



BOROUGH OF DUNELLEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
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Message from the Mayor Jason F. Cilento November 2022

In this November Message from the Mayor, I would like to share with you information on our Volunteer Application, Mayoral Town Hall on Redevelopment, Dunellen’s presence at the 107th League of Municipalities Conference, and updates on PSE&G road pavements and culvert clean-ups.

CALLING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

Dunellen’s successes have been and will continue to be made possible thanks to the countless volunteers who serve our community on a Borough committee, commission or board. If you are interested in being involved, now is the time to take the first step.

Complete the 2023 Committees' Volunteer Application, which is open now until Friday, December 16. There are two ways to apply: complete a paper application, which is available at the Clerk’s Office in Borough Hall; or apply online at https://www.dunellen-nj.gov/volunteer_sign-up/index.php. Based on your area of interest and experience, applicants will be considered for appointments to vacant seats on Borough committees, commissions and boards. For more information, please email me at: jcilentto@dunellen-nj.gov.

Volunteer!



Mayoral Town Hall Meeting: Please join us on Thursday, December 15 at 7pm for the Mayoral Town Hall Meeting on “Redevelopment in Dunellen.” We will discuss topics such as our recent Master Plan Re-Examination, updates on ongoing redevelopment projects, affordable housing, school-aged children in redevelopment projects, PILOTs (Payment-In-Lieu-Of-Taxes)/Short Term Tax Exemption Program and there will be a question and answer session. As host, I will moderate the discussion with the municipality’s redevelopment professionals. Information on how to join the town hall will be available on the Borough’s website (www.dunellen-nj.gov) and my Facebook page www.facebook.com/mayorcilento). I hope to see you there for this important conversation as we continue to revitalize Dunellen’s downtown.



New Jersey League of Municipalities: This year’s 107th New Jersey State League of Municipalities Conference was very productive for Dunellen’s representatives who networked among our fellow municipal leaders and discussed important issues facing New Jersey’s local governments. I was proud to have Dunellen so well represented and showcased at various seminars. As presiding mayor, I had the honor of participating as a panelist in three programs, preparing for climate’s impact on municipal infrastructure

and updates to NJ Transit's Transit Friendly Planning Program and new guidebook. I am looking forward to next year's 108th Conference and to the important discussions and ideas we will share.

PSE&G Road Pavement: We have been notified that scheduled road improvements for the following blocks in Dunellen may be delayed until spring 2023: 800 block of First Street; 700 & 800 blocks of Dunellen Avenue; and 700 & 800 blocks of Front Street. The approved contractor for the project is experiencing an unanticipated delay on a project that had been scheduled prior to contracting the work in Dunellen. The delay is pushing us into the winter months and the low temperatures are not ideal for paving roads. That being said, we are speaking with PSE&G to see if the project could be completed if there are any warmer days in December. However, reality most likely will push the road improvements to spring 2023.

Culvert Cleaning Project: On November 7, the Borough Council and I approved the company National Water Main Cleaning Company which will jet and vacuum silt and debris out of culverts this Fall. This will assist in how water dissipates after rainstorms. We hope this action will help the Borough mitigate flooding around town.

To date the following culverts have been cleaned out:

1. South Avenue/ Hall Street Culverts (See pictures.)
2. South Washington Ave Culvert

The following culverts are scheduled to be cleaned out:

1. Grove Street & Prospect Avenue
2. Grove Street Pipe towards Gertrude Terrace
3. Gertrude Terrace Culvert
4. Prospect Avenue Pipe
5. New Market Road & Whittier Avenue Culvert
6. Prospect Avenue Culvert (new #235 Prospect Ave)
7. High Street/Gavornik Park: Piping system from South Madison to Gavornik Park

Please note that the Pulaski Street Culvert is not listed. We are working to coordinate with Middlesex County a replacement of this culvert in the near future.





Finally, we should all extend congratulations to Dunellen Police Officer Joe Dudley who recently received a Life Saving Award at the 125th Annual NJSPBA (New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association) Valor Awards. Ptlm. Dudley was honored for his response to a September 3 house fire on Kline Place where he successfully helped evacuate a resident from the structure. Thank you Ptlm. Dudley for your service and congratulations on this well-deserved recognition.

(Pictured left to right: Sgt. Brian Robbins, Ptlm. Joe Dudley, Sgt. Christopher Lovell, and Ptlm. Anthony Issler).

Thank you for your time in reading this month's Message from the Mayor. I am always available to listen to your ideas and concerns. My Borough cell phone number is (732) 882-4551 and my email is jcilento@dunellen-nj.gov.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jason F. Cilento'.

Jason F. Cilento, Mayor
Borough of Dunellen