



# TOWNSHIP OF HOWELL

## Office of the Township Manager

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July 16, 2020

Howell Township Residents:

The Township has just been advised that at last night's meeting of the Manasquan River Regional Sewerage Authority a vote was taken to increase connection fees effective October 1, 2020. As of that date the sewer connection fee will increase \$261.00 to a total connection fee of \$2,292.00. This increase was vehemently opposed by the Howell Township MRRSA representatives, who argued that this was not the appropriate time to increase fees, because not only are we in the midst of unprecedented and extremely difficult economic times but also that the increase fees will have a severe negative impact on Howell residential units that are expected to connect to sewer as part of the Freewood Acres Sewer Project. Both of our MRRSA representatives voted "No" to this increase.

During the planning of the Freewood Acres Sewer Project, the Howell Township Governing Body had decided to allow a waiver of the Township's connection fee, via resolution R-16-373. As the project progressed, the Township wrote to MRRSA in November of 2018, requesting they grant a similar waiver of fees. That request was denied by MRRSA January 18, 2019; instead, they have now opted to increase fees.

Please understand that these actions were not those of Howell Township, but of the Manasquan River Regional Sewer Authority that decided now was an appropriate time to pass along a 13% rate increase. Any comments or concerns should be directed to MRRSA offices at (732)431-8185.

Residents should be reminded that this increase takes effect on October 1, 2020. If they have any plan of connecting to the sewer system, they should consider making application prior to that date to take advantage of the current lower rate.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Geoghegan  
Howell Township Manager