

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 10/30/21

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 October Report is as follows:

- Continue to meet with the DEP regarding the large Sanitary Sewer project. We are looking to go out to bid before the end of the year.
- Designating properties within the Central Business District as a Non-Condemnation Redevelopment Area Pursuant to the Local Redevelopment and Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40a:12a-1 Et Seq., And Authorizing The Preparation Of A Redevelopment Plan For Such **Non-Condemnation** Redevelopment Area.
- Prepared and programmed the public engagement questionnaire for the Central Business District Area in need of Redevelopment. Survey field dates October 3rd to October 31st
- Held a Special Meeting for Public Engagement regarding the proposed plan for Central Business District Redevelopment on October 18th.
- The Highlands Horror Film Fest made its comeback and was a great success. They sold out both days.
- Awarded the construction contract for Marine Place Bulkhead Improvements.
- Notified we were not awarded the Neighborhood Preservation Grant.
- Purchased Police vehicles.
- Awarded Engineers contract for the following work in the Borough
 - Improvements to Gertrude Ederle Park
 - Improvements to Veterans Memorial Park
 - Drainage Improvements on Hillside Avenue
 - Services In Connection with the Snug Harbor Pump Station and North Street Pump Station Upgrades
- Grants Awarded
 - Body Camera Grant = \$38,722
 - DEP Green Acres to redo Skate Park: Total \$599,013, Grant = \$149,754 + Loan \$449,260
 - DOT Various Roads \$212,800
- Ordinances passed:
 - Approving And Recommending Naming of a Private Road In Block 41, Lot 13.01
 - Designating Restricted Parking in Front of A Residence Occupied By A Person With Disabilities
- As of 10/31 Highlands COVID-19 Vaccinations are below, new cases = 7.

	Total	12-17	12+	18+	30+	65+
1 shot	55%	44%	62%	63%	66%	78%
Complete	51%	41%	57%	58%	60%	71%

The Governing Body's Goals for the remainder of 2021 with updates [highlighted]:

- Shadow Lawn Redevelopment Area is currently with the DEP under review. Once review is complete, next step is to sign the Developer's Agreement.
- Captain's Cove Redevelopment Area is currently with the DEP under review. Once review is complete, next step is to sign the Developer's Agreement.
- Create Overlook Park at old Stymie's property [empty lot diagonally across from OLPH]. Award to Engineering in November.
- 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.
- Validate all Borough owned property/Update Open Space Plan [last 2008] – This will be a priority for 2022.
- Validate Registered Open Space Inventory [last done 1992] – Open Space Committee finished update. Next step is to upload to Green Acres.
- Update the Steep Slope Ordinance – with Shade Tree Commission & Environmental Commission for update recommendations.
- install higher riprap [rock wall in front of boardwalk] at Vets Park – The 2021 Flood Mitigation Plan was released. Now looking at a bulkhead and Living Shoreline at Vet's. Grant writer working on funding.

Status on other priorities:

- Replace trees on the slope with sea grass – grant writer looking for grant.
- Remove unused phone and cable lines throughout the Borough – waiting for response from both Verizon and Comcast.
- Move electric out of flood zone in Borough parks – waiting for quote for Huddy, done for Vets and Cornwall, Ederle will be done as part of the larger project to rehab the entire park.
- Address inequities in tax assessments – looking into different software, must work with County on this.
- Address runoff issues from Monmouth Hills – on-going discussions with Monmouth Hills HOA, State, County and Middletown officials. Monmouth Hill's hired an engineering firm. Their engineer report due in January.
- Complete Waterwitch Pump upgrades and install backup generator – engineering is working with FEMA.
- Waterwitch and Bay Avenues sanitary project – waiting for DEP to sign off on expanding to all streets so we can go to bid. 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 expect DEP to approve these added streets to Phase 1 as the larger project will make a greater impact to improve water quality. We also added Barberie, Sea Drift and both sides of Marine Place to Phase 2. Going out to bid in November.

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

Mayor Carolyn Broullon