

**Minutes of the Parks & Environment Advisory Board
Meeting November 5th, 2025, at the Canale Training Center**

In attendance:

Officers Present - Stephen Fiedler, Co-Chairperson, Alex Perri, Co-Chairperson

Members Present - Dick Colby, Emma Witt, Joe Ambrose, Dan Crum, Lisa March

Members Absent - Belinda Chester, Velevia Bush

Commissioner Representative - Andrew Parker -present

County Staff - Greg Brookins, D.H.P.W.- present

Secretary - Eric Husta, D.D.P.R. – present

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM and a flag salute was conducted.

Guest Speaker: Doug Dimeo, Atlantic County Engineer / Division Director

Doug began by summarizing some of the infrastructure the County is responsible for including approximately 375 miles of road, 55 major bridges, 145 minor bridges and hundreds of culverts. He also noted there were 4 dams including those at Bargaintown, Pleasant Mills, the causeway at Egg Harbor City Lake, and Lake Lenape in Mays Landing.

The Lake Lenape dam was recently reconstructed with a total project cost somewhere in the range of \$14 million with \$4.6 million coming from FEMA through Congressman Van Drew's office. Doug also estimated the date of the fish ladder installation to 2005.

Discussion was had regarding county road standards, ROW widths, and maintenance responsibilities. It was noted that many times there is not enough room in the ROW to accommodate bike paths with the land being privately owned and the responsibility of sidewalks/paths falling on the municipalities.

Doug finished up by noting a new feasibility study regarding Bikeway West had been started by the SJTPO and a redesign of Route 9 near Ohio Avenue to alleviate flooding issues.

Round Table Discussion:

Joe Ambrose mentioned the upcoming NJ Coastal Coalition (NJCC) November meeting and a new portal being designed to allow residents to access information on potential flooding issues.

Dan Crum noted an EEE positive sample and the upcoming food assistance and distribution event in the County's Northfield Public Work yard on Friday November 7th.

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Commissioner Parker updated the group on the status of a resolution opposing a proposed consent order between the NJDEP and the 3M company regarding PFAS contamination. The hope is that any settlements would be delayed until more is known about the scale and severity of the contamination issue. Discussion was then had on a potable water link on the county website that allows county residents to request 3rd party testing of their water for a fee. Dan Crum noted PFAS contamination is being found virtually everywhere.

Commissioner Parker concluded his update with a summary of the formation of a new A.I. subcommittee. One of the major objectives will be to discuss and help determine how Atlantic County will handle issues relating to A.I. now and in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Our next meeting is currently scheduled for Wednesday, January 7th , at 7PM at the Canale Training Center in EHT.

cc: Dennis Levinson, County Executive
Jerry DelRosso, County Administrator
Richard Dase, Chairman - Board of County Commissioners
Andrew Parker, Board of County Commissioners – PEAB Representative
Greg Brookins, Department Head Public Works
All Advisory Board Members