



**BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS**  
**MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT APRIL 2022**  
22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732  
Wednesday, May 04, 2022 at 7:00 PM

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The April Report is as follows. All constructions dates are weather permitting:

- **Construction Updates**
  - **North St pump upgrades** – Elevated shed is completed. New electrical service should be completed by June 1.
  - **Snug Harbor Park Updates** playground area, basketball & tennis courts – This project is funded through matching Open Space grants. Awarded to Whirl 4/6 in the amount of \$278,814. Work to start in August.
  - **Skate Park Upgrade** – Concrete upgrade. Sporn Ranch awarded 4/6/22 is working with Colliers for DEP review. Work to start May/June.
  - **Barberie Ave drainage [by Shore Drive] Improvements**. Compass to start work in May and will take about two week to complete.
  - **Marine Place Wall – Inside** – Award to Agate Construction, \$637,804 on 10/10/2021. Work started 3/28 and should be substantially completed by 4/30. Punchlist items to be completed in May.
  - **Matthews & King Streets improvements** Award to James R. Ientile Inc. \$349,943. Staging started 3/30. Work started in April. This includes \$165,000 in FY2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid funding for curb & sidewalk repair, replacement of sanitary sewer system, and stormwater upgrades.
  - **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. Award to Jo-Med 4/6 in the amount of \$657,065. Work to start May/June.
  - **I-Bank large sanitary sewer project for Waterwitch Area Phase 1** - Award 4/6. Work to start May/June.
  - **Municipal Building** – Advertised for bid 1/20/22. 30 construction companies asked for bid packets and 15 submitted bids. Bid opening was 3/9. Awarded to Kappa Construction \$10,599,000 on 4/6. Work started on 4/18.
  - **Waterwitch Pump Station** – Replace existing structure with new, elevated one with updated electric and controls out of the flood zone. Looking to go out to bid in May.
- **Grants/Funds Awarded**
  - FEMA reimbursements for work done in 2013, 2017 and 2018 due to Sandy \$85,225.13.
- **AINR Update**
  - **Captain's Coves** - Developer's Agreement is in Attorney Review looking at the end of April.
  - **Shadow Lawn** – Developer is submitting a final DEP permit application for the project.
  - **Commercial Business District** – Council looking to introduce ordinance in May.
- **COVID-19 Update**
  - In April the county no longer reported COVID-19 cases by municipality.
- **Other Updates**
  - Summer Camp has reached capacity.
  - HES Production of the Little Mermaid will be Friday 5/6 at 6pm and Saturday 5/7 at 11am.
  - Saturday 5/7 is Highlands Fiesta de Mayo 12-5pm.
  - Saturday 5/14 is the Highlands Fire Department Cornhole Tournament 1pm at the firehouse.
  - Saturday 5/14 is HBP's Brew by the Bay 12-6pm at the Seafarer.
  - Sunday 5/15 is the Town Yard Sale, RSVP by 5/9 to be on the map.
  - Saturday 5/21 is FREE Rabies clinic 12-2 at the firehouse. Thank you Dr. Marrone!

## Detail on long-term Projects

- **2019 Waterwitch and Bay Avenues Sanitary Project** Replace mains, laterals and paving.
  - **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.
  - **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** Upgrade the electrical for the station, raise the equipment to BFE, and replace the old floats and upgrade the backflow prevention sluice gate system to reduce interior flooding during moon-tides. Later work includes, roughly 60-ft of Borough-owned bulkhead, as well as 60-ft of a private owner's bulkhead needs to be replaced/raised, to a minimum elevation of 8.50.
  - **Marine Place Steel Bulkhead** – The bulkhead to be cleaned and coated with a 3-coat system rust-proofing paint to slow the aging process of the steel. Cap replacement and street side coating happening first. Waterside will happen after funding is secured.
  - **Veteran's Park** – Living Shoreline & Bulkhead, a combination composite bulkhead and living shoreline to reduce flooding and sustain the shoreline. The living shoreline would extend into the water abutting the bulkhead. In moderate storm events, the living shoreline would provide the protection necessary for wave action mitigation and shifting of sands.
  - **Snug Harbor Avenue Pump Station** – A regional storm water pump station to be installed at Snug Harbor, adjacent to Bay Avenue, inside the top end of the man-made canal. This will eliminate the need for gravity outfall pipes that have been known to be a factor in the flooding of this area.
  - This 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 sent 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.
- **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** - Awarded to Engineering 11/10/21.
- **Update Vets Park** - Plans are with Engineering. Received Local Recreation grant from DCA \$75,000.
- **Update Ederle Park** – Plans are with Engineering.
- **Update Frank Hall Park** – Plans are with Engineering.
- **Update the Steep Slope Ordinance** – Engineering is reviewing draft.
- **Skate Park Grants**
  - Submitted Green Acres 7/12/21, awarded 10/21/21 \$449,260 in low interest loan + \$149,753 in a grant.
  - Submitted Monmouth County Open Space 9/16/21, \$200,000 awarded on 12/9.
  - Submission of letter of intent to the Skatepark Project on 1/11 (aka the Tony Hawk Foundation).
- **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.

Mayor Carolyn Broullon