FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 17, 2022 Contact: Mayor Hornik 732 536-0200 x1200

MAYOR HORNIK ANNOUNCES \$35MM ROAD REPAIR PLAN

Extension of Road Improvement Initiative

MARLBORO TOWNSHIP, NEW JERSEY (June 17, 2022) – Mayor Jonathan Hornik announced a \$35 million dollar road program at the Township Council meeting held on June 16, 2022. The program will roll out over seven years and is an extension of his 4-prong \$10 million dollar road repair initiative unveiled in 2018 continuing to make road repair the central fixture of the Township's capital plan. The Township has completed more than \$15 million of road improvements since 2018.

The 2022 Capital investment in Roads will be the largest investment in road improvements in the Township's history. Mayor Hornik referenced the aging of Township infrastructure, aggravated by extreme weather events, and the Township's strong financial position behind the timing of this proposal.

Mayor Hornik stated, "Marlboro Township housing was largely built out in the 1980s and 1990s, and as a result previous administrations were able to avoid making any down payments on infrastructure. Those areas of town are now decades old and require even more attention in our capital program."

"Changing weather patterns have also brought more severe weather our way over the last several years. Snow and freezing temperatures have accelerated the wear and tear on our roadways and aggressive snow removal activities have taken a toll," Mayor Hornik explained. "We substantially ramped up road improvements with my 2018 \$10 million Road Improvement Initiative. With Marlboro's debt load well below statutory limits, and triple-A bond ratings from both S&P and Moody's, now is a prudent time to continue our progress on investments in critical infrastructure."

Before the 2018 \$10 million Initiative, the Township's annual commitment to road reconstruction has averaged between \$1.5 and \$3 million, with additional funding to match Federal and State grants when available.

Since 2001, Marlboro Township has repayed 173 complete and 41 partial roads totaling approximately 294,000 linear feet or 55 miles of roadway. This does not include many of Marlboro's busiest roads and intersections such as Routes 9, 520 and 79 and Tennent Road

which are under the jurisdictions of the State or County. The Township continues to work with the appropriate authority to address the State and County intersections and roads that are of concern.

"Marlboro consists of 200 miles of Township-owned roads across 32.5 square miles," said the Mayor. "With a price tag of more than half a million dollars to reconstruct one mile of road, it has been an understandably slow and frustrating process."

As with the 2018 Road improvement program, communication will continue to be key. Road Construction updates will be sent via email to residents who have registered to receive e-blasts. Additionally, updates will be made to the Road Construction section of the website including an ongoing list State and County intersections improvement projects and the status of each, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about Township road construction, traffic updates, road construction notices, and project bid specifications.

The link to the Pothole Portal can be found on the Township homepage. Originally launched in 2014, it allows the residents who drive the streets every day to help direct Township resources to those areas most in need. The update places the user-entered complaint directly into the internal Township tracking system, allowing for more efficient response. Thousands of potholes have been reported on line.

The Township's 2022 Road Improvements Report with the list of local roads under consideration will be finalized after the Council authorization is in place, the engineering design contract is authorized, and the bid specifications are completed.

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