



**BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS**  
**MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT MAY 2022**  
22 Snug Harbor Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732  
Wednesday, June 01, 2022, at 7:00 PM

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

- Construction Updates
  - **North St pump upgrades** – Elevated shed is completed. New electrical should be completed by 6/1.
  - **Snug Harbor Park Updates** - Playground area, basketball & tennis courts. Work to start in August after camp is over.
  - **Skate Park** - Construction Drawings to be submit to CARFA in June, review approx. 90 days.
  - **Barberie Ave drainage** [by Shore Drive] - Started work 5/9 and completed 5/18.
  - **Marine Place Wall** - Inside –Work started 3/28 and completed 5/23.
  - **Matthews & King Streets** - Work started in April. Completion is scheduled for June.
  - **South Bay & Hillside Ave** - The improvements will include sanitary sewer, storm sewer, concrete improvements and repaving. Work to start in June.
  - **I-Bank large sanitary sewer project for Waterwitch Area Phase 1** - Pre-construction meeting 5/5 with DEP, Roman EG, NJNG, NJAW and Monmouth County. Start digging test pits after Memorial Day.
  - **Municipal Building** – May updates include beginning the installation of: underground water retention system, concrete retaining wall, building excavation & footings.
  - **Waterwitch Pump Station** – Replace structure. Bidders walk through 5/11 with all bids due by 5/25.
- Upcoming Projects
  - **Off Leash Dog Run @ Popamora Point** – Working with Commissioner Licitra, target opening is 7/15.
  - **Twin Lights/Hillside Drainage** – Bids due on 6/22.
  - **Marine PI Elevated Walkway** – Design is with Engineering. CDBG grant \$179,000
  - **Update Ederle Park** – Bids due 6/22.
  - **171 Bay Ave EV Charging Station** – Waiting for BPU contract. We were awarded DEP grant \$75,000
  - **Update Vets Park** - Plans are with Engineering. Received Local Recreation grant from DCA \$75,000.
  - **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** - Plans are with Engineering.
  - **Update Frank Hall Park** – Joint venture with the Open Space, Lions Club and Green Team.
- AINR Update
  - **Captain's Coves** - Developer's Agreement is in Attorney Review looking at the end of June.
  - **Shadow Lawn** – Developer is submitting a final DEP permit application for the project.
  - **Commercial Business District** – Council adopted the ordinance on 5/18/22.
- Grants/Funds Update
  - **Clean Communities** – Awarded \$13,357 on 5/26.
  - **Sustainable Jersey Environmental Stewardship Grant** public space improvements, due by 6/30.
  - **Sustainable Jersey Resiliency Grant** prevent & respond to climate emergencies, due by 6/30.
  - **NJDEP Community Based Arts Grant** climate impacts in coastal areas, due 7/8.
  - **NJDEP Natural Climate Solutions Grant** for the natural solutions to water issues, due by 8/15.
- Coming up in June
  - Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Bonfire
  - Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Second School Regionalization Town Hall @ Community Center 6:30pm
  - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Sea Bright Second School Regionalization Town Hall @ Community Center 6:30pm

## Detail on long-term Projects

- **2019 Waterwitch and Bay Avenues Sanitary Project** Replace sanitary 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. \$3,600,000 in grants and low int loans.
  - **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.
- **Waterwitch Pump Station** – Replace existing structure with new, elevated one with updated electric and controls out of the flood zone. This project work order has been with FEMA since 2013.
- **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. Grant writers working on DEP grant.
- **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 11/10/21. 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