



Board of Chosen Freeholders

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Hunterdon Gains \$1.8 million In State Bridge Grants

Hunterdon County has been notified that over \$1.8 million in bridge infrastructure grants has been approved for three Hunterdon County projects, through the state's Local Bridges Fund, Freeholder Zach Rich reported at the April 21st Freeholder Board meeting.

Rich, the Board's liaison for the Department of Engineering and Public Works, stated, "In the midst of all the negative reports we are seeing in the media about the economy, I have a positive report on state grants the County's Engineering team has secured for future bridge construction projects in the county. These are construction projects that we know will have an affirmative effect on the economy."

Rich reported the state Department of Transportation has approved grant applications for

\$850,000 for the replacement of Bridge ED-262, located on Dunkard Church Road, along the East Amwell and Delaware Township border,

\$450,000 for the rehabilitation of Bridge D-304A, the Historic Covered Bridge, on Rosemont-Ringoes Rd. in Delaware Township, and

\$566,000 for the replacement of bridge E-243 on Van Lies Road over Back Brook, in East Amwell.

"The bridge projects themselves protect the safety of county residents and all those using our roadways, while the grant funding helps to ultimately reduce the County capital improvement cost share of these projects, benefiting county taxpayers.

These types of infrastructure projects are a key to economic recovery. When these projects are initiated there is an economic multiplier effect. Construction workers will be put to work, companies that provide bridge construction will benefit, as will the local economy from the workers spending in the area and construction material purchases.

The County Engineering Department has been very successful over the years in gaining local bridges grant funding for Hunterdon County projects, as they have been again now with these grant approvals. They deserve congratulations for bringing home the bacon again," Rich concluded.