



BOROUGH OF HIGHLANDS
MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT - JANUARY
151 Navesink Avenue, Highlands NJ 07732
Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 7:00 PM

- Borough Updates
 - **HES News** – The 4th 5th and 6th grades participated in their annual Spelling Bee on 1/22. The winner was 4th Garder, Miles Gauntt. The Winter Concert was cancelled.
 - **HHR News** - Student of the Month: Senior - Chris Parmigiano, a 3-sport athlete student mentor for others and currently waitlisted at Harvard. Athlete of the Month: Middle schooler Tim Lochner a MVP basketball player. Artist of the Month: Daniel Nemo. The Highlands Lions Club donated a \$8,000 Welch Allyn vision screener to HHR. Received a \$1600 grant to buy a 3D Printer for the Steam Academy
 - **Eagle Scouts** - Three Boy Scouts received this high honor on 1/6. The projects they completed were all community focused. Kevin Connelly Jr. restored cabinets in the OLPH Food Pantry. Michael Marchetti restored the original bronze plaque dedicated to those Highlanders who served and perished during WWII. Anthony Martignetti built and planted flower boxes at King James Nursing Home.
 - **Sanitary Sewer Project – Completed Mains & Laterals:** Central, Ocean, Beach, Gravelly, Borough portion of Bay, Ralph, William, County portion of Waterwitch, North & Linden. **Completed Mains Only:** Some portions of Bay. The wells on Bay from South to North Steets have been removed. **Planned for February:** Waterwitch between Bay and Marine. Roads to be paved in the Spring.
 - **Update Vets Park** – Local Recreation grant DCA \$75,000. Work will continue in March. The project includes removing three planting beds to have more seating for Borough events, adding picnic tables, adding solar lighting, upgrading the basketball courts, and adding a stone checkers/chess table.
- Projects Planned for 2024
 - **Create Overlook Park [empty lot on NJSH 36]** – Environmental completed. MCOS \$148k + DCA \$74k.
 - **Marine Pl Elevated walkway East [Sea Drift]** – Awarded Monmouth County CDBG grant \$167,647.
 - **Update Frank Hall Park** – We will submit grant request to Green Acres in February 2024.
 - **Shore Drive Pedestrian Safety Improvements** – Sidewalks from Waterwitch to Willow. DOT \$284,000.
 - **Reconstruction of Bayside Drive & Marie St** – From Shore Dr to Borough border. Work includes storm drainage improvements and paving. DOT grant \$246,850. Delayed until March.
 - **Jones Creek** – County will do East section [Snug Harbor]. We resubmitted CAFRA permit 9/2023.
 - **Portland Guard Rail** –We also included this into our 2024 DOT Municipal Aid Grant for Portland Rd.
- 2021 Resiliency Plan Updates
 - 1. **Veteran's Park – Living Shoreline & Bulkhead Combination** - US DOD REPI grant, pre-construction documents submitted. 2. **Snug Harbor Avenue Pump Station** – New Pump Station & 3. **North Street Pump Station Upgrades and Storm Drainage.** Awarded 1.3-million-dollar 2023 NJDOT Local Transportation Projects and 2022 FEMA BRIC, includes updates to current pump station, a new pump station at Snug Harbor and combining flood mitigation and green infrastructure to the 127-year-old problem of runoff from **Monmouth Hills**. Engineering and permitting should be completed in 2024. The entire project is estimated at \$16,205,280 and our grant award is for \$12,193,960, our largest grant ever. 4. **Steel Bulkhead on Marine Place** – Painting water side – Exploring finish options.
- Community Rating System [CRS] Update – The Coordinator has been updating elevation certificate information as well as ensuring all building department upgrades are properly logged in the flood plain and building department tracking software.

All the best to you and yours.
Mayor Carolyn Broullon