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Message from the Mayor
Jason F. Cilento
June 2023

In this June Message from the Mayor, I share information about road improvement projects, the adopted Master Plan Re-Examination and Climate Resiliency Plan, Walks & Talks with the Mayor, and a shout-out to Dunellen's graduating class of 2023!

Road Improvement Projects:

Center Street: The Borough of Dunellen and Piscataway Township have entered into a shared agreement to mill and pave Center Street. The Borough also plans to replace sections of curb that are in disrepair and install ADA compliant ramps at intersections.

Kline Place: The Borough's engineers from CME Associates anticipate the Kline Place road improvement project will go out to bid in August. The scope of the project includes the installation new catch basins along the road and the replacement of the sewer main from West Fourth Street to Kennedy Court. These infrastructure improvements should ease the flow of storm water runoff and improve overall drainage in the area. After these improvements are made, Kline Place will be milled and paved. We anticipate this project being completed in spring of 2024.

Middlesex County Mill & Pave Program: The Borough of Dunellen and Middlesex County are partnering once again with another shared service agreement. Through the County's mill & pave program, the Borough plans to repave several municipal roads:

1. Columbia Street
2. Penfield Place (between New Market Road and South Washington Avenue)
NOTE: It is anticipated that Penfield Place (between South Washington Avenue and Maple Avenue) and Maple Avenue will be included in a 2024 New Jersey American Water project to replace water mains, services and fire hydrants and repave the road.
3. Oak Parkway
4. Pearl Place
5. Kennedy Court
6. Jadach Drive

Pulaski Street Culvert Project: This Middlesex County project will be similar in scope to the South Madison Avenue culvert replacement project. The County held a pre-construction meeting on May 24, which is a sign that we are getting closer to the start of construction. The estimated cost of the project will be around \$2.5 million and includes the removal of the broken concrete culvert, the installation of its replacement, the repaving of Pulaski Street from Walnut Street to South Avenue and installation of ADA compliant ramps at the South Avenue and Walnut Street intersections. This improvement should reduce the risk of flooding in the immediate area from the Bonygutt Brook.



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Fire House Rebuild Project: The contracted architect, Alloy5, has confirmed they are working through the design and permit submittals and expect to be on site at the Fire House the week of June 26. The approved contractor, H&S Construction, has started doing more demolition work for the project.

Planning for the Future: The Dunellen Master Plan Re-Examination and Climate Resiliency Plan were presented and adopted at the special planning board meeting held on Tuesday, June 13. Thank you to the many people who contributed to these projects including those who participated on the steering committee, community members who provided input and feedback, DMR Architects who guided the process, and the Council and Planning Board for their support of the plans. We are especially proud of our work on Dunellen's Climate Resiliency Plan, which is one of the first of these types of plans in the State of New Jersey. The plan is a comprehensive and organized approach for the preparation of a future characterized by more extreme weather. Both reports can be found at www.dunellen-nj.gov.

Walks & Talks with Mayor Jason Cilento: Join me on the first Saturday of each month at 9:30 AM at Columbia Park's 1/2 mile walking path for "Walks & Talks with the Mayor." This monthly outing is an activity offered through my Mayor's Wellness Campaign and is held in partnership with the Dunellen Outings Community Committee. Hope to see you at our next walk on Saturday, July 1!

Dunellen Graduates of 2023: On behalf of the Dunellen Borough Council and Administration, we offer our congratulations to Dunellen's high school graduates of 2023. These students may have attended one of the County's fantastic Magnet Schools, others may have attended a private school or have been home schooled, but most were part of the 87th class to graduate from my alma mater, Dunellen High School. As with the Dunellen students who walked before them, these graduates will contribute to the rich history of the Borough. This is a great place to have grown up and to continue one's educational or professional pursuits or use as a springboard to explore the world. To the graduates, always know that our Miracle Mile will be a place that welcomes you. Please return often to visit family, friends and favorite places – and even possibly put down your own roots eventually. Congratulations again. I look forward to hearing about all the great things you will accomplish in your life's journey!

In addition, congratulations to Dunellen's 8th grade students who are moving on to high school and our 5th grade students who are being promoted to middle school. As you embark on the next stage of your educational experience, you will encounter new responsibilities and exciting opportunities. Please know that you have our support through it all.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason F. Cilento". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a large initial "J" and "C".

Jason F. Cilento, Mayor
Borough of Dunellen