



Board of Chosen Freeholders

County of Hunterdon
71 Main Street, Building #1
PO Box 2900
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 1, 2017

Contact: J. Matthew Holt, Freeholder

mholt@co.hunterdon.nj.us

Five Years After Sandy Resiliency and Preparedness In Hunterdon County

Five years after super storm Sandy, Hunterdon County has implemented a resiliency plan that has put five permanent generators in place at key county structures, including the public shelter at the County's Route 12 complex, which serve to ensure power at the structures in the event of power failures, such as those experienced during the 2012 mega storm.

Freeholder Matt Holt, who was a member of the Board during the storm in 2012, stated, "Resiliency and preparedness in Hunterdon County are the cornerstones of lessons learned from superstorm Sandy."

"In October and November, 2012, throughout the state there were power failures over a long period that affected governments, homes and businesses. Following those experiences, the County moved from having a few mobile generators that serve county buildings to ensuring that permanent, modern generators are in place to keep the power flowing at key county structures. And the best news is that the cost of the generators is entirely funded through Homeland Security grants," Holt said.

In addition to the public shelter at the Route 12 complex, permanent generators have also been established at the Route 12 County Library, which can now serve as a public charging station, at County fuel stations, and at a county communication tower to ensure vital links for emergency responders.

Holt pointed out, "Keeping the Route 12 public shelter operational is a priority because it is designed to specifically assist residents with medical needs during a crisis."

The total \$694,847.96 cost of the resiliency projects was covered by a Homeland Security grant.

The County's Chief of Staff and Director of Public Safety, George F. Wagner, a veteran of the sixteen consecutive days on emergency duty during the 2012 storm, said, "Following the events of Sandy, the County conducted an after action incident review that led the organization to update the Emergency Operations Plan and to implement several preparedness initiatives,"



Board of Chosen Freeholders

County of Hunterdon
71 Main Street, Building #1
PO Box 2900
Flemington, NJ 08822-2900

MEDIA RELEASE

**Five Years After Sandy
Resiliency and Preparedness In Hunterdon County**

“The stationary generators are run with natural gas and several units have redundancy in order to maintain their operations during critical times. With updated software, our generators are able to send messages to key personnel during times of crisis; keeping personnel aware of what is happening and able to take action,” Wagner added.

Freeholder Holt concluded, “Five years after Sandy, Hunterdon County is stronger and more prepared than ever to weather major incidents.”