

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **WOODBINE MAKES APPLICATION TO NJDCA FOR FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000 FOR ACCESSIBLE-USE SIDEWALKS & CURBS**

**Woodbine**— Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that the Borough of Woodbine has made application to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Small Cities Public Facilities program for grant funding in the amount of \$400,000 for reconstructing and constructing sidewalks and curb ramps in the downtown area as a vehicle for providing safe, more-accessible use by pedestrians, especially those with disabilities.

With this grant, the Borough would reconstruct and construct sidewalks and curb ramps to ADA standards in the downtown - the most densely populated section of Woodbine where numerous facilities and places of public accommodation are located, such as the Community School and adjacent facilities and also the Woodbine Developmental Center. Notably, the school district provides no courtesy busing for students, so many students must walk or ride bicycles to school. As a result of the lack of these sidewalks and curb ramps, students and other pedestrians must often walk in the paved roadway which creates an unsafe situation.

Using a pedestrian planning study previously funded by DOT as a guide, Woodbine has taken a systematic approach to reconstructing/constructing sidewalks and curb ramps in the downtown area as a vehicle for providing safe, more-accessible use by pedestrians, especially those with disabilities. The Boro has applied for and received funding in the past from the NJDOT for such purposes, but gaps in accessibility still remain. This Small Cities application is another step in addressing this deficiency.

The improvements are important to the overall quality of life for Borough residents and visitors, as it will allow for greater access to public facilities and other places of public accommodation. Several Objectives in the State Plan are also addressed and supported by this proposed project, specifically Redevelopment and Public Facilities/Services.

“This project, if funded, would be a continuation of our existing infrastructure program that is currently underway at the present time,” noted Mayor Pikolycky.