



**BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS**  
**MAYOR’S MONTHLY REPORT FEBRUARY 2022**  
 22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732  
 Wednesday, March 02, 2022 at 7:00 PM

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

The February Report is as follows:

- Construction Updates
  - **North St pump upgrades** began 1/14. As of 2/28: New piles were driven and the bulkhead was repaired. Platform and electric shed have been partially built. New HDPE piping has been installed. The new electrical panel should be delivered by June as it is on backorder.
  - **Huddy Park playground** surfacing completed 2/11.
  - **Snug Harbor Park** playground area, basketball & tennis courts - bids came in higher than expected on 2/16, so we are looking for how we can cut costs. This includes looking at how much we can do ourselves with DPW personnel. This project is funded through matching Open Space grants.
  - **Barberie Ave drainage** [by Shore Drive] improvements to start in March. Compass Construction \$35,275.
  - **Matthews & King Streets improvements** to start in March. This includes \$165,000 in FY2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid funding for the reconstruction of King Street and Matthews Street, including curb & sidewalk repair, replacement of sanitary sewer system, and stormwater upgrades. Preliminary estimated construction cost is \$358,202.
  - **South Bay & Hillside Ave** - The improvements will include sanitary sewer, storm sewer, concrete improvements and repaving. The project received a NJDOT Municipal Aid grant of \$212,800.
  - 44 construction companies submitted bids for the **Municipal Building**. Bid opening is on 3/2.
  - The bid opening for the **large sanitary sewer project** for the Waterwitch area is 3/3.
- Grants Awarded
  - FY 2019 Recycling Tonnage Grant \$13,602.79.
- COVID-19 Update
  - For February, Highlands COVID-19 new cases were 12. This is significantly lower than January’s 165.
  - Total cases are 690.
  - The next vaccine Clinic at the Community Center will be on 3/9
  - Testing was daily in February at the Community Center. March will be on Mondays from 8am-2pm.
  - Our percentages of population vaccinated are as follows:

	Total	12-17	12+	18+	30+	65+
1 shot	61%	52%	68%	68%	71%	87%
Complete	53%	49%	59%	60%	62%	72%

## Detail on long-term Projects

- **2019 Waterwitch and Bay Avenues sanitary project**
  - **Phase 1:** the entirety of Waterwitch Ave [from R36 to Marine Place], North St, Gravelly Point Rd, Ralph St, William St, Ocean Ave, Beach Blvd, Linden Ave, Bay Ave. Advertised for bids 2/1, opening 3/3.
  - **Phase 2:** Snug Harbor Ave, Bedle Pl, Marine Pl, Washington Ave, Huddy Ave, Recreation Pl, Cheerful Pl, Barberie Ave, Sea Drift Ave. CME preparing I-Bank grant documents.
- **2021 Flood Mitigation Resiliency Plan** - This comprehensive plan targets four major areas. Each project can be constructed independently, and some will happen sooner than others due to complexity and funding.
  - **North Street Pump Station** upgrades and storm drainage – start work 1/14/22
  - **Marine Place steel bulkhead** – Paint water side & replace cap
  - **Veteran’s Park** – Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Combination
  - **Snug Harbor Avenue Pump Station** – New pump station and replace storm drains
  - The plan will include the following grant submissions:
    - US Department of Defense Readiness & Environmental Protection Integration Program (REPI) – pre-proposal submitted 11/22/21 for joint Monmouth University, Highlands & Aberdeen. Pre-application accepted 12/21/21. Full application due 3/21/22.
    - FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) – FY2021 submitted to NJOEM 11/15/21, NJOEM sent to FEMA on 1/31/22.
    - FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) – This is a reimbursement grant.
    - NJDEP Shore Protection Program – submitted 11/10/21.
- **New Municipal Building** – Advertised bid for construction 1/20, with a submission deadline of 3/2.
- **Waterwitch Pump Station** - Upgrades and install backup generator. Awarded engineering 12/15/22 to H2M. Will go out to bid in March 2022.
- **AINR 1 - Shadow Lawn** - DEP is reviewing with Land Use Program.
- **AINR 2 - Captain’s Coves** - We are working on the Developer’s Agreement & looking at the end of March.
- **AINR 3 - Commercial Business District** - Draft Plan released 11/24/21. Amended plan released 1/31/22. We are expecting updated appendix to the amended plan in March.
- **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** - Awarded to Engineering 11/10/21. Will go out to bid in March.
- **Update Vets Park** - Plans are with Engineering.
- **Update Ederle Park** – Plans are with Engineering.
- **Update the Steep Slope Ordinance** - Waiting for recommendations from the Environmental Commission.
- **Skate Park upgrade** – Waiting for Proposal. Work should start in the Spring.
  - 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, \$200,000 awarded on 12/9.
- **Move electric out of flood zone in Borough parks**
  - Huddy waiting for cost, 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 Hills HOA hired an engineering firm to study the area and we look forward to working on a solution together.
- **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 on 11/10. The next step is for FEMA to conduct a visit or contact the Borough to review National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements.

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

Mayor Carolyn Broullon