

BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS, N. J.

INCORPORATED 1900



42 SHORE DRIVE
HIGHLANDS, NJ 07732
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

732-872-1224 PH
732-872-0670 FX

WWW.HIGHLANDBOROUGH.ORG

CAROLYN BROULLON
MAYOR

MICHAEL MUSCILLO
ADMINISTRATOR

MICHELLE HUTCHINSON
BOROUGH CLERK

Mayor's Monthly Report inclusive of 11/30/21

We continue to work closely with the Administrator and Department Heads, we continued to balance the management of the health crisis and do the Borough's business.

The November Report is as follows:

- Awarded contract for the North Street stormwater pump station electrical upgrades on November 10th. Work should start on December. This has been on the books since 2013.
- Updated our MOU with JFK/Meridian to expand the hours of hours of service to 5am to 5pm on November 10th
- Purchased Ambulance using the funds from the Ordinance listed below
- Entered a contract for a loaner Ambulance at no cost to the Borough
- Awarded Engineers contract for the following work in the Borough
 - Create Overlook Park at old Stymie's property [empty lot on NJSH 36]
 - Services in connection with the Snug Harbor Park, Huddy Park and Veterans Park improvements project
- Ordinance passed:
 - Capitol ordinance providing for various improvements and the acquisition of various capital equipment, and appropriating \$500,000
- Released findings for the public engagement questionnaire for the Central Business District Area in need of Redevelopment on November 8th. Survey field dates October 3rd to October 31st
- The Veteran's Day Breakfast at HHRS was a great success. The kids were amazing, and the Veterans and other guests enjoyed breakfast from food donated by local restaurants. A special shout out to Maryann Fiel for all her hard work organizing the event.
- Released findings for the public engagement questionnaire for possible PK-12 Regionalization on November 13th. Survey field dates September 21st to October 31st
- New playground equipment installation started on November 17th at Huddy Park
- Council and staff attended the NJ League of Municipalities for courses and networking opportunities
- Joint [Monmouth University-Urban Coast Institute, Highlands Borough and Aberdeen Township] Pre-Proposal for the NJDEP REPI grant was submitted for 2021 Flood Mitigation Plan on November 23rd
- Community Thanksgiving Dinner "Grab & Go" was another successful event on November 24th
- Draft Bay Avenue Redevelopment Plan released November 24th
- New playground equipment installation started on November 29th at Veteran's Park
- Had a Special Meeting with the Tax Assessor to explain Home Valuation on November 30th
- Pre-Construction meeting for repairs to the inside of Marine Place bulkhead on November 30th
- As of 11/30 Highlands COVID-19 Vaccinations are below, new cases = 24. Vaccination Status are as follows:

	Total	12-17	12+	18+	30+	65+
1 shot	58%	46%	64%	65%	68%	82%
Complete	52%	43%	58%	58%	61%	71%

Status on long-term Projects

- **2021 Flood Mitigation Plan** - This comprehensive plan targets four major areas:
 - Veteran's Park – Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Combination
 - Snug Harbor Avenue Pump Station – New pump station and replace storm drains
 - North Street Pump Station upgrades and storm drainage
 - Marine Place steel bulkhead adjacent to Captain's Cove – Paint water side & replace cap
 - The plan will include the following grant submissions:
 - US Department of Defense Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) – pre-proposal submitted 11/22/2021 for joint Monmouth University, Highlands & Aberdeen.
 - FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) – submitted to NJOEM 11/15/21, then they send to FEMA in January
 - FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) – This is a reimbursement grant
 - NJDEP Shore Protection Program – submitted 11/10/21
- **Waterwitch and Bay Avenues sanitary project** - We expect DEP to approve these added streets to Phase 1 as the larger project will make a greater impact to improve water quality
 - Waiting for DEP to sign off on expanding to all streets so we can go to bid in December
 - We added the following streets to Phase 1: the entirety of Waterwitch Ave [from R36 to Marine Place], North St, Gravelly Point Road, Ralph St, William St, Ocean Ave and Beach Blvd
 - We also added Barberie, Sea Drift and both sides of Marine Place to Phase 2
- **Waterwitch Pump Station Improvements**
 - Upgrades and install backup generator – engineering is in design phase.
- **Shadow Lawn Area of Redevelopment**
 - Currently with the DEP under review. Next step after review is to sign the Developer's Agreement.
- **Captain's Cove Area of Redevelopment**
 - Currently with the DEP permits are under review. Next step is to sign the Developer's Agreement.
- **Create Overlook Park at old Stymie's property [empty lot on NJSH 36]**
 - Awarded to Engineering 11/10/21.
- **Enter the Community Rating System [CRS] program for lower flood insurance**
 - Named CRS Coordinator to be Gregory R. Valesi, PE, PP, CME, CFM of CME Associates on 11/10/21.
- **Validate Registered Open Space Inventory [last done 1992]**
 - Open Space Committee finished update. Sent to DEP November 5th this is the first update since 1992.
- **Update the Steep Slope Ordinance**
 - Waiting for recommendations from Shade Tree Commission & Environmental Commission.
- **Skate Park upgrade**
 - Grant application to Green Acres submitted 7/12/21, awarded 10/21/21 \$449,260 in low interest loan and \$149,753 in a grant.
 - Grant application to Monmouth County Open Space submitted 9/16/21.
 - Visioning meeting is December 6th at 6pm at the Community Center.
- **Move electric out of flood zone in Borough parks**
 - Done for Vets and Cornwall, waiting for quote for Huddy
 - Ederle will be done as part of the larger project to rehab that entire park.
- **Address runoff issues from Monmouth Hills**
 - On-going discussions with Monmouth Hills HOA, State, County and Middletown officials. Monmouth Hill's HOA hired an engineering firm. Their engineer report due in January 2022.

All the best to you and yours. We will get through this together.

Mayor Carolyn Broullon