



The Avalon Home and Land Owners Association

ENVIRONMENT AND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY ADMINISTRATION

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NOT A REPORT GIVEN EACH MONTH

June 2010 - The President reported that the Environmental Commission is working on a proposal to renovate Armacost Park and will present a plan to Borough Council at the June 23rd Council meeting. Additionally, the Borough is awaiting receipt of a signed Memorandum of Agreement before starting work on the pilot project under the Dune Vegetation Management Plan.

MUA - In the absence of the Committee Chair, the President reported on the latest information on waste-pipe replacement on Avalon Boulevard:

Received department. approval on the initial engineering plans;

State financing is moving forward for zero percent interest loan;

Tentative start date for pipe replacement is Spring 2011 with completion prior to Summer;

No additional pipe breakdowns have occurred.

May 2010 - A report was given on the status of the nesting birds on the beach. In addition to nests in the protected area (40th to 58th Street) a piping plover nest has been noted between 59th and 60th Streets, and an American Oystercatcher nest between 67th and 68th Streets. Both these areas have been protected with symbolic fencing.

March 2010 - The MUA indicated that work on the project to replace the waste and gray water lines on Avalon Boulevard is somewhat dependent on financing through the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust Financing Program. MUA will learn in November if the project qualifies and in January 2011 what financing will be awarded. No work can be done until that time or the financing will be lost. Should a series of leaks occur that would necessitate emergency replacement the work will be done earlier.

The annual dune grass planting event will take place on Saturday, April 17 (rain date April 18) at 8:30 a.m. at the Community Center.

Feb 2010 - The MUA has approved a contract to replace the waste pipes on Avalon Boulevard near Avalon Mano

Jan 2010 - A summary of the proposed Dune Vegetation Management Plan was given. The document has been presented to Borough Council at the December 23

Dec 2009 - A summary of the proposed Dune Vegetation Management Plan was given. The document will be presented to Borough Council at the December 23 meeting.

Oct 2009 - Joe Lomax, Lomax Consulting Group, made a presentation to the Planning and Zoning Board on the Dune Vegetation Management Plan that he has been acting as a consultant to help the Environmental Commission prepare. The program could apply to the dunes from 8th to 80th Streets and is designed to look at monocultures that may exist with the idea of modifying them to prevent the effects of disease and insect damage that could compromise the stability of the dune environment.



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May 2009 – It has been reported that while the tonnage of waste being handled by the MUA has decreased because of the economic situation the tonnage of recyclable material has increased. The financial rates obtained for recyclable materials has fallen

March 2009 - The MUA has refinanced a \$4.6 million bond issue at a considerably lower interest rate.

Because of the economic situation it appears that the annual rebate for recycled materials will be considerably lower than originally expected. The Borough has applied for, and was recently awarded a grant through the 2009 Green Communities Challenge Grant Program to develop a Forestry Management plan that would include trees in the dunes.

The Environmental Commission is developing a plan to pro-actively replace Japanese Black Pines in a few areas of the dunes with indigenous plant materials in order to minimize the potential effects of disease and insects

January 2009 It was reported that although the total tonnage of waste is decreasing, mainly due to the reduction in construction operations in the County, the amount of recyclable materials, and hence the ratio, is increasing. Recently the prices obtained for recycled materials is dropping and this price decline may affect the rebates given to the communities in 2010.

December 2008 The Environmental Commission has been working with Joe Lomax, Lomax Environmental Consulting, to develop a plan for maintenance of dune vegetation, and at the same time plan for the possible replacement of Japanese Black Pine in several areas with non invasive native species.

November 2008 Dredging has started on the project encompassing Long Reach and Whale Harbor. The dredging was delayed by the need for additional pipe. The project will be completed by December 31 in order to protect the winter flounder. The project is being paid for by the State. Twenty plus residents in the area will have their own slips dredged, as a result they are included in the project permit.

It is unlikely that the State will pay for the channel to be dredged again for 25 years. Future dredging plans will depend on obtaining a use for the dredge materials after they have dried out and can be removed from the collection site to enable more materials to be put there.

November 2008 Re:MUA Preliminary approval has been given to the 2009 budget. Formal budget hearings will be held on December 2 at 4:30 p.m. (Wastewater) and 6:30 p.m.

(Solid Waste). At this time it appears there will be a 3.9% increase in the wastewater rate and, for the first time in 14 years, an increase in the solid waste rates. There has been a 100,000 ton reduction in the amount of waste handle by the MUA since 2005, although the amount of recyclables has increased.

The MUA is looking into ways to use the excess gas that is coming off the landfill without having to build another flare. Possible uses include generation of additional electricity or purifying the gas to a higher BTU and feeding it into the South Jersey Gas distribution system.

October 2008 The MUA has reported that the tonnage of waste that has been handled is with the biggest decrease in the category of construction waste.



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An agreement has been reached with the Pinelands Commission over the plans to expand the landfill. The area that was originally being considered has been found to be home to the red headed woodpecker and an eleven acre buffer has been set aside for protection purposes.