The New Jersey Municipal Land Use Law defines a Master Plan as a composite of one or more written or graphic proposals for the development of a municipality. In turn, each municipality in New Jersey is supposed to have a current Master Plan and revise, amend, or reexamine it every ten years. For a variety of reasons, some towns take this provision more seriously than others – Plainsboro Township takes its planning seriously.

The Township Committee has seen to it that the Planning Board is equipped with the tools and resources to make the future planning of the township a priority. This commitment is highlighted by the rewards and acknowledgements the township has received over the years. Mayor Cantu stated that, “How we consider land uses and plan for the future benefits existing residents and new members of our community as well, including businesses.”

The township is in the midst of updating two of the required elements of its Master Plan: the Statement of Objectives, Principles, Assumptions, Policies, and Standards, and the Land Use Plan. Combined, these two elements are arguably the most important when it comes to considering the variety and intensity of land uses throughout Plainsboro. “It’s also important to note what the Master Plan isn’t. It doesn’t address the day-to-day issues and items for the ongoing maintenance of township facilities. In that regard it is aspirational in nature”, stated Township Committeeman Ed Yates.

The updating process includes gathering information from the 2020 Census, collecting environmental information related to climate change and issues like flooding, and recognizing changes and opportunities resulting from the pandemic. Please visit the Master Plan page of the township’s website at https://www.plainsboronj.com/967/Master-Plan-Update to review the current Master Plan, access additional information, and answer the survey which will be used to identify trends and the issues of greatest concern to Plainsboro residents and businesses.
Recreation Opportunities Planned for Plainsboro

Three exciting outdoor recreational areas that the township has been working on for the past year are all moving forward.

Community Park Playground – a new playground is planned for the space adjacent to the existing playground area. The new playground will be ADA-compliant, for children ages 2-12 years old. The old playground will be demolished and removed. The township was awarded a generous $550,000 grant from Middlesex County to support the construction of the new playground.

Mill Pond Park (on Maple Avenue) – improvements to the park include: new benches, signage, kayak/boat launch, landscaping and the replacement of pipe that permits waterfall between the bodies of water at the park. The improvements were funded by two generous grants from Middlesex County and Princeton University totaling approximately $300,000.

Bulk Farm (Cranbury Neck Road) - a former 80 plus acre private nursery owned by the Bulk family and purchased by the township in 2008, will become a passive trail, bird-watching nature center, and preserved as permanent open space. This project will be funded solely by the township.

Improvements for all three projects will be out to bid in the near future to secure contractors. For future updates, visit our website at https://www.plainsboronj.com/

Did You Know?

Did you know that the Plainsboro Preserve has a new Operations Supervisor? In March, Tara Miller was appointed to a new position of Preserve Operations Supervisor at the Plainsboro Preserve. Tara joined the township in 2008 as Park Ranger and was promoted to the position of Program Coordinator in 2015.

Tara has previously worked for the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association, New Jersey Audubon (at the Plainsboro Preserve) and several other nature centers and natural history organizations. Tara holds a masters degree in Education-Earth Science from California University of Pennsylvania.

Did you know that a municipal Tree Removal Permit or a Road Opening Permit might be needed when undertaking certain work outdoors? Outdoor projects become a priority during the spring and summer months. Projects involving the removal of trees or work next to a street or sidewalk often require a township permit. Forms for a Tree Removal Permit and a Road Opening Permit can be found on the township’s website or at https://www.plainsboronj.com/178/Forms-Applications.

Each form requires the use of your property survey, so please have it handy while filling out the form. Please call the Department of Planning & Zoning with any questions at (609) 799-0909 ext. 1502, or via email at planningandzoning@plainsboronj.com

Did you know that sidewalk maintenance and repair is the responsibility of the homeowner? The Plainsboro Township Code (Chapter 79, Article II) requires residents to maintain and repair sidewalks abutting their residence in accordance with Plainsboro’s Standard Construction Detail available at the Department of Public Works.

Residents receiving a written notice of a non-conforming sidewalk, they have 30 days to remediate the issue.

Residents are also required to keep sidewalks free of grass and weeds over six inches in height, and remove any overhanging branches and limbs that may interfere with pedestrians. Visit https://ecode360.com/9427568 to learn more about these requirements.

Tara has previously worked for the Stony Brook Millstone Watershed Association, New Jersey Audubon (at the Plainsboro Preserve) and several other nature centers and natural history organizations. Tara holds a masters degree in Education-Earth Science from California University of Pennsylvania.
At the April 27th open public meeting, the Township Committee adopted the 2022 municipal and capital budgets. The municipal budget totals $31,912,927. Based on the average home value of $457,900 - the municipal tax impact will be approximately $64.10 annually or $5.34 per month on average. The budget anticipates that state aid will not change and will remain at $1,644,744. The most significant sources of revenue funding the budget are property tax revenues which total $19,184,058 and the use of surplus funds totaling $3,925,000.

The capital budget provides funding for road maintenance, park and recreation improvements, public works equipment, and an upgraded 9-1-1 system for the police department. “We are pleased to provide a budget that maintains a high level of service and provides funding for capital improvements, while continuing to control property taxes”, stated Mayor Peter Cantu.

The Township followed the same core budget values and principles: seeking the lowest possible tax rate while providing the resources for township employees to perform their duties; providing the best services at the lowest cost; ensuring capital funding to address road, park, and public improvements and actively managing surplus to ensure the highest bond rating.

Plainsboro Community Energy Aggregation Program Update

For residents who have been participating in the third round of the Plainsboro Community Energy Aggregation “PCEA” program, the contract is due to end this May. The current contract has provided participating residents with power supply that includes enhanced renewable energy content at a reduced cost in comparison with the rate charged by PSE&G.

In anticipation of the contract ending, the township conducted a competitive bid process in March seeking to establish a new contract. Energy prices have increased considerably since the township went out to bid in June 2020 and, unfortunately, the bid prices came in higher than PSE&G’s current tariff prices. The township concluded that it was in the best interest of the residents to return them to PSE&G Basic Generation Service for power supply at the end of the current contract. Bids will be resolicited when market conditions improve. PSE&G will be sending notices to participating residents that their service with Energy Harbor, LLC will be ending with the May 2022 meter read date. No action is required from residents to implement this change.

The township will monitor market conditions and expects to go back out to bid. If a future bid results in savings and the township awards a new contract, it would most likely start at the end of 2022 or early in 2023. Any updates or changes in program status will be posted on the township website at https://www.plainsboronj.com/587/Community-Energy-Aggregation-Update

Town Square Adult Day Enrichment Center Hosts Grand Opening

Town Square Adult Enrichment Center recently hosted a grand opening event. Located at 2 Hospital Drive, the center is designed as a 1950’s small town, evoking memories of the past for older adults and those with Alzheimer’s disease and dementia. For information visit https://www.townsquare.net/princeton/ or email learnmorejs@townsquare.net
Adventures await at the Plainsboro Preserve this summer. The township is collaborating with New Jersey Audubon, Mad Science, and the Amazing V to provide children in Plainsboro and the surrounding communities a wide array of different summer activities including nature, art, science, magic and more.

Moreover, “Evenings in the Preserve”, a weekly summer family series held on Thursday evenings, will be offered beginning June 30th through August 18th. This series will include programs such as Backyard Bugs, Building a Fairy Village, Crazy About Beavers, Dodgeball, Why Wasps Matter, Nature Scavenger Hunt, Nature Walk and a live animal show. Check out the Recreation and Community Services insert for dates and times or visit www.plainsboronj.com

Finally, every Wednesday evening from June 29th - August 24th the Preserve will be open late for “Sunsets in the Preserve.” Stop by and join us on the back deck of the nature center as we sip lemonade and enjoy the sun setting over McCormack Lake.

Summer Blast Series

Summer is right around the corner and with it is our “Summer Blast Series.” Summer Blast is a monthly family event that includes live music; face painting, games, snacks, inflatables and ends in the evening with a family-friendly movie.

Summer Blast, co-hosted by Plainsboro Township and Princeton Alliance Church, begins on Friday, June 24th with Encanto, followed by Sing 2 on July 22nd and finally Luca on August 19th.

The events will take place at the municipal complex. We look forward to a fun-filled summer and hope to see you at the Summer Blast events. For more information visit www.plainsboronj.com

Upcoming Events at Wicoff House Museum

This year, the Wicoff House Museum staff has been working to offer dynamic programming that reflects Plainsboro’s Asian community. In January, we hosted our first annual Sankranti event in celebration of the new year. In May, we will be collaborating with the West Windsor-Plainsboro School District’s Pan Asian American Heritage volunteer group to host an event honoring National Pan Asian American Heritage Month.

“This is yet another opportunity for Plainsboro to proudly celebrate and showcase our cultural diversity”, stated Township Committeeman Nuran Nabi. The museum is also hoping to create a new permanent collection that illustrates the Asian heritage of many of Plainsboro’s residents. Please consider adding to this collection if you have photographs, letters, journals, clothing or other objects that would showcase this heritage.

To discuss donating items, please contact us at museum@plainsboronj.com.

From June to September, the museum will host its third annual summer teen internship program. Past internships have resulted in the completion of projects such as the museum’s annual art contest and a bike/driving tour of historic Plainsboro. Internship opportunities this year will include archival/collection work, collaborations with other cultural organizations and the development of new exhibits and programs. Internship hours are counted toward total volunteer hours. If you are interested in interning at the museum this year, please contact us or fill out the internship application on the Wicoff House page of the website.

For information about all upcoming museum events and programs, visit www.wicoffhouseplainsboro.com
What You Should Know About Fireworks in New Jersey

Non-aerial and novelty fireworks are legal in New Jersey and can now be purchased by any consumer, but not all fireworks are legal. It is recommended that the discharging of fireworks, regardless of the type, be left to professionals. Even legal non-aerial and novelty fireworks can cause serious injury or property damage if mishandled.

Examples of legal non-aerial and novelty fireworks in New Jersey are: snap-pops, snakes, sparklers, ground sparkling fountains, smoke devices, etc.

Examples of illegal fireworks in New Jersey are: Roman candles, firecrackers, bottle rockets, mortars, aerials, tube-style reports, etc.

Here are some tips to keep in mind when it comes to purchasing and using novelty fireworks:

• Always buy from a reputable store/company
• Keep fireworks away from children
• Never allow children to handle or light fireworks
• Always use fireworks outside
• Keep fireworks a safe distance from buildings, brush and people
• Keep a water source nearby to extinguish “duds”

Mosquito Prevention

According to the Middlesex County Mosquito Extermination Commission (MCMEC) there are more than 63 species of mosquitoes in New Jersey and over 40 in Middlesex County alone. About half of these species are nuisances to the public and a small percentage pose a potential health risk to the very young, very old and those with compromised immune systems. Simple housekeeping measures can effectively prevent mosquitoes from multiplying.

Mosquitoes have a life span of 3 to 4 weeks and spend approximately the first quarter of their lives in water. This can happen at your residence without you even knowing. The American Mosquito Control Association recommends routinely walking around your property and draining any standing water. This includes regularly cleaning your pet’s water dish, roof gutters and changing the water in bird baths. Also inspect and empty water that has gathered on tarps, pool covers and children’s toys. If you have a small pond consider getting fish or a small fountain to prevent water from becoming stagnant. It is extremely important to remember that any container can collect water and then become a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Professionals recommend removing any container from the grounds of your residence if it is not fulfilling a specific need. If containers are intentionally left outside, consider drilling drainage holes in them and/or storing them upside down whenever possible. “It’s impossible to stop mosquitoes from breeding entirely, but these simple steps above may prevent them from breeding directly around your house,” stated Township Committeeman David Bander.

The MCMEC also assists in reducing the mosquito population and from May 1st through November 30th the MCMEC applies products recommended by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, Rutgers University, to high breeding areas via aircraft, trucks or handheld equipment. The MCMEC website provides application schedules; the type of products used and even allows county residents to request assistance. The commission’s website address is https://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/government/departments/department-of-public-safety-and-health/middlesex-county-mosquito-commission

Plainsboro Celebrates the International Day of Yoga

In celebration of the International Day of Yoga, join the Plainsboro Department of Recreation and Community Services for a special yoga class on June 21st at 5:30pm at the Plainsboro Municipal Complex Plaza. Come for a FREE hour of self-care. All that is needed is YOU and your mat! Yogis of all ages and skills, as well as family and friends, are welcome. Namaste.
In March, the Plainsboro Police Department successfully completed its third reaccreditation through the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (NJSACOP).

Agencies completing the reaccreditation process are required to conduct a thorough self-analysis to determine if their policies meet the stringent standards and objectives of the NJSACOP. Accreditation is a time-proven method of assisting law enforcement agencies to improve their professionalism, accountability, and overall performance.

The decision by the NJASCOP panel to award Plainsboro Police Department’s reaccreditation status was a unanimous one and is valid for a three-year period. During this time, the agency must submit annual reports attesting to continued compliance with the standards under which it was initially accredited. Prior to the end of the three-year period, agencies must seek reaccreditation, a process in which agencies must reconfirm their adherence to Accreditation Commission standards. The police department will begin the next reaccreditation cycle in 2024.

“Congratulations to our police department on another successful reaccreditation. This shows the level of commitment of our police department to serving the residents of Plainsboro in a highly professional manner,” stated Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis.

Back by Popular Demand – Plainsboro’s Youth Police Academy

This week-long academy will be offered to Plainsboro middle school students again this summer during the week of July 25th. Each academy recruit will undergo instruction in drill and ceremony, physical training and basic police practices and procedures. Recruits will also learn about crime scene investigations from our Detective Bureau and accident investigations from the Traffic Safety Bureau. Details and registration information can be found on the Township website under the Recreation Department.

Police Offer Virtual Interactive Policing (VIP) Program

The Plainsboro Police Department invites the community to join our FREE Virtual Interactive Policing (VIP) program. This program consists of several virtual and interactive seminars provided throughout the year. The seminars address different topics that have the greatest impact on the quality of life for our residents and reaffirms our commitment to providing outstanding police services and ensuring the safety of our community.

“This is an excellent chance to be educated on important topics and to meet the police officers in our town”, stated Deputy Mayor Neil Lewis.

Meetings are held monthly, and start with an educational presentation at the beginning of each session. Registered members of the VIP program will receive direct notification of the dates, times and topics to be discussed with guaranteed admission to the virtual seminar. If you are interested in becoming a member, please contact Patrolman Nicholas Fazio at 609-799-2333 ext. 1694

Upcoming topics include:
• Child Internet Safety • Fraud/Scams • New Driver Safety • Recognizing Drug Abuse • Pedestrian and Bike Safety • Firearms – Home Storage • Residential and Personal Security • Prescription Drug Disposal

The Plainsboro Police look forward to continued partnership with and support from our community.
**Early Voting at specific county sites**

Primary Election Early Voting Period – June 3, 2022 – June 5, 2022

General Election Early Voting Period – October 29, 2022 – November 6, 2022

**Pet Licenses:** New Jersey State law mandates that all dogs six months of age or older be licensed. License applications are available in the Township Clerk’s Office at 641 Plainsboro Road. Proof of rabies vaccination must be submitted with the application. According to state regulation, when licensing, the rabies vaccination immunity must extend through at least ten (10) months of the 12-month licensing period. Therefore, licenses cannot be issued if the rabies vaccination expires before November 1st of each year. If for any medical reason the animal cannot be vaccinated in the required time, form VPH-28 must be completed by the veterinarian and submitted with the form. Submit a copy of the spay/neuter certificate, if applicable. The license fees are $13.20 for spayed/neutered animals and $16.20 for non-neutered animals. Late fees of $5.00 per month are assessed as of February 1st.

If you missed the Township Rabies Clinic in November please contact the Middlesex County Public Health Department at (732) 745-3100 for the listing of the county scheduled clinics held in the surrounding municipalities.

**Vital Records:** Vital record hours are Monday – Friday 8am -2:30 pm. Marriage application submissions are done by appointment only. For information regarding requirements and fees please call the office, visit the township website or email townshipclerk@plainsboronj.com.

The Registrar is responsible for maintaining vital records of births, marriages, civil unions, domestic partnerships and deaths that occurred in Plainsboro Township. The vital records that occurred in other municipalities or other states are not located in our office. The municipality that holds the original record is the only Registrar, besides the State Registrar, that can issue a certified copy.

**At Your Service... Township Clerk’s Office: 799.0909 x 2547**

**2022 Election Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Election</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Polling Hours</th>
<th>Chose of Registration (21 days prior)</th>
<th>Last Day to Apply for Mail-In Ballot</th>
<th>Last day to apply for a mail-in-ballot to person to County Clerk (by 3:00pm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRIMARY</td>
<td>06/07/22</td>
<td>By barely</td>
<td>6am - 9pm</td>
<td>05/17/22</td>
<td>05/31/22</td>
<td>06/06/22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GENERAL</td>
<td>11/08/22</td>
<td>By barely</td>
<td>6am - 9pm</td>
<td>10/18/22</td>
<td>11/01/22</td>
<td>11/07/22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conservation & Recycling Center:** The center is currently open Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm and Saturdays from 10:00am-5:00pm.

**Brush Collection Guidelines:**

- Brush must be placed curbside by 7:00am the first Monday of your scheduled month and no earlier than seven (7) days prior
- Brush left curbside during non-scheduled months renders you subject to fines and removal costs
- Trimmings from trees and shrubs are accepted (maximum 6 feet in length and 5 inches in diameter)
- NO leaves, stumps, roots, soil, grass, lumber or debris
- Brush is to be neatly placed parallel to the road with limb ends facing the same direction
- No brush should be placed in the street or on sidewalks and no closer than 10’ from any catch basin
- Residents are allowed to bring their brush to the Conservation/Recycling Center

**Brush Collection Schedule:**

**Section 1 – March, May, July, September**

- Adams Court, Alsfalfa Circle, Allen Court, Amberlyn Road, Barley Court, Barlow Court, Barn Swallow Court, Barnyard Court, Birch Drive, Blossom Hill Drive, Bradford Lane, Briardale Court, Brookside Court, Camas Drive, Clinton Court, Claydale Court, Colonial Court, Cooks Lane, Cranbury Neck Road, Daisy Court, Derry Meeting Road, Dey Road, Dickinson Court, Dogwood Drive, Drayton Lane, Dryer Court, Edgemere Avenue, Eker Road, Elise Drive, Farmhouse Drive, Franklin Drive, Gardenia Court, Grover Mill Road, Hancock Court, Harvest Drive, Hawthorn Drive, Heatherton Court, Heritage Way, Heron Court, Hilltown Court, Hummingbird Court, Jeffer Road, Kensington Court, Knight Drive E., Knight Drive W., Larkspur Drive, Linden Lane, Linden Lane S., Lovell Drive, Madison Drive, Maple Avenue, Marshall Court, Mayfarth Terrace, Meadow Drive, Mifflin Court, Millstone Court, Monroe Court, Narrowbrook Court, Northland Road, Okeon Street, Orchard Lane, Orchid Drive, Paddock Drive, Parkway Avenue, Pasture Lane, Petty Road, Plainsboro Road, Pollak Court, Pondview Road, Prospect Avenue, Railroad Avenue, Ruememann Drive, Rutledge Court, Scotts Corner Road, Sherman Court, Silo Lane, Stanton Court, Stone Meadow Court, Stalts Drive, Sullivan Street, Sycamore Drive, Trumbull Road, Walker Gordon Drive, Webster Court, Wethersfield Road, Wheatsheaf Court, Windmill Court.

**Curbside Recycling:** Scheduled pickup dates for this quarter are: June 6, 20, July 9, 18, August 1, 15, 29 *Pickup is moved to Saturday due to July 4th holiday

**2022 Bulk Waste Days:** Bulky items such as furniture, appliances, electronics, bicycles, etc., will be accepted at the Conservation Center from 8:00am to 5:00pm on June 11, August 13 and November 5.
Township Directory and Information

Plainsboro Township Municipal Offices
Location: 641 Plainsboro Road
Phone: General 609-799-0909
Court 609-799-0863
Website: www.plainsboronj.com
Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

Plainsboro Recreation and Community Services
Location: 641 Plainsboro Road
Phone: General 609-799-0909, press 6
Email recdept@plainsboronj.com

Plainsboro Public Works Department
Location: Scotts Corner Road at 20 Woodland Drive
Phone: 609-799-0099
Recycling Center, Bulk Waste
See Page 7 for details or visit website

Plainsboro Police Department
Location: 641 Plainsboro Road
Phone: Non-Emergency 609-799-2333
Emergencies - 9 1 1
Website: www.plainsboropolice.com

Plainsboro Public Library
Location: 9 Van Doren Street
Phone: 609-275-2897
CALL FOR HOURS
Website: www.plainsborolibrary.org

Useful Numbers
School District Information
609-716-5000
Report street light out to
PSE&G 1-800-436-7734
Report potholes to
Public Works 609-799-0099
New Jersey American Water
1-800-272-1325

Township Meetings
All meetings are held in the municipal building at 641 Plainsboro Road unless otherwise noted:

Development Review Committee
3rd Tuesday, 6:00pm (virtual)

Environmental Advisory Committee
4th Monday, 6:00pm (virtual)
Call 609-799-0099, x1502 for more information

Fire Commissioners
2nd Tuesday, 7:00pm at firehouse

Township Committee
Regular Mtg. 2nd Wednesday, 7:00pm
Agenda Mtg. 4th Wednesday, 7:00pm

Planning Board
3rd Monday, 6:00pm (virtual)

Zoning Board
1st Wednesday, at 6:00pm (virtual)