



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Borough of Freehold
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The Borough of Freehold Is Seeking Your Feedback to Set Priorities for Neighborhood Preservation Program Projects in Freehold Historic Downtown / Monument Park Area Historic District / Peach Orchard District

Mayor Kevin Kane and the Borough of Freehold Council are seeking feedback from people who live, work, shop and eat in Historic Downtown along both East and West Main Street / Monument Park Area Historic District / Peach Orchard District anchored on Court Street by Historic Court Street School and Haley Street near Overcoming Faith Temple for the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' Neighborhood Preservation Program (NPP). The online survey will help determine the projects and priorities designed to revitalize and rejuvenate the area located in the district boundaries as described above, and boost economic growth.

In October, Borough of Freehold was awarded a 5-year NPP designation which includes an initial \$125,000 grant to generate visible, tangible change in Freehold Downtown / Monument Park Area Historic District / Peach Orchard District driven by local residents and business owners. It is anticipated that the NPP designated area in the Borough will receive up to \$125,000 a year for five years to assist with economic and community development. The online survey is one step toward ensuring residents and business owners have the opportunity to provide valuable input for the 5-year NPP Implementation Plan.

Borough of Freehold, under the leadership of a local NPP Coordinator with support of the Borough Administration and a diverse group of citizen volunteers a local NPP Stakeholder Team will create an Implementation Plan that combines significant community engagement, local knowledge, and hard data. The resulting plan is an achievable and comprehensive set of projects and programs that address local needs and build on local assets.

The deadline for completing the survey, which is available in multiple languages, is **Friday, December 31st at 12 midnight**. Go to <https://forms.gle/jmVFTKS5UjVN4Btz5> to help us create a community-driven vision for the future of Borough of Freehold. The survey can also be accessed using the attached QR Code.

Borough of Freehold is among 40 communities throughout New Jersey to receive this designation since NPP was revived in 2019 by Governor Phil Murphy and Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver as part of their plan to create a stronger and fairer New Jersey. The goal is to increase place, economic, civic and social value. It achieves this by enhancing buildings, streets and a district's entire physical realm, by supporting and coordinating small business recovery, growth and sustainability, and by marketing district events and activities while also engaging local stakeholders in planning and relationship building. The local stakeholder team consists of Brianne Van Vorst, Historic Preservation Commission and resident, Kim Wright, resident, Matthew Borowski, business owner, Archana Sharma, business owner, Jeff Friedman, Downtown Freehold/SID, Rev. Ron Sparks, Clergy Association, Councilwoman Annette Jordan, resident, Stephen J. Gallo, Business Administration, Dominica R. Napolitano, Land Use, Michael Sweetman, Management Specialist and Matthew Young, Zoning/Construction/Fire Official.

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