



# 2022 Annual Report



Mayor Stuart K. Patrick  
Council President Richard Law  
Councilor Ann Marie Morrow  
Councilor David Lefkovits  
Councilor Deborah Mans  
Councilor Rebecca Meyer  
Councilor Peter Hughes

John Malyska, Esq.  
Michael P. Zichelli, Borough Administrator  
Erik I. DeLine, Director of Planning & Development / Deputy Administrator  
Tara Ventola, Borough Clerk



Date: March 22, 2023

To: Mayor Stuart K. Patrick  
Council President Richard Law  
Councilor Ann Marie Morrow  
Councilor David Lefkovits  
Councilor Deborah Mans  
Councilor Rebecca Meyer  
Councilor Peter Hughes  
John Malyska, Esq.

In effort to provide useful data to our citizens, elected officials and members of the various boards and commissions, please find our 2022 annual report.

Included are summaries and statistics regarding:

- Finance
- Office of Vital Statistics
- Office of the Municipal Clerk
  - Open Public Records
  - Dog Licenses
  - Film Permits
  - Block Parties
  - Garage Sales
- Recreation
- Department of Public Works
  - Solid Waste
  - Materials Used
  - Water & Sewer Emergencies
- Capital Projects
- Building Department
- Boards and Commissions
  - Historic Preservation Commission
  - Planning Board
  - Board of Adjustment
  - Shade Tree Commission
- Public Outreach
  - Website
  - Online Payment Center
  - Service Request Center
  - Email Broadcasts
  - Social Media

Respectfully submitted,

*Michael P. Zichelli*

Michael P. Zichelli, AICP, PP  
Borough Administrator

# MUNICIPAL FINANCE

## PROPERTY TAX VALUES, RATES, & RATIOS

	2021	2022
NET TAXABLE VALUE	\$1,712,143,200	\$1,718,387,327
AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL VALUE	\$667,200	\$669,900
MUNICIPAL TAX LEVY	\$12,612,941	\$12,859,133
MUNICIPAL TAX RATE	0.7367	.7483
AVERAGE MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAX	\$4,915	\$5,013

	2021		2022	
	TAX LEVY	TAX RATE	TAX LEVY	TAX RATE
ESSEX COUNTY	\$8,904,582	0.520	\$9,106,647	0.530
COUNTY OPEN SPACE	\$288,961	0.017	\$308,199	0.018
MUNICIPAL	\$11,979,139	0.700	\$12,180,653	0.709
PUBLIC LIBRARY	\$633,801	0.037	\$678,479	0.039
BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$33,746,614	1.971	\$34,308,832	1.997
TOTAL	\$55,553,097	3.245	\$56,582,810	3.293

	TAX COLLECTIONS	% OF TAXES COLLECTED
2022	\$56,278,169	99.32%
2021	\$55,677,317	99.35%
2020	\$54,559,900	99.10%

## MUNICIPAL WATER UTILITY

	2021	2022
TOTAL WATER BILLED	\$ 1,573,198	\$ 1,750,088
RENTS PAID	<u>\$ 1,416,485</u>	<u>\$ 1,630,550</u>
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	\$ 156,713	\$ 119,538

## SWIMMING POOL UTILITY

	2021	2022
SWIMMING POOL MEMBERSHIPS	1,108	1,774
SWIMMING POOL REVENUE	\$ 324,888	\$ 526,266

## OFFICE OF VITAL STATISTICS

Under the direction of the local registrar, Kathleen Sweeney, the Office of Vital Statistics processes and maintains all births, marriages, civil unions, and deaths which take place within the city limits of the Borough of Glen Ridge. This includes all births and deaths which occurred at Hackensack UMC Hospital (previously known as Mountainside Hospital). This office also ensures that all vital records are properly filed with the State Office of Vital Statistics in Trenton. Certified copies of these records are available through this office.

In 2022 the Office of Vital Statistics issued 2,834 birth certificates, 238 death certificates, 55 marriage certificates, and prepared 42 amendments to vital records. In 2021 Mountainside Hospital delivered 859 children. In 2022 that number decreased to 729.

<b>2022</b>	<b>Birth</b>	<b>Death</b>	<b>Marriage</b>	<b>Amendments</b>
Jan.	180	27	3	1
Feb.	254	6	0	3
March	337	22	7	5
April	236	11	0	4
May	282	40	7	4
June	276	26	1	5
July	219	13	15	5
August	270	14	3	3
Sept.	216	18	11	2
Oct.	201	10	4	3
Nov.	142	18	2	5
Dec.	221	33	2	2
<b>2022 Totals</b>	<b>2,834</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>42</b>

<b>2021</b>	<b>Birth</b>	<b>Death</b>	<b>Marriage</b>	<b>Amendments</b>
Jan	186	6	4	2
Feb	135	16	0	3
March	257	57	5	4
April	233	18	1	3
May	164	16	0	5
June	309	8	0	3
July	270	26	0	2
Aug	287	19	3	4
Sept	330	7	8	3
Oct	237	15	3	3
Nov	239	37	2	4
Dec	207	8	4	4
<b>2021 Totals</b>	<b>2,854</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>40</b>

# OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CLERK

The Municipal Clerk, Tara Ventola, serves as secretary to the governing body, secretary to the municipal corporation, Chief Administrative Officer of all elections, custodian of all minutes, ordinances, resolutions, contracts, deeds and archival records of the municipality. The Municipal Clerk serves as the liaison between the Mayor and Council and members of the public.

## Open Public Records

The Municipal Clerk serves as custodian of records. The Clerk's Office is responsible for overseeing requests made under the Open Public Records Act. The Clerk also issues dog licenses and film permits and as well as block party and garage sale applications.

In order to streamline and provide expedited service to our constituents the Borough utilizes a digital portal that allows citizens to request public records online. This portal also allows the Borough to fulfill and track all requests online. The use of the Open Public Records portal continues to grow. The portal allows electronic requests of public records from all departments throughout the Borough. 210 requests were processed in 2022 through the online portal. The portal allows for more efficient and transparent access to public records and we continue to direct users to this feature. Requests for public records are still accepted in person and via email. In 2022 the Clerk's office fulfilled approximately 670 via other means of correspondence, totaling 880 requests, which is down from last year. In 2021, 457 requests were submitted through the portal and 680 requests were made via other means for a total of 1,137 request for public records.

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Open Public Records Act Request" for the Borough of Glen Ridge. The form includes a header with the borough logo and contact information: "825 Bloomfield Aven Glen Ridge, NJ 070 (973) 748-84 www.glenridgenj.c". The main section is titled "Requestor Details" and contains several input fields: "First Name \*", "Middle Initial", "Last Name \*", "Business Name", "Address", "City", "State" (a dropdown menu with "Select..." visible), "ZIP", "Phone # \*\*", "Fax #", and "Email \*".

## Dog Licenses

State Law requires the Municipal Clerk to license all dogs over the age of 7 months within the Borough on a yearly basis. The Borough currently utilizes software provided through GovPilot to track and issue dog licenses online. This software allows residents to apply for their license online and make payments via credit card. We also accept applications in person and through the mail.



In 2022, 232 dog licenses were issued compared to 247 licenses in 2021.

## Film Permits



Due to its distinct historic designation and beautiful gas lamp and tree lined streets, the Borough of Glen Ridge offers unique opportunities to scouting agents looking to film commercials, TV shows and major motion films. By utilizing a streamlined application process, the Borough maintains a reputation for being film friendly by offering a quick turnaround time for approvals of film permits. The Clerk provides a yearly report of film permits to the NJ Motion Picture and Television Commission.

In 2022 the Borough issued 1 film permit and collected \$1,150 in permit fees compared to 2021 where 6 permits were issued and \$4,400 was collected.

## Block Parties

Block party applications are available online. In 2021, 13 block party applications were approved and issued. In 2022, 26 block party applications were approved and issued.

## Garage Sales

The Borough regulates garage sales and requires an application to be submitted for each sale that takes place within the Borough with the exception being the Annual Town Wide Yard Sale hosted by the Friends of the Library.

40 individual garage sale permits were issued in 2022. 14 permits were issued in 2021 when conditions permitted due to restrictions still in place from the Covid-19 pandemic.



## PARKS & RECREATION

**Athletic Field Improvements:** Improvements led by Chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee Councilor Richard Law and first implemented in 2021, continued in 2022. The biggest step in the improvement plan was bringing a sports field and grounds consultant on board. Under the guidance of our field consultant, implementing strategies such as regular aeration and in-season overseeding resulted in fewer rain outs and a marked improvement in field conditions in the spring and fall of 2022.



**Glen Ridge Senior-Community Center:** 2022 was an exciting year for the Senior-Community Center (Glen Ridge Train Station) as all renovations were completed to this historic building. Renovations included the painting of the interior walls, new flooring and carpeting, new bathroom fixtures, new kitchen area countertop and storage, all new furniture, and an exterior facelift and restoration. By the latter part of 2022, the facility was back to serving Borough commuters, civic groups, hosting Recreation Department programs, and was available for event rentals.



**The Glen Ridge Community Pool:** The Glen Ridge Community Pool enjoyed a very successful 2022 season with a total of 1,774 Family, Couple, Single members. (2021: 1,108, 2020: 679). Highlights at the pool include the waterslide, the mushroom water feature, the kiddie pool, a dedicated lap lane for lap swimmers, adult morning swim, the swim team, group and private swim lessons.



**Freeman Tennis Courts:** Freeman Tennis Courts had a great 2022 season with 186 total permit holders (2021: 204, 2020: 180). The big news at the tennis courts was the completion of the renovations of court #7. The asphalt surface court was removed and replaced with a clay court. This new clay court is a great addition for all permit holders and for the GRHS boys and girls teams.



**Glen Ridge Summer Day Camp:** The program returned to pre-COVID schedule of activities and had 178 resident campers (2021: 171 / 2020: 51). With Carteret Park as home base, popular off-site activities included bus trips to Camel Beach Water Park and Medieval Times as well as weekly visits to the Glen Ridge Community Pool.



**Adult Open Gym Basketball and Softball League:** The Open Gym Basketball and Softball League programs allow neighbors to participate in a competitive, friendly games of pickup basketball, and league structured slow pitch softball. 2022 was the inaugural year for these Borough sponsored programs. 53 residents participated in Open Gym Basketball and 73 residents participated in the Softball League.





**Senior Citizens Programs:** Participation was strong for the Seniors programs as we returned to the Senior-Community Center. In addition to programs such as the monthly health luncheon at the Community Center, virtual on-line options for the weekly Yoga and Art programs were offered. The Recreation Department continued to run the very popular weekly grocery shopping trips for seniors. Bus and jitney day trips also returned to the program highlighted by a trip to the Papermill Playhouse for a production of The Sound of Music. The year-end holiday gathering at Fitzgerald's was attended by over 30 resident seniors.



**Field/Gazebo Permits:** Field and gazebo permits became a bigger part of Parks & Recreation serving the community during the pandemic as the desire to hold activities outdoors increased. 22 permits were issued for use of Borough facilities in 2022 (2021: 30, 2020: 16) for occasions such as weddings, religious ceremonies, social events, and school picnics.



## PUBLIC WORKS

The Public Works Department continues to provide essential services to our residents. While the winter of 2022 provided twelve snow/ice events, DPW only had to plow for three. The nine remaining storms were combated with salting and de-icing responses.

Additionally, the Borough issued a state of emergency in October for an unprecedented water main break in Nutley on a one-hundred-year-old seventy-two-inch water main operated by the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission, which affected the supply to our distribution system. Public Works worked with the surrounding towns of Montclair, Bloomfield, and the City of East Orange to stabilize the Borough’s water distribution system during this emergency.



The table below depicts volume and cost of disposal or recycling for the Borough’s solid waste:

### Solid Waste

	2021	2022
Single Stream Recycling (tons) \$ per year	1,103.41 \$44,755.61	1,060.04 \$66,847.91
Bulk -Type 13 (tons) \$ per year	275.51 \$25,250.49	295.74 \$24,762.31
Household Refuse- Type 10 (tons) \$ per year	3,473.37 \$297,251.00	3,058.00 \$241,429.10
Leaves (cubic yards) \$ per year	1,640 \$17,220.00	1,120 \$11,760.00
Plant Material (cubic yards) \$ per year	630 \$8,368.50	540 \$8,932.50
E Waste (tons) \$ per year	19.32 \$0.00	16.06 \$0.00
Styrofoam (cubic yards)		\$232.00 \$0.00



The table below depicts volume and cost for materials used to maintain our roads, including during storm events:

**Materials Use**

	2021	2022
Salt (tons)*	317	280
\$ per year	\$15,354.99	\$13,571.60
Brine (gallons)	4,750	4,000
\$ per year	\$2,375.00	\$2,000.00
<b>Asphalt</b>		
Winter Mix (tons)	6.63	0
\$ per year	\$1,259.70	\$0.00
Hot Mix (tons)	34.20	18
\$ per year	\$3,461.77	\$2,154.00
Crack Sealing (lbs)*	3,900	0
\$ per year	\$5,235.00	\$0.00
Gasoline (gallons)	27,725	38,772
\$ per year	\$60,377.27	\$118,057.80
Diesel (gallons)	3,023	2,462
\$ per year	\$6,923.69	\$9,194.65

\*Notes:

- Salt usage - Essex County provides 175 tons salt per year via shared service agreement which was stockpiled.
- Asphalt usage reduced due to paving of 2021 roads in 2022.



## **Water System Emergencies**

### **2022**

Three distribution system repairs:

- February 5, 2022 – 6” water main repair Victor Avenue
- March 16, 2022 – sprinkler main line repair Carteret Field House
- July 19, 2022 – replace 6” valve Herman Street & Bloomfield Avenue

Nine Emergency call outs:

- six locate & mark requests
- two leaks which were the homeowners responsibility
- In October, a 72” watermain break, owned by North Jersey Water District, failed affecting the Borough’s water supply,



### **2021**

Three water main repairs:

- May 17, 2021 – supply line disconnect & main repair
- June 1, 2021 – 6” water main repair
- November 23, 2021 – 6” water main repair

Ten Emergency call outs:

- three locate & mark requests
- six leaks, two of which were the Borough’s responsibility
- dirty water call Herman Street

## **Sanitary Sewer Emergencies**

**2022**

Three emergency call outs:

- homeowner laterals
- blocked lateral at library

**2021**

Ten emergency call outs:

- seven homeowner laterals
- three excessive surcharges



## **Tree Emergencies**

**2022**

Four emergency call outs:

- large limbs blocking roadway Ridgewood Avenue & Maolis Avenue
- large limb blocking High St & Belleville Avenue
- large limb blocking roadway Ridgewood Avenue & Stanford Place
- tree blocking driveway 29 Hawthorne Avenue

**2021**

Three emergency call outs:

- multiple trees & large limbs blocking roadway (July 6 thunderstorms)
- two trees blocking roadway

## **Additional Emergencies**

**2022**

- fuel dispenser nozzle frozen at the Municipal Complex
- two times for separate flooding of Borough roadways
- fuel dispenser in lockout mode at the Municipal Complex
- call box cover dislodged Ridgewood Avenue & Washington Street

## 2022 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Deputy Administrator & Director of Planning & Development Erik DeLine continued to work with the Mayor and Council along with the entire Borough staff in overseeing the budgeting and implementation of many of the Borough's capital projects.

### Glen Ridge Train Station

In 2022, Alden-Bailey completed work on the renovation of the trackside exterior of train station.



### **Glen Ridge Police Department Pistol Range Ventilation System**

In 2022, work was completed on the installation of a ventilation system in the pistol range to meet requirements for discharged ammunition. In addition to the ventilation system, epoxy flooring, new wall paint, sound paneling, and lighting was added to the range.



### **Police Department Front Door**

The main front door which was rusting out was replaced with a new door. As part of this process, plans were reviewed by the Glen Ridge Historic Preservation Commission to ensure consistency and acceptance of the proposed door.

### **2022 Road Paving**

Using NJDOT Municipal Aid funding from 2019 and 2020 and CDBG funds, the following contracts for roadway work were completed in 2022: Midland Avenue, Lincoln Avenue, Freeman Parkway, Woodland Avenue, Benson Street, Clinton Road, Wildwood Terrace, and Baldwin Street. Additionally, the stormwater system was expanded to run up Benson Street. and alleviate localized flooding. Two speed humps were installed on Midland Avenue between Carteret Street and East Orange as well.



In 2022, the Borough awarded the 2021 NJDOT Municipal Aid contract to American Asphalt and Trucking, LLC. This work will begin in Spring 2023. The roads to be paved are High Street, Hillside Avenue, Roswell Terrace, Inness Place, Oxford Street, Tuxedo Road, Ardsley Road, Mitchell Place, and Columbus Avenue. In addition, ADA ramps will be constructed on Michell, Ardsley and Columbus using CDBG funds, a speed hump on High Street, and new curbing along the length of Roswell Terrace.

## Safe Routes to School Grant

In 2022, the Borough of Glen Ridge was awarded \$380,000 for its Safe Routes to School grant application. This grant will fund curb extensions, pedestrian crossing flashing beacons, high visibility crosswalk striping, and green infrastructure improvements on Ridgewood Avenue at Clark Street, Woodland Avenue, and Darwin Place. These crossings will benefit middle school and high school students as well as train commuters. The Borough is currently interviewing NJDOT pre-qualified engineering firms through the state's Design Assistance Program. The selected consultant will develop plans and bid specifications for the project at no cost to the Borough.



# SafeRoutes





## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

The Building Department is responsible for ensuring that all construction documents are in compliance with New Jersey State Building Code and all applicable local codes. Additionally, the Building Department issues permits and has the duty to monitor all projects while under construction, perform final inspections, and issue Certificates of Occupancy.

In 2022, the number of permits decreased from 2021, while construction values and permit fees increased in 2022. In 2023, a fee will be applied to the Zoning Compliance self-certifications.

Number of Inspections	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Building	672	636	531	575	534
Plumbing	629	643	501	620	548
Electrical	720	719	574	704	606
Fire	121	142	132	154	120
Zoning Compliance	165	151	142*	0**	0***
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,307</b>	<b>2,291</b>	<b>1,764</b>	<b>2,053</b>	<b>1,808</b>

Construction Value	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	\$16,368.08	\$32,757,739	\$9,872,652	\$10,703,096	\$11,983,942

\* 26 in person inspections and 116 self-certifications.

\*\* 161 Self-Certification COs were issued. There were NO in person Zoning Compliance inspection in 2021.

\*\*\* 128 Self-Certification COs were issued. There were NO in person Zoning Compliance inspections in 2022.

Permit Fees Collected	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Building	\$137,962.00	\$194,049.00	\$156,715.00	\$137,380.00	\$162,614
Plumbing	\$58,166.00	\$83,130.00	\$56,186.00	\$64,465.00	\$55,178
Electrical	\$50,610.00	\$100,132.00	\$50,176.00	\$62,015.00	\$50,473
Fire	\$13,410.00	\$27,555.00	\$17,220.00	\$14,375.00	\$12,845
Elevator	\$3,805.00	\$1,268.00	\$0.00	\$574.00	\$113
Zoning Compliance	\$16,500.00	\$13,985.00	\$2,400.00	\$0.00	\$8,950
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$280,453.00</b>	<b>\$420,119.00</b>	<b>\$282,697.00</b>	<b>\$278,809.00</b>	<b>\$290,173.00</b>

## BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

### Historic Preservation Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission is charged with conserving, protecting, enhancing and perpetuating the landmarks, properties, and improvements within the Glen Ridge Historic District. For properties in the Historic District, all exterior changes which can be seen from any street are subject to review by the Historic Preservation Commission before a Building Permit for such change can be issued.



*In 2021, the HPC denied a demolition permit for 558 Ridgewood Ave, which was sold and rehabilitated with HPC approval in 2022.*

In 2022, the Historic Preservation Commission continued to engage the services of a Preservation Consultant to review applications, interface with the public and to consult with the Commissioners despite the

impact from COVID-19 on the ability to meet in person. The number of applications the Glen Ridge Historic Preservation Commission heard decreased from 2021. In 2022, the Commission heard 69 cases; 58 cases for rehabilitation were approved including the removal of two garages, five applications were denied, and four applications were withdrawn.

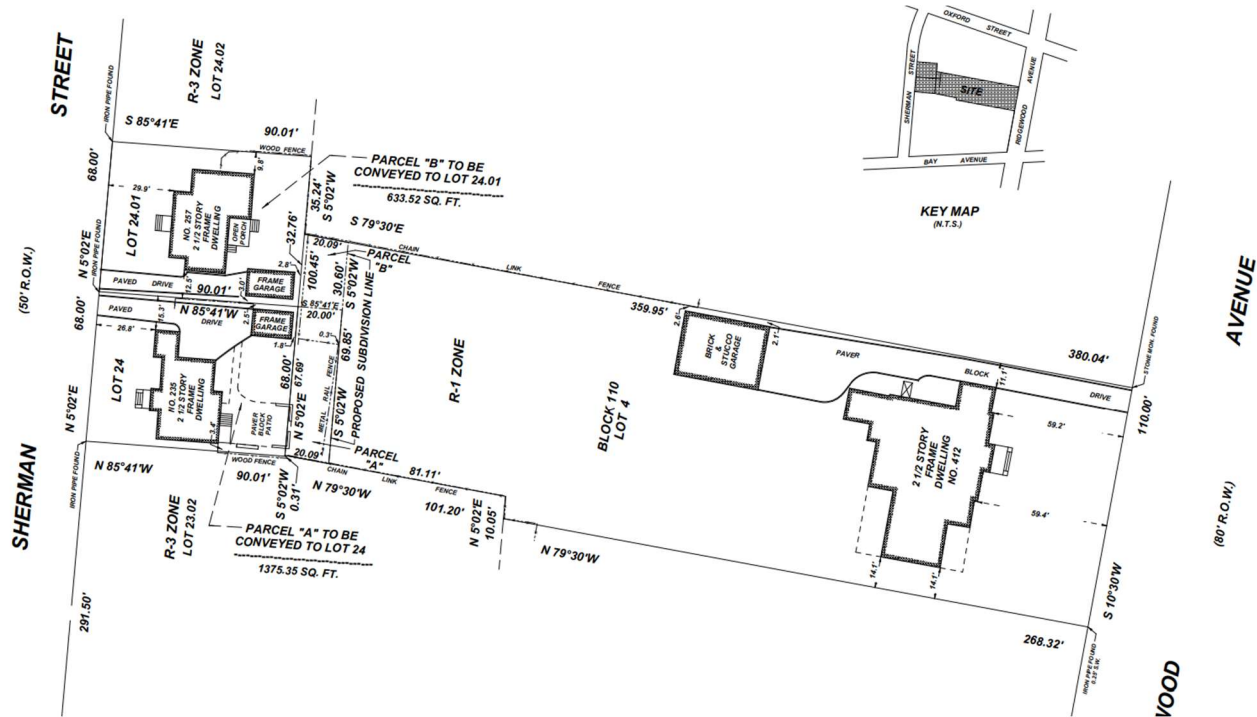
2022 has resulted in changes to the Commission membership. Greg Lane and Joaquin Stearns, local residents, joined the Board in January. In Koo Kim, a local resident, joined the Board in March. Lynn Vande Stouwe stepped down from the Commission in April and was replaced by Peter Korian, AIA in May. In Koo Kim left the Board in September. Dan McMahon, who served as Vice Chair for the past two years and served on the Board for over 25 years, stepped down in December.

Year	Number of Applications	Average / Month
2013	59	4.9
2014	64	5.3
2015	85	7
2016	101	8.5
2017	90	7.5
2018	64	5.8
2019	73	6.0
2020	61	5.1
2021	77	6.4
2022	69	5.8

## Planning Board

The Planning Board receives and hears applications for major and minor subdivisions, site plan approvals, conditional use applications, and bulk variances in conjunction with subdivision, site plan or conditional use applications, and appeals of Historic Preservation Commission decisions.

The Planning Board held only two meetings in 2022, hearing one case for a minor subdivision at 412 Ridgewood Ave, which was approved. The property subdivided were sections in the rear yard to 235 and 237 Sherman Ave. The subdivision eliminated a nonconforming condition (rear yard depth) for 235 Sherman Ave, and reduced the area of on conformance for 237 Sherman Ave.



## Board of Adjustment

In accordance with the State Municipal Land Use Law, the Borough of Glen Ridge has established a Board of Adjustment. Buildings and structures of various types are limited to specific districts and are regulated with respect to type, nature and extent of their use. The Zoning Board of Adjustment is empowered to grant exceptions to the zoning ordinances in cases where the literal and rigid interpretation and enforcement of the zoning laws would impose a hardship.

The Board of Adjustment met three times in 2022. Two applications were for residential bulk variances, and both were approved. One case for 38 Clinton Road was for a front yard setback variance for a reconstruction of their front porch, which was severely damaged from a Borough tree falling on it during 2020 Hurricane Isaias. The proposed front porch was an expansion of the existing porch, and was unanimously approved by the Board.



*Photos of 2020 Hurricane Isaias storm damage at 38 Clinton Rd, and current progress*

### **Shade Tree Commission**

The Shade Tree Commission is charged with developing a flexible strategic plan, practical goals and defined steps to ensure that Borough shade trees are planted, maintained and monitored over time. This commitment to healthy trees represents a long-term investment in the beauty, biodiversity and historic character of Glen Ridge.

Since 1900, the average annual temperature in NJ has increased 4 degrees F (as opposed to a global average of 2 degrees F), while precipitation has increased 7%, much of it coming in extreme weather events. But worst of all is the unpredictability and wild swings in the weather – not only year to year, but month to month. While other years have proved challenging, 2022 was arguably the most difficult year – weather-wise – the Commission has faced.

In 2022, a total of 130 trees were planted, as opposed to 187 trees in 2021. The difference was due largely to the county’s unexpected gift to the borough of 49 trees in November 2021.

However, the cost of the tree plantings in 2022 was \$9,706 less than in 2021. Largely, this was due to the county’s giving us a total of 99 trees in 2022, 49 in the spring and 50 in the fall. In addition, the DPW planted 77 trees in 2022, as opposed to 21 in 2021. Sadly, 18 of those planted in fall 2021 and spring



2022 did not survive due mainly to the extraordinary swings in the weather throughout the spring and summer.

The weather extremes not only affected our newly planted trees, but also accelerated the deaths of many of our declining mature trees – particularly our maples. Consequently, a total of 87 trees had to be removed: 31 by an outside contractor and 56 by the DPW. Over three-quarters of these were maples.



Increasingly an important outreach tool is the Commission’s e-newsletter, GReen Flash. The Commission’s goal is to create an appreciation of our trees and their ecological benefits, as well as to educate about the serious threats affecting them, such as the invasion of the spotted lanternfly.

The Shade Tree Commission is endeavoring to collect and act upon the best research available to make sure that the trees planted today survive to grace our streets 50 years hence.

A more detailed report from the Shade Tree Commission can be found at <https://www.glenridgenj.org/shadetree.htm>



### **Glen Ridge Environmental Advisory Committee**

The mission of the Glen Ridge Environmental Advisory Committee (GREAC) is to aid Glen Ridge’s efforts to build and maintain a stable, sustainable community that preserves and protects air, land, water, and working and living environments that our residents desire and expect, both now and for future generations. Recent accomplishments have included:

- Helping Glen Ridge achieve Sustainable NJ Silver Certification
- Supporting an award-winning multi-town Energy Aggregation collaborative that allowed the municipality to conduct a “bulk purchase” of greener, cleaner energy supply on behalf of its residents
- Maintaining a website that houses sustainability information ([www.goglenridgegreen.org](http://www.goglenridgegreen.org)) and producing a quarterly email newsletter in collaboration with the Glen Ridge Public Library
- Running the Borough’s popular annual EcoFair, in cooperation with the Arts Festival
- Designing and awarding an annual scholarship to graduating seniors who demonstrate environmental leadership

In 2022, the GREAC implemented a \$10,000 grant from Sustainable Jersey focused on waste reduction. Activities included:

- Design and distribution of an updated recycling flyer
- Creation of a new drop-off location for residential food scraps for off-site composting, which resulted in over 30,000 pounds of food scraps being diverted from the trash incinerator in Newark
- Educational webinars on composting, recycling, and information on how our garbage is disposed of
- Purchase of new recycling bins for our Borough parks
- Hosting our first pumpkin composting day after Halloween



## Glen Ridge is Green

RECYCLING GUIDE

### Single Stream Recycling



### What You Need To Know

- WEEKLY PICK UP, VARIES BY NEIGHBORHOOD
- PLACE AT CURB NIGHT BEFORE TO ENSURE COLLECTION
- CONTAINERS MUST BE FREE OF DEBRIS & FOOD CONTAMINATION

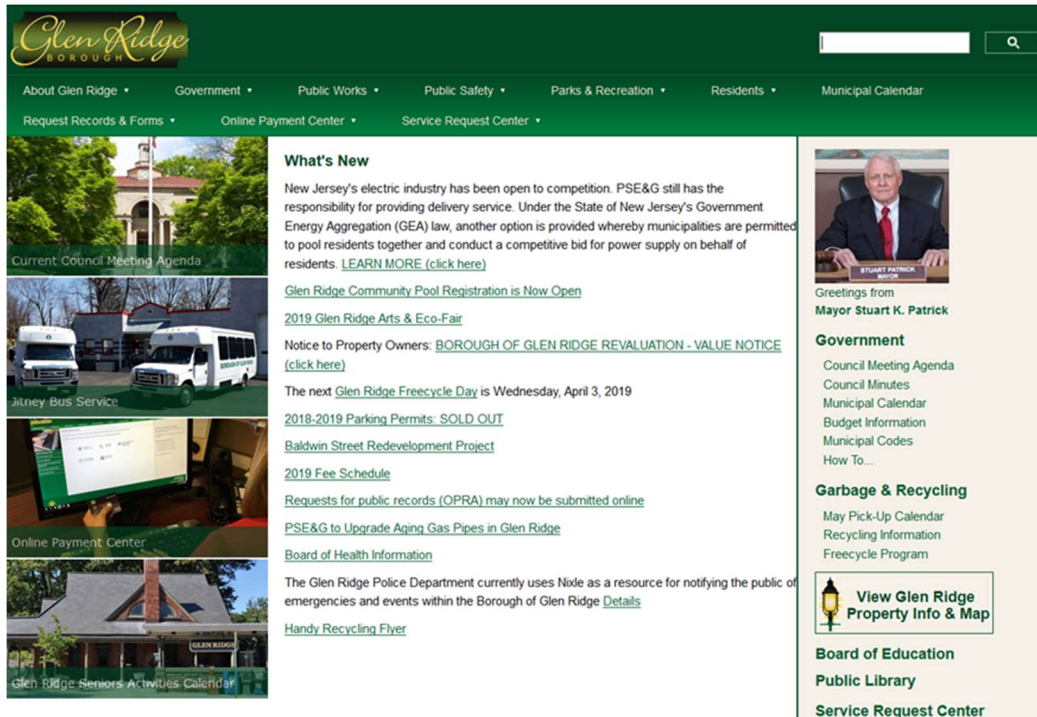


## PUBLIC OUTREACH

The use of social media and interacting with our constituents electronically continues to grow. While the dissemination of information is increasing using email broadcasting and social media, we continue to develop the website to improve the convenience for our residents.

### Website ([www.glenridgenj.org](http://www.glenridgenj.org))

We continue to monitor website usage and adjust to address the needs of visitors. Website usage continues to decrease as the use of social media platforms increases.



Year	Average Visits Per Month	Average Visits Per Day
2019	15,083	496
2020	17,567	578
2021	15,727	517
2022	10,377	345

Our top downloaded documents were:

- Vital Statistics Application Field Permit
- Water Quality Report
- Volunteer Application
- Garage Sale Application

Our top viewed pages were:

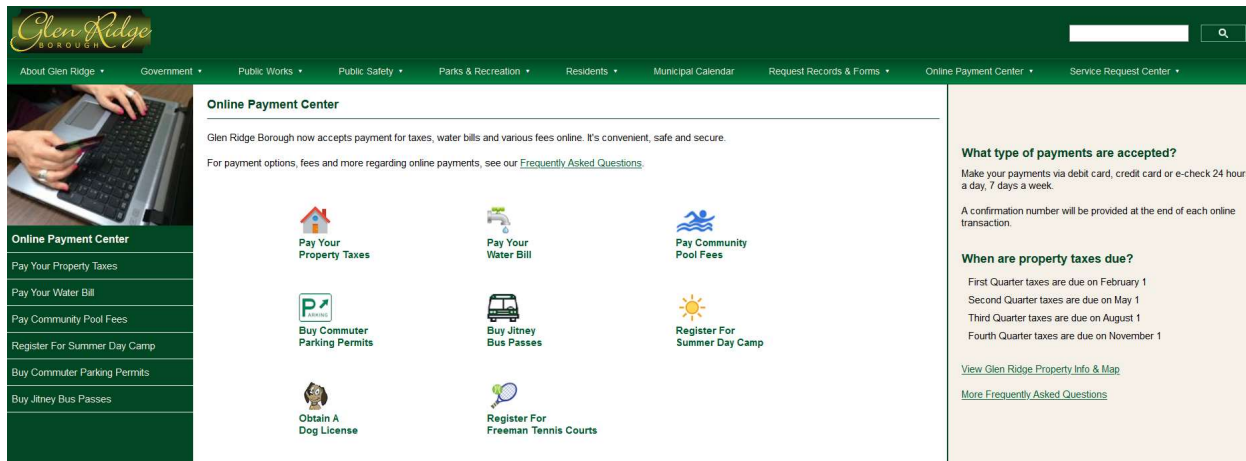
- Search our Help Desk
- Pool
- Online Payment Center

## Online Payment Center

The Online Payment Center on the Borough website allows residents to complete financial transactions via the web. This webpage provides access to several different portals in one convenient location.

Regarding the Glen Ridge Community Pool, 854 transactions out of a total of 1,040 were paid via credit card through Community Pass, a cloud-based recreation management software. In 2021, 459 transactions out of a total of 563 were paid via credit card through Community Pass.

For recreation, jitney passes, parking permits and miscellaneous payments, 1,154 transactions out of a total of 1,229 were paid via credit card through Community Pass. In 2021, 982 transactions out of a total of 1,121 were paid via credit card through Community Pass.



The screenshot shows the 'Online Payment Center' page of the Glen Ridge Borough website. The page features a green header with the borough logo and navigation links. A sidebar on the left lists various services. The main content area includes a welcome message, a link to frequently asked questions, and a grid of service icons. A right-hand panel provides details on accepted payment methods and property tax due dates.

**Online Payment Center**

Glen Ridge Borough now accepts payment for taxes, water bills and various fees online. It's convenient, safe and secure.

For payment options, fees and more regarding online payments, see our [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

- Pay Your Property Taxes
- Pay Your Water Bill
- Pay Community Pool Fees
- Buy Commuter Parking Permits
- Buy Jitney Bus Passes
- Register For Summer Day Camp
- Obtain A Dog License
- Register For Freeman Tennis Courts

**What type of payments are accepted?**  
Make your payments via debit card, credit card or e-check 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.  
A confirmation number will be provided at the end of each online transaction.

**When are property taxes due?**  
First Quarter taxes are due on February 1  
Second Quarter taxes are due on May 1  
Third Quarter taxes are due on August 1  
Fourth Quarter taxes are due on November 1

[View Glen Ridge Property Info & Map](#)  
[More Frequently Asked Questions](#)

## Service Request Center (SRC)

The Service Request Center provides us with another way to resolve issues and improve customer service. It also allows us to track the internal performance of our staff. The current system uses outdated technology and is not operating to the potential required. In 2023 a contract with GovPilot will be implemented to provide more efficient service to our residents.



# Email Broadcast ([announcement@glenridgenj.org](mailto:announcement@glenridgenj.org))

The screenshot displays the MailChimp interface for the domain announcement@glenridgenj.org. The main content area shows a list of completed campaigns. The left sidebar provides navigation options for viewing campaigns by status (All, Ongoing, Draft, Completed) and by type (Emails, Automations, Landing Pages, Ads, Postcards, Social Posts). A search bar and a 'Sort by' dropdown are also visible at the top of the campaign list.

Subject	Status	Opens	Clicks
Water System Distribution Improvement Fee Reminder Regular - General Mail List Sent Mon, February 3rd 7:00 AM to 1K recipients by Michael Zichelli	Sent	40.2%	0.0%
5th Annual Family Fun Night with Jay Jay the Bubble Guy Regular - General Mail List Sent Fri, January 31st 2:00 PM to 1K recipients by Michael Zichelli	Sent	34.3%	2.7%
Utility Bill & Direct Energy Questions? Regular - General Mail List Sent Thu, January 30th 1:23 PM to 1K recipients by Michael Zichelli	Sent	40.2%	0.0%
2020 Film Fund Grant Application (copy 01) Regular - General Mail List Sent Wed, January 29th 7:15 AM to 1K recipients by you	Sent	32.0%	0.9%
SAVE THE DATE: Retirement Party for Michael J. Rohal Regular - General Mail List Sent Tue, January 28th 3:23 PM to 1K recipients by	Sent	42.7%	0.0%

The General Mailing List currently has 2,922 subscribers, up from 2,010 in 2021. We continue to utilize Mail Chimp software to manage our email broadcasts.

In 2022, 269 email broadcasts were sent out to the public.

The average open rate of broadcast e-mails is a 60%.

Announcements with the highest open rate of the 269 total broadcasted emails during 2022 were:

Statement from Mayor Stuart K. Patrick	77.3%
Water System Repairs	73.3%
Santa Parade Route	71%
2/8/23 Library Board Meeting Location	68%
Planned Power Outage	67.5%

## Video Broadcasting & Social Media

Glen Ridge TV live streams the Borough's Council meetings on YouTube and Facebook while also broadcasting on Channel 36 on Comcast and Channel 38 on Verizon FIOS. The Glen Ridge TV webpage <http://www.glenridgenj.org/grtv.htm> allows all non-profit organizations to submit announcements and events online to be included on the GRTV bulletin board.

## Facebook (Borough of Glen Ridge, New Jersey)

We ended 2022 with 2,619 followers on our Facebook page. This is an increase from the 2480 followers in 2021.

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for the Borough of Glen Ridge, New Jersey. The page features a profile picture of the borough's seal and a cover photo of a building with a dome. A navigation menu on the left includes Home, About, Photos, Reviews, Videos, Posts, Community, Info and Ads, Jobs, and Manage Promotions. The main content area displays a post with a video thumbnail and a 'Boost a Post' button. An 'Audience' overlay is visible, showing the following data:

### Audience

#### Age and Gender

Age Group	Men (%)	Women (%)
18-24	~2%	~3%
25-34	~5%	~8%
35-44	~10%	~20%
45-54	~10%	~20%
55-64	~8%	~15%
65+	~5%	~10%

#### Location

Location	Count
Glen Ridge, NJ	1,139
Bloomfield, NJ	221
Montclair, NJ	140
New York, NY	64
West Orange, NJ	31
Verona, NJ	28
Nutley, NJ	22
Belleville, NJ	20
West Caldwell, NJ	20
Clifton, NJ	19

## Twitter (@GlenRidgeNJ)

By the end of 2022, the Twitter feed had 647 followers, up from 603 followers last year.



## YouTube (Borough of Glen Ridge)

Glen Ridge TV now live streams on YouTube 24 hours a day. We continue uploading Council meeting videos to YouTube and link to them on both Facebook and Twitter. Our YouTube channel currently has 54 subscribers, increased from 45 subscribers in 2021.

