

Hi, good afternoon everyone.

This is Mayor Michael McPartland. Today is Monday March 1th. I want to give you a little update. It's been a while. Now that we're at the end of winter and heading into spring, I figured I'd give you an update of what I/we've been up to as a town. Many residents have been contacting me about the dog park down near Whole Foods. As previously reported we're going to do the upgrades. We're waiting for springtime. We're going to use the same materials that we had. I know you've had some concerns about the materials that we use, but we're going to use the same that's used in many dog parks in the area, that's the way to have it done and the most productive way to do it. We'll have two separate areas. One for small dogs and one for big dogs. So please be patient. That is on the agenda to get done this spring and as the weather gets better you'll see the work start. So the dog park improvements are coming. Just as well I've been listening to your emails and it's on its way, promise.

In addition to that, we've got some more upgrades going on down at Veterans Field. Residents last summer were talking about sun shades. Sometimes it gets really hot there and there's not as many trees there. You go to be there, so we are going to install some sunshades around the splash pad and the playground area to give a little relief to parents, babysitters and kids who are playing there. That will be some really good relief this summer. Those are being installed shortly.

In addition, let's keep going... the Library renovation. The Library Director and the Board have been keeping the Mayor and Council updated on the progress of the Library improvement project. The project will necessitate the closure of the library. However, they will be utilizing space at the Senior Center, which is the Old Borough Hall and the Community Center. So, the office will temporarily move to Main Street in Edgewater Harbor behind Borough Hall and will also host some projects out of that space as well as we move forward. I'll give you an update on how exactly that's going to look, but the Library is well overdue for those of you who use the Library in town. It is a Carnegie Library and it's a historic building. We're going to do our best to make those improvements.

Talking about improvements, infrastructure improvements... over the past year or so I know I've been talking about some of these projects. You really don't get to see or see how much progress we're making on two such projects whose design have been completed and are underway. Pump station number four on Old River Road at the North Bergen border needs to be upgraded and we're thankful that we received a one million dollar grant that took some time to get through. I want to thank former Congressman who passed just recently. Bill Pascrell was a very distinguished gentleman and was always a friend to Edgewater. May he Rest in Peace. He helped us get that grant and also secured another 8 hundred thousand dollars for us. Many of you are familiar with 880 River Road by Whole Foods where there is an outfall drainage area under River Road. That outfall area is slated to get done this summer as well. There's a lot going on. Bill helped us get an eight hundred thousand dollar Grant for that.

Many of you are familiar with the Special Improvement District that we have created. It's brand new. We have a volunteer board of trustees that's going to work moving forward, to improve the walkway and working on getting grants to facilitate working on upgrades there. Those grants take some time to get through and get done. We established the SID (Special Improvements District) and a board of directors and I'm looking forward to working with them to make the walkway even better than what it is now.

So that is what we are working on now, and it should come to fruition over the next 6 to 8 months.

A couple other of announcements... on June 10<sup>th</sup>, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Division will be hosting another Mobile Unit event at our Community Center where you can get your car registered and so forth. A lot of our residents took advantage of that last year when we had it. I would like to thank Motor Vehicle for coming down here and doing that.

Another huge project, and I talked about it last year when we thought it was going to happen. Sometimes things take time. I had a met with the County Engineering Department and River Road is slated under contract to be paved this summer. Now when I say this summer it might be towards the end of summer. I'm trying to see if they can time it. I've suggested August when most people are still on vacationing and out of town and traffic isn't as heavy. We want to get this done exponentially before school starts. Once school gets going that's a major project on a major thoroughfare. We have about 40,000 cars using River Road to get to the George Washington Bridge and the Lincoln Tunnel. As we all know it's a very busy road and we are looking forward to having River Road paved.

And one more thing finally... the Kiddie Park as we used to affectionately call it, right next to Old Borough Hall. It's just about done as we are putting the finishing touches on it and we are looking to have a grand opening. Our brand new pickleball Courts, our Handball Court. Just a great place for our seniors, young or old alike. Pickleball has become very popular in this country and I'm looking forward to learning how to play myself. I think being located next to our Senior Center we are going to get our seniors out there and have them playing pickleball.

This is Michael McPartland and Thank You once again