

HOBOKEN

DAWN ZIMMER, MAYOR / NEW JERSEY

explore OUR HISTORY
experience OUR FUTURE



City of Hoboken - Fall 2013 Newsletter

WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT FLOODING?

Mayor Dawn Zimmer's Administration has prepared a comprehensive plan to protect Hoboken from the unpredictable and severe impacts of climate change, stronger storms, and rising seas. The key features of the plan are NHTSA flood pumps, storm surge protection, energy resiliency, green infrastructure, and personal preparedness.

Flood Pumps

Hoboken's first flood pump was completed in 2011 and can pump out 50 million gallons of water per day. It has alleviated flooding during smaller rain events, but additional pumps are needed for stronger storms.

A second shovel-ready flood pump will be built along the waterfront at 11th Street, either paid for with a low-interest loan or a grant. The City is also pursuing various funding options for a third and fourth pump, including public-private partnerships through redevelopment.

Personal Preparedness Planning

Resiliency begins with individuals, so Hoboken is making sure residents prepare themselves for the next emergency. Working with the Hoboken Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Office of Emergency Management (OEM), the City has developed a "Hoboken Ready" kit and outreach program (see flyer included in this newsletter).

(continued on next page)

PARKS UPDATE

1600 PARK IS OPEN! Hoboken's newest park is now open and ready to be enjoyed. It features a multi-use field, viewing mound and slide hill, dog run, and rest rooms. A new traffic light at 16th St and Park Ave provides safer access to the park.



THIS FALL...

Elysian Park: renovations to the entire park

Church Square Park: new bathrooms and dog run

Stevens Park: new batting cages and renovations to the play area and dog run

HOBOKEN READY

Be prepared for the next emergency.

Hoboken Ready Community Meeting
Oct. 2, 7:00pm, Jubilee Center (601 Jackson St)

Hoboken Ready Preparedness flyer
See flyer included in this newsletter

Hoboken Ready Kit Supplies
To be sold at Hoboken ShopRite (900 Madison St)

Sign Up For News/Alerts
www.hobokennj.org/alerts

Sign Up For Reverse 911
www.hobokennj.org/emergency

Sign Up For Special Needs Registry
<http://registerready.nj.gov>

Mayor Zimmer's Open Office Hours

Oct 7, Nov 11, Dec 2, 5-7pm
Mayor's Office (2nd floor)
City Hall, 94 Washington St



Hoboken 311

Submit service requests online or from your mobile phone (iPhone & Android)

www.hobokennj.org/311

Mayor's Office: 201-420-2013
Police Department: 201-420-2100
Fire Department: 201-420-2005
Parks Division: 201-420-2349
Parking Utility: 201-653-1919
Envr. Services: 201-420-2049

A Hoboken Ready community meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 2, 2013 at 7:00pm at the Jubilee Center, located at 601 Jackson Street.

This meeting will provide information on the City's plans to protect Hoboken from flooding and other hazards and help residents understand what they can do to be prepared for the next emergency.

Storm Surge Protection

The combination of flood pumps and protecting the shoreline from storm surges can protect Hoboken from flooding. By demonstrating to FEMA that the City is truly protected, it is possible to achieve a "Shaded X" (0.2% chance of flooding) designation, which will mean residents and businesses would no longer need to purchase flood insurance.

While Castle Point and Hoboken's natural topography acts as a natural barrier along most of the waterfront, protective barriers are needed along the far north and south of Hoboken where the elevation is lower. Mayor Zimmer and her Administration recently hosted winning teams from the Department of Housing and Urban Development's "Rebuild by Design" competition for a tour of Hoboken. The competition will fund the construction of several projects, which may include protection from storm surges. Storm surge barriers may also be included as part of the Redevelopment process in the north and south of Hoboken.



Arrows: entry location for Hurricane Sandy storm surge. Red areas: potential storm surge barrier locations. Red circles: electrical substations. Green/white areas: potential new parks with flood mitigation features.

Energy Resiliency

During Hurricane Sandy, all three of Hoboken's electrical substations, which are located in the flood zone, were flooded and left most of the City without power for many days. Hoboken has a three-prong strategy to ensure our energy grid is protected going forward:

1. Hoboken is partnering with the U.S. Department of Energy, Sandia National Laboratories, the N.J. Board of Public Utilities and PSE&G to design a micro grid to protect Hoboken's critical infrastructure from power outages - the first **(continued on next page)**

Why Does Hoboken Flood?

Hoboken's "Castle Point" was originally an island outcrop surrounded by tidal marshes to the west. The marshes in western Hoboken were crisscrossed with boardwalks and buildings on pilings.



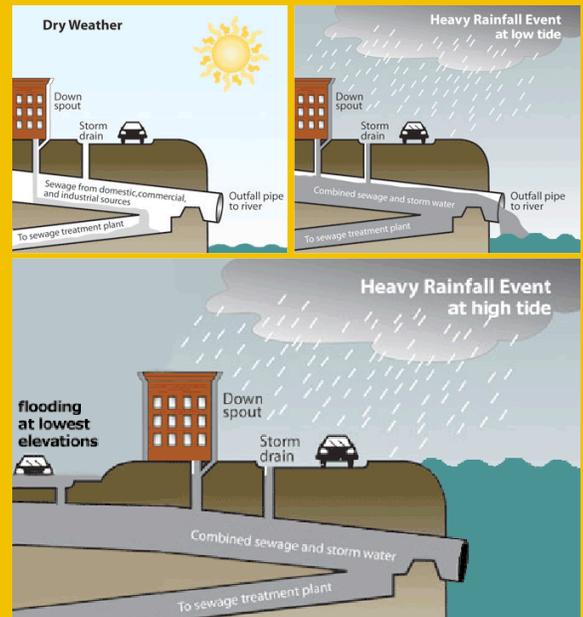
As Hoboken grew in the 1800's, development crept west into the marshes with the new roads built just above high tide. During major storms, the tide sometimes covered streets by a foot or more of water.

Sewers were built even lower - in some cases the bottoms were just a foot above low tide. A study at the time found that for the sewer system to drain properly by gravity, roads would need to be elevated to at least 10 feet above high tide. The plan would have cost \$3 million, but was deemed to be too expensive at the time. Instead, the City decided to drain and fill in the western marshlands, but much lower than recommended.

Since 1880, the Hudson River has risen by more than 14 inches due to rising seas, while the landfill used to fill the marsh has settled. As a result, the elevation of some areas in Western Hoboken remains below the river at high tide.

Because sewers are so low, they do not drain into the river during high tide, and flooding in the lowest-lying areas remains a problem during storm events as the sewers fill and back into streets.

The two main strategies to combat this flooding are: 1) use pumps at high tide and 2) prevent or delay stormwater from entering the sewer system through green infrastructure.



non-military application of this technology designed for an entire community. Design of the microgrid will be completed in the fall of 2013.

2. Permanent emergency backup generators (combined natural gas/diesel) for Police, Fire, EMS and City Hall/OEM operations are being installed. The City applied for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant funding for the project and will bond if necessary.
3. PSE&G's Energy Strong program, developed with the strong support of the City of Hoboken, would combine Hoboken's 3 electrical substations into 2 and elevate the remaining substations to protect them from flooding. Mayor Zimmer is testifying at State hearings to help ensure regulatory approvals for the Energy Strong program.

Green Infrastructure/Stormwater Management

Sustainable green infrastructure can help alleviate flooding by preventing or delaying stormwater from entering the sewer system in the first place. Approaches include rain barrels, porous asphalt and concrete, new open space, green roofs, and rain gardens. The City is developing comprehensive plans, implementing demonstration projects, and encouraging the adoption of green infrastructure by individuals and businesses:

- Green Element of the Master Plan is being finalized by the Planning Board which will provide a roadmap for legislation encouraging stormwater management, utilities, infrastructure and other sustainability priorities.
- Green Infrastructure Strategic Plan funded by a \$90,000 grant from Together North Jersey will fea-



Coming Soon: Two Rain Garden Curb Extensions at the corner of 4th St & Garden St



On December 13, 2012, Mayor Zimmer testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business & Entrepreneurship. She discussed the impact Hurricane Sandy had on Hoboken residents and businesses, the challenges faced with the recovery process, and urged Congress to change the unfair National Flood Insurance Program.

ture stormwater management and flood control strategies.

- The City is moving forward to acquire more open space in western Hoboken (1. Southwest Park, 2. 7th/Jackson, 3. Cognis/Henkel/BASF site - 12th/Jefferson). Through a grant funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, flood mitigation solutions are being designed to be incorporated into these new parks.
- Two rain garden curb extensions will be built at the corner of 4th Street and Garden Street with a grant from Sustainable Jersey. They will be used as a model for other sites around the city to absorb and temporarily store stormwater runoff while improving pedestrian safety.
- With the help of Rutgers Center for Urban Environmental Systems (CUES) and community input, a Sustainable City block demonstration project for City Hall has been developed which incorporates a cistern, rain gardens and community garden to capture half of the block's stormwater runoff.

NEW CONVENIENT PARKING OPTIONS

Drivers now have two new options to pay for metered parking in addition to coins and credit cards:

1. **Paper bills** are now accepted at 24 new multi-space meters throughout Hoboken.
2. **Smart Cards** can now be purchased at the Parking Utility. They are accepted at all parking meters and can be recharged at any of the meters that accept paper bills.

ARE YOU?



Mayor Dawn Zimmer
& Hoboken City Council

HOBOKEN READY



Community Emergency
Response Team

Prepare now so you and your family can be ready when the next emergency happens.

1 Be Informed

- Reverse 911: hobokennj.org/emergency
- Nixle alerts: hobokennj.org/alerts
- Hudson County info: <https://hcnj.onthealert.com>
- Special Needs Registry: registerready.nj.gov
- National Weather alerts: weather.gov/subscribe

2 Make a Plan

- Develop a Family Emergency Plan: ready.gov
- Create a plan to shelter-in-place
- Create a plan to evacuate
- In case of flooding, have a plan to move your car
- Have a plan for pets

3 Build a Kit

Top 10 Recommended Items

- WATER**
1 gallon per person per day
for drinking and sanitation
- FOOD**
At least a three day supply of non-
perishable food
- AM/FM/NOAA RADIO**
Battery & hand crank power with USB
phone charger
- LED FLASHLIGHT**
- LED LANTERN**
- EXTRA BATTERIES** for 3 days
For radio, flashlight and lantern
- FIRST AID KIT**
- SANITARY WATER JUG** - 2.5 gallon
- WHISTLE**
- MANUAL CAN OPENER**

Additional Recommended Items:

- N95 dust mask
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties
- Prescription medications and glasses
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Infant formula and diapers
- Pet food and extra water for your pet
- Cash or Travelers Cheque and change
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Paper cups, plates and utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Fire extinguisher
- Books, games, puzzles for children
- Important family documents: copies of insurance policies, identification & bank account records in a waterproof, portable container.
- For each person: Sleeping bag or warm blanket, long sleeved shirt, pants, sturdy shoes, and coat.
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper. Dilute nine parts water to one part bleach to use as disinfectant. In an emergency, treat 1 gallon of water with 16 drops of bleach. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Emergency reference material such as a first aid book or information from ready.gov

Consider building two kits: 1) everything you will need to stay where you are and make it on your own. 2) a lightweight, smaller version you can take with you if you have to evacuate.

For more information go to: hobokennj.org/ready

The information and suggestions listed here are not all inclusive, and there is no guarantee that any particular action will be successful under all circumstances. This notice is intended to help with emergency preparedness. It offers no guarantees and warrants no particular outcomes under any circumstances.

IS YOUR BUILDING?



Mayor Dawn Zimmer
& Hoboken City Council

HOBOKEN READY



Community Emergency
Response Team

For building owners, managers, boards and landlords to help prepare buildings for emergencies.

1 Be Informed

- Install a message board to communicate with tenants and emergency services
- Post evacuation zone, evacuation route and the nearest emergency shelter
- Post services available during extended utility outage and contact information of building manager
- Communicate with the disabled and the elderly before and after the storm

2 Make a Plan

- Learn how to shut off water, natural gas and electricity
- Test sump pump and backup pump
- Clean out sewage backflow preventer
- Test backup generator and emergency lighting
- Develop a fuel storage plan for generators
- Have a plan for renting pumps or generators
- Develop a plan for shutting down mechanical equipment
- Secure objects that can become airborne
- Remove toxic materials stored in flood-prone areas

3 Take Action

- Install a permanent backup generator
- Install a sewage backflow preventer/check valve
- Install a sump pump with battery operated backup power and water alarm
- Purchase a back-up portable pump
- Install removable flood gates or temporary barriers
- Install a float switch in elevator shaft to prevent cab from descending into floodwaters
- Purchase and understand how to deploy sandbags
- Install photo-luminescent emergency exit signage
- Install low-cost LED emergency lighting for corridors and stairways
- Install better insulated walls, windows and roofs
- Install windows to daylight corridors and stairwells
- Install impact-rated window systems
- Install gravity-fed water fixtures on lower floors that have common access
- Elevate essential mechanical equipment, external vents and electrical components above flood elevation
- Install a quick connect switchboard for connection to portable generators
- Install water-resistant material to interior space below flood elevation
- Install a green roof, blue roof or rain barrel
- Install permeable surfaces around building

4 Avoid Hazards

- DO NOT store gasoline indoors
- DO NOT use generator indoors
- DO NOT walk or drive through flooded areas
- DO NOT use candles or stove for light or heat
- DO NOT open refrigerator or freezer doors unnecessarily; food will spoil faster

For more information go to: hobokennj.org/ready

Tenants should not implement any of the recommended actions without first consulting with their building owner. The information and suggestions listed here are not all inclusive, nor is there a guarantee that any particular action will be successful under all circumstances. Please consult with the Construction Official and Zoning Officer prior to performing any renovations or alterations to a new or existing building. Construction must be undertaken in conformance with local Zoning and Construction Codes adopted by the City of Hoboken. The recommendations of this notice are sourced from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as well as state, regional and federal agencies.

Office of Mayor Dawn Zimmer
Hoboken City Hall
94 Washington St
Hoboken, NJ 07030

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Bob Dylan/Wilco concert
Pier A, July 26, 2013
Photo by Q. Wiest

ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

A Special General Election will be held on October 16 to fill the vacant U.S. Senate seat.

The General Election on November 5 will be to elect Governor, State Senator and Assembly, and in Hoboken, for Mayor, three At-Large City Council seats, and School Board.

General Election

Tuesday, November 5, 2013

Special General Election (for U.S. Senate)

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Polls will be open from 6:00am to 8:00pm. If you are in line when polls close, you must be permitted to vote.

The deadline to register to vote in the General Election is October 15. Download a voter registration form or an application for a Vote By Mail ballot: <http://elections.nj.gov>.

Find your polling location: www.hobokennj.org/pollsearch.

Questions?

New Jersey Division of Elections: 609-292-3760
Hudson County Clerk: 201-369-3470

IMPROVED SENIOR CENTER RE-OPENS

Thank you for your patience while we completed repairs to the Senior Center at the Multi Service Center at 124 Grand Street. It has re-opened with new and improved facilities:

- Electronic BINGO display;
- Handicapped (ADA) accessible ramp and handrail;
- New furniture and more comfortable chairs.

