3 Summons; 3 Warnings; 22 Reports; 6 Inspections; 18 Permits; 9 OPRA
- **Building Department** – 47 Inspections where 35 Passed; 5 Failed; 6 Not Ready; 22 Permits issued
- **Land Use Board** – 326 Shore Dr., B100 L27 SeaStreak application had 1st hearing on 12/18 regarding Zoning and Parking improvements. The second hearing date has not been scheduled yet.
- **Regionalization to include Sea Bright** – The NJ Supreme Court heard arguments 10/21, then ruled on 12/8 that Sea Bright has standing to leave Oceanport and Shore Regional Schools. Talks ongoing.
- **Shadowlawn AINR** – The approved plan for the property is 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. Environmental studies will be completed before any construction occurs.
- **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.

Current Project Updates- Weather Permitting

- **Frank Hall Park Updates & Overlook Park Creation** – Majority of hardscape work done by late Jan.
- **Tide Valves** – Replace valves on the 3 outfalls at Coves & 1 on Jackson. Jackson done 1/21.

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 \$1.1 million, Grant \$420,323. 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

- **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.
- **NJ Agritourism** – Video link to the J T White Clam Plant to be displayed on TV in Borough Hall.

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 Statue** – 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.