



# TOWNSHIP OF HOWELL

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & LAND USE

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### TOWNSHIP OF HOWELL ENGINEERING PROJECTS STATUS REPORT MARCH 27, 2019

#### A. MUNICIPAL CAPITAL PROJECTS

1. 2017 Capital Program #2 – Preventorium Road (NJDOT Municipal Aid)

Howell Township in-house engineering staff prepared a grant application in 2017 and the Township was awarded \$210,000 under the 2017 NJDOT Municipal Aid program. The project will include minor drainage improvements, pavement repair, overall pavement resurfacing and miscellaneous restoration. The overall limit of construction will be from Squankum-Yellowbrook Road to the Farmingdale Borough border.

*UPDATE 03/20/2019: The project was awarded to Earle Asphalt Company of Farmingdale, NJ on May 1, 2018 and was substantially completed by the end of July. We are still working with the contractor to close out the project after a few issues arose with final testing. We will hopefully straighten up the remaining issues within the next month.*

2. 2017-2018 Curb and Apron Program

This program will allow the Department of Community Development to address emergency repairs to curb, ADA ramps and driveway aprons within the Township right-of-way. This program will be utilized in areas not planned for major capital paving improvements.

*UPDATE 03/20/2019: Precise Construction, Inc. of Freehold, NJ was awarded the project and started work in May 2018. They worked through 2018 and stopped in December due to weather. We are coming out of winter now and will look to restart the program shortly.*

3. 2018 Capital Program #1 – Cranberry Road – NJDOT Municipal Aid

Capital Program #1 was slightly delayed in design and by the time the construction contract was awarded to Earle Asphalt of Farmingdale, NJ the weather had turned colder and was no longer conducive to starting construction. Therefore we held off on the start date last year and will tentatively begin construction on March 28<sup>th</sup>. The contractor will begin with some drainage and curb improvements which will be followed by pavement resurfacing.

3. 2018 Capital Program #1 – Cranberry Road – NJDOT Municipal Aid (continued)

The project will be coordinated with the following other projects that are on-going; the County intersection improvements at Colts Neck Road and the sewer pipe installation proposed by Eosso Brothers. The overall project will go from Yellowbrook Road to the limit of the paving project in 2012 (house #302) and then again from just east of Colts Neck Road to Remington Court. The stretch from Remington Court to Asbury Road was repaved by NJAW after their water main installation was completed last year.

4. 2018 Capital Program #2 – Mill & Overlay

Capital Program #2 is 85% complete and was stopped due to cold weather conditions last November. The project has restarted on March 18<sup>th</sup> and will continue until it is complete. The project will utilize traditional mill and overlay processes to resurface the roadways. Roads included in this project are:

<b>Parkway Pines Development</b>		
Street Name	From	To
Sunset Drive	Lockwood Avenue	Roberta Drive
Western Drive	Pine Creek (stream crossing)	Ramtown-Greenville Road
Vivian Court	Entire Length	
Wilson Drive	Lockwood Avenue	Alan Terrace
<b>Glen Arden Development</b>		
Brandywine Drive	Entire length	
Cobblestone Court	Entire length	
Flintlock Drive	Entire length	
James Hollow Court	Entire length	
Liberty Court	Entire length	
Musket Court	Entire length	
Nantucket Court	Entire length	
Timberline Drive	Entire length	

<b>Oak Glen Development</b>		
Street Name	From	To
Jumping Bush Way	Entire length	
Rita Drive	Entire length	
Starlight Road	Snowdrift Lane	Quailtree Lane
Sweetbriar Trail	Starlight Road	Kiwi Loop
<b>Miscellaneous Roadways</b>		
Rodeo Court	Entire length	
Friendship Road	Brandywine Drive	Hilltop Road

4. 2018 Capital Program #2 – Mill & Overlay (continued)

*UPDATE 03/25/2019: Earle Asphalt is wrapping up the paving in Parkway Pines and should be complete by the end of March. We are still waiting on JCP&L to relocate two (2) utility poles on Friendship Road so that we can install curb, complete the drainage work and repave the roadway. They were notified to relocate the poles in May 2018 however we are still waiting for this work to be completed. Towns are essentially powerless to force the electric company to act within a reasonable timeframe and all construction will have to wait until they are done.*

5. Freewood Acres & Route 9 Sewer Project

The purpose of this project is to provide sanitary sewers within Freewood Acres & along Route 9 in an effort to improve the health, safety and welfare of the residents and businesses in this region. This will be the largest capital project ever undertaken by the Township. The construction project was awarded to Lucas Brothers Inc. of Morganville, NJ and work started in September 2018. Work is approximately 10% complete at this time and sewer mains have been installed on West 3<sup>rd</sup>, West 4<sup>th</sup>, West 5<sup>th</sup> and West 6<sup>th</sup> between Route 9 and Smith Street. Mains are also complete on Smith Street and a part of Theresa Avenue while the jack and bore beneath Route 9 was simultaneously finished. The contractor will continue installing mains on the west side of Freewood Acres until they are all complete later this year. They will then start on the east side of Freewood Acres followed by Route 9 North between West Farms Road and Casino Drive.

The Township has recently passed a bond ordinance allocating funding to assist New Jersey American Water (NJAW) with installing water mains in this neighborhood. We are working out the details now and will be posting frequently asked questions on the Township website soon.

At this time we have not authorized any connections to the sewer mains that are already installed. With the addition of water mains to the overall project, we are trying to wait until some of the water mains are installed to begin sending out official notices to connect. That will hopefully reduce the cost of the resident's plumbers coming out to their house once rather than twice to make two separate connections. At this point we anticipate that water mains will start being installed in mid-May.

6. Bear Swamp Pond Dam Replacement

When the Township acquired the Van Schoick/Murray property as an addition to Bear Swamp, we inherited the pond, dam and outfall structure. Based on a regular inspection of this dam, the NJDEP required the full replacement of the dam and outfall structure. The Township awarded a construction contract to Precise Construction, Inc. of Freehold, NJ and work began in February. The contractor is moving very quickly and the sheet piling, mud slabs, foundations, spillways, box culvert and wingwalls have already been installed. The culvert is scheduled to be backfilled this week pending final concrete test results and the contractor will finish the remaining work on the project.

7. Lake Louise Dam & Bridge HL-73 Replacement

The Township entered into a shared services agreement with Monmouth County to replace the Lake Louise Dam and County Bridge HL-73. Part of the cost share agreement includes the sale of the Township dredge to Monmouth County for \$319,000. Design is underway and the environmental permits were submitted to the NJDEP in February. Once permits are received the County will advertise for bids for construction.

8. 2018 Pavement Patch Program

Similar to the Curb & Sidewalk program the Patch Program will allow for the Department of Community Development to address repairs to roadways throughout the Township that require attention beyond the capabilities of DPW. Many roads throughout the township have small isolated areas that are beyond pothole patching. Most of the areas are found in roadways that are otherwise in good condition and do not require full resurfacing. Some areas are in roads that will eventually be repaved however the damage is so severe that we have to repair an area for now until the full paving program can begin. Patching these isolated areas will extend the service life of the overall roadway and save the Township funding in the long run.

*UPDATE 03/20/2019: L & L Paving, Inc. of Farmingdale, NJ was awarded the project in November 2018 and started work in February 2019 on days when the temperatures were above 40 degrees. Major patch work has been completed on West Farms, Yellowbrook, Cranberry, Megill, Casino, Lemon, Merrick, Georgia Tavern, Friendship, Miller, Lanes Pond and Maxim Southard Road. There are dozens of additional roadways that are scheduled for repair and this work will be completed over the next few months until the funding is fully expended. Remember, this is mainly for roadways that are not otherwise scheduled for full resurfacing. However as an example, we patched an area on Georgia Tavern Road in Freewood Acres that was in extremely poor condition. But we didn't patch any additional areas as this roadway will be completely torn up to install water and sewer mains. The potential for vehicle damage outweighed the cost of repairing an area that will be disturbed later so we made the decision to repair the roadway.*

9. 2017-2018 CDBG Program – Casino Drive

In May of 2016 we chose Casino Drive between West Farms Road and Peskin/Southard Avenue as best option to submit for a FY-2017 grant application to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. These grants are limited to specific areas of the Township so we have limited options when choosing a roadway to repave. We held a public hearing on June 13, 2016 and submitted the application to the County soon thereafter. Unfortunately the Federal Government works very slowly (they are the ones who administer the funds through HUD to the County to give to the Township). We were informed in June 2018 (yes 2 years later) that we are scheduled to receive roughly \$132,000 towards the project. We provided the County with the signed agreements and they gave us full approval for the funding on September 4, 2018.

9. 2017-2018 CDBG Program – Casino Drive (continued)

In June 2018, we started the process for the FY-2018 funding as HUD was very delayed in asking for grants that year. Since we just found out about the FY-2017 grant award, we asked the County to double down on Casino and add the rest of it into the application for 2018 funding. They agreed and we held the Citizens participation meeting in August and public hearing on October 2, 2018. We received notice in February 2019 that we were awarded \$135,000 towards the second phase of Casino Drive and we will need to process all of the paperwork in March to send back to the County. The resolutions were adopted by the Council on March 19<sup>th</sup> and the paperwork will be sent back to the County for processing. In the meantime, we have sent out utility notifications and started the design work in-house to create the plan for repaving. We hope to have the plans completed in April and will be ready for bid at the same time that the agreements come back from the County giving us full release to start work.

10. 2019 Soldier Memorial Multi-Use Building

In October 2018 the Township applied to the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Program requesting a \$250,000 grant for the construction of a multi-use building at Soldier Memorial Park. The proposed building will contain restrooms, a concession area and a storage area and will be located near the central playground between the soccer fields and softball fields. The County notified us in January that Howell was one of two towns out of fifteen total awards that received the full \$250,000 grant request. The grant requires that the Township match the award amount however we anticipate that the total project cost will be roughly \$750,000 and we will utilize existing open space funds to make up the difference.

We submitted the signed project agreements and environmental phase 1 report to the County on March 15<sup>th</sup> and are awaiting their approval. Our office will request design bids from architects in April and will start design shortly thereafter. Based on the current timeline we expect the building to be open for the 2020 spring season.

11. Westwood Drive Emergency Drainage Repairs

Late last year we were alerted to sinkholes in the street along Westwood Drive off of Aldrich Road. After a brief investigation we determined that the 70+ year old corrugated metal pipe had severely deteriorated and required emergency replacement. We quickly sketched a replacement plan and requested bids from contractors to replace the pipe, inlets and curb work around the culvert. Our office hired Moderno Construction, Inc. of Toms River, NJ to replace the pipe and work was completed in mid-March.

12. Howell Road & West Farms Road

Last year our office decided to apply for NJDOT Municipal Aid grants for two separate roadways here in Howell. This was determined after receiving direction from the state that higher funding amounts would be distributed this year due to the increased gas tax. Therefore we chose two heavily travelled roadways that need resurfacing but do not have a lot of ancillary improvements such as driveways, curbs and ramps. The first selection was Howell Road between Vanderveer Road and State Highway Route 33 Business. The second choice was West Farms Road between Tyrpak Road and Route 9. While we have not heard back from the NJDOT yet, we are optimistic that we will receive a grant. If not, we have submitted a capital budget request for funding from the Council for 2019's budget. Either way these roadways will require resurfacing and we hope to have this completed in 2019.

**B. MONMOUTH COUNTY LEAD PROJECTS**

1. County Route 524 (Adelphia Road) and Ketchum Road

The County will be realigning this intersection to remove the sharp curve and create a smooth transition into and out of the intersection near Our House Restaurant. GPI is currently working on the design plans for the County. The Township notified the County of a flooding problem that exists on the westbound lane in front of house #448. The County stated that they would review the situation and incorporate any additional drainage installation that may be necessary.

*UPDATE 03/25/2019: The County has run into problems with the drainage system and is working out the details with the NJDEP Green Acres section. The utilities have also changed their minds and are now proposing to relocate their facilities within the proposed right of way. We are awaiting notification from the County for bidding and construction timeframes.*

2. County Route 524 / 524A / 547 Intersection Improvements

The County will be reconstructing the approaches to improve overall traffic flow at the intersection. The northbound and southbound approaches will have 2-lanes in each direction. The east and west approaches will have dedicated left turn, through lanes and dedicated right turn lanes on each side.

*UPDATE 03/27/2019: The project has been substantially completed by Green Construction. This project will be removed from the next update.*

3. County Route 549 / 21 / Newtons Corner Road Intersection Improvements

The County has resurrected a plan to reconfigure the 3-prong fork intersection to improve safety and traffic flow. The redesigned intersection will include a traffic signal and will make Route 549 the through movement. County Route 21 will be realigned to intersect Route 549 in a tee formation. Newtons Corner Road will widen out at the intersection to include dual left turn lanes onto Route 549 northbound. The lanes will merge back to one-lane approximately 1,000 feet north of the intersection to allow a reasonable merge at speed. The work will continue down Route 549 to include the intersection of Easy Street in Wall Township. This intersection will be widened on all 4 sides to include dedicated left turn lanes on each approach. Plans are complete at this time and final negotiations are underway with the adjacent property owners.

*UPDATE 03/27/2019: We have not received an update from the County since last year.*

4. County Route 549 / 21 / 547 Intersection Improvements

The County has awarded a design contract to reconfigure this heavily congested intersection just south of Interstate 195. While all of the details are still being worked out, there is a potential for dual southbound left turn lanes and a realigned Route 549 passed the Bear Swamp Brook.

*UPDATE 03/27/2019: Traffic counts and traffic flow modeling are underway at this time.*

5. County Route 524 & Halls Mill Road Realignment

Monmouth County has finalized the plans to realign Halls Mill Road further east to create a 4-way intersection with Edinburg Drive. The new alignment will create 4-lanes of traffic and a dedicated center turn lane between Bar Harbor Road to east of Edinburg Drive. Edinburg Drive will be widened to 4 full lanes with a center boulevard from Route 9 to Route 524. Halls Mill Road will be relocated to include 4 full lanes with a center boulevard all the way to Route 33.

*UPDATE 03/27/2019: This project was originally expected to go out to bid in 2018, however there have been delays and we do not have an anticipated bid date at this time.*

**C. NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (NJDOT) PROJECTS**

1. None at this time.

## **D. NEW JERSEY AMERICAN WATER COMPANY (NJAW) PROJECTS**

### **1. Howell to Lakewood Transmission Main Project – Segment 3**

New Jersey American Water is planning to install the next phase of their transmission water main from the treatment plant on Squankum Yellowbrook Road down to Lakewood to improve service and reliability. After much discussion on the impacts to traffic on Route 547 vs. local roads, NJAW has decided to utilize Township roads to install their pipeline. While the detours will impact local traffic, we felt that was a better option than taking all of the commuter traffic on Route 547 and putting it on those same local roads. NJAW has agreed to install fire hydrants along the route to potentially reduce homeowner insurance premiums and increase fire protection. The Township will also get all of the roads along the route repaved after the main is installed.

The first phase was completed last year and included Oak Glen Road from Route 547 to Maxim Southard Road and then Maxim Southard Road from Oak Glen to the bend near the railroad tracks. This section was 2.08 centerline miles (4.16 lane-miles). The next phase will continue the main in Maxim Southard to Maxim Road, then turn west down Maxim to Preventorium. Once on Preventorium it will continue north to Old Tavern Road, turn east and proceed to the DPW yard where it will traverse through our property and extend beneath Allaire State Park to the plant on Squankum Yellowbrook. This section will contain roughly 1.9 centerline miles of Township roadways and they will be repaved when complete. The main will provide a new potable water source for the municipal complex and eliminate the need to drill new wells, replace the water tower and install a new water main system at the complex.

NJAW and Howell Township will jointly hold the second public hearing on the project as this installation will require a diversion of parkland encumbered by NJDEP Green Acres. If approved, the diversion of 0.12 acres of open space land will be diverted for the installation of the water main and then brought back to its natural state after construction is complete. The Township will be paid \$7,000 for the easement that must be utilized to purchase additional open space. The land that is encumbered is a small strip behind the police firing range that is not utilized by the Township or the public. In addition to the payment for the land, the Township will be compensated for the fifteen (15) trees that must be removed to install the pipe. Due to the extensive NJDEP replacement calculations, the Township will receive an additional \$140,000 for those fifteen (15) trees. That funding must be utilized to plant new trees and we will create planting schemes at some of our larger parks to install trees and provide shade and cover in those parks.

2. Howell to Lakewood Transmission Main Project – Segment 4

This is tied into the Segment 3 project listed above and will loop the water main system from Lanes Mill Road at Castle Court up to Maxim Southard Road. The new main will continue north on Maxim Southard and tie into the existing system in the Woodstone Development at Talcott Road. An additional main will be extended down Locust Avenue to connect near Angel Court and complete the loop. These connections will improve the overall resiliency and reliability of the entire water network in the area. In order to cross the Polypod Brook at Echo Lake, NJAW must go around the County Bridge that carries Maxim Southard Road. After originally planning to directionally drill around the structure on the east side of the bridge, we determined that the state regulated high hazard dam and at least two (2) private residential drinking water wells would be impacted. Therefore since both sides of the road are Green Acres encumbered, we determined the best route of travel for the main would be a directional drill far beneath the lake. This construction method will not require any tree removal and will allow the drilling equipment to be set up off of the roadway for the drill process. When the main is complete there will be no evidence of it on the ground and the park will remain open just as it is today. As compensation for the linear easement along the pipe, NJAW will pay the Township \$57,000 that must be utilized to purchase additional open space.

3. Wyckoff Mills Road Sewer System Improvements

A third NJAW project that is proposed is their replacement of a sanitary sewer main on Wyckoff Mills Road from the rear entrance to the park-n-ride then south to the Manasquan River adjacent to Route 9. This project will eliminate infiltration of groundwater into the system in this area. Since the project will occur within the roadway, NJAW will be required to resurface that section of Wyckoff Mills Road. Once again Howell Township must replace ADA ramps, broken curb and any other concrete work that is needed prior to NJAW resurfacing those roads.

*UPDATE 03/25/2018: NJAW's contractor has completed the pipe installation. We are currently allowing for settlement of the trench prior to repaving the entire roadway along said trench. The Township's Curb & Apron contractor will replace some curb and ramps in the area and that work is expected to occur in April followed by paving in May.*

4. NJAW Candlewood Main Replacements - Quarter 1 – Quarter 2 - 2019

NJAW is continuing their investment in Howell by scheduling the next round of water main replacements in Candlewood. This round started on March 18<sup>th</sup> and will be completed by June. The roads included in this program are Forrest Hill Drive, Taunton Drive, Old Bridge Drive between the north side of Taunton and Newbury Road, and Newbury Road between Taunton Drive and Westbrook Road. Once the mains are complete the Township will replace deteriorated curbs, aprons and sidewalk ramps and

fix any drainage issues that exist. Once our work is complete NJAW will return to fully repave each roadway.

5. NJAW Candlewood Main Replacements – Remaining Roadways

NJAW is currently working on a 3-year plan to replace all of the existing water mains in Candlewood. While not finalized just yet, the plans look optimistic towards having all of the mains in Candlewood replaced and all of the roads repaved by 2021.

**E. NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS (NJNG) PROJECTS**

1. Bergerville Road Transmission Main Project

NJNG has proposed to install a new 16” gas main on Bergerville Road to improve their service and reliability to the region. The work will include transitioning the existing 12” transmission main to a distribution main and abandonment of the existing 8” distribution main that is no longer needed. Once complete NJNG will be responsible to repave the entire roadway from curb to curb.

*UPDATE 03/26/2019: NJNG has completed all of the work scheduled for the transmission main at this time. The entire roadway was repaved and the end result is a brand new roadway. Project will be removed from the list for the next update.*

2. Howell Township Conversion Project

NJNG has received enough interest from local residents to warrant installing gas mains in the area north of the reservoir. New gas service will be available on Lemon Road from Georgia Tavern to West Farms, on West Farms between Lemon and Richard, and on Georgia Tavern between Lemon and West Farms. Most of the work will involve directional drilling so there will only be spot holes here and there on the roadway. As a condition of their permit they will be required to repave the intersection of West Farms Road and Georgia Tavern Road after the Township installs additional drainage work at the intersection to eliminate ponding and icing conditions.

**F. COMPLETED PROJECTS (Within the last +/- year)**

1. 2016 CDBG Program – West Farms Road Sidewalk

2. Enhancements to Aldrich Lake

3. 2017 Driveway & Intersection Improvements – NJAW Transmission Main

4. County Route 21 (Southard Avenue) Crosswalk at Howell High School

5. Eagle Oaks Water Main Project

This update is being provided as a very broad overview of the Capital projects that are on-going throughout the Township at this time. This list is not all-encompassing and should not be construed that way. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call this office.

Very truly yours,

**TOWNSHIP OF HOWELL – DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

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