

TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLETOWN

Township Hall, One Kings Highway
Middletown, NJ 07748-2594

ANTHONY S. PERRY
Mayor

ANTHONY P. FIORE
Deputy Mayor

RICK W. HIBELL
Committee Member

KEVIN M SETTEMBRINO, AIA
Committee Member

PATRICIA A. SNELL
Committee Member

ANTHONY P. MERCANTANTE, P.P., AICP
Township Administrator

HEIDI R. BRUNT, CMR, RMC/ MMC
Township Clerk and Registrar



Organized December 14, 1667
"Pride in Middletown"

Tel: (732) 615-2000
Fax: (732) 957-9090

www.middletownnj.org

April 27, 2020

The Honorable Gurbir Grewal
Office of The Attorney General
RJ Hughes Justice Complex
25 Market Street, Box 080
Trenton, NJ 08625-0080

Attorney General Grewal,

On behalf of the residents of Middletown Township, I am writing in response to your directive to close the Henry Hudson Trail.

As the Mayor of Monmouth County's largest municipality as well as the municipality with the largest segment of the trail, I am requesting additional information into your decision to close this thoroughfare.

Middletown and Monmouth County are incredibly fortunate to have such a beautiful trail for our residents to enjoy as well as use for safe transit. Despite its name, the Henry Hudson Trail is used for more than just recreational activities – it is used as a safe route for residents to travel along New Jersey State Route 36. Many parts of the Trail provide the only sidewalks for people to safely walk to public transportation, grocery stores and local pharmacies.

If the Henry Hudson Trail continues to remain closed under your directive, the residents of Middletown and those who use it to commute to work and other activities will have no choice but to walk along a State Highway undoubtedly putting them in harm's way. Furthermore, I struggle to understand how marinas are classified as essential for recreational purposes but a multi-use trail along a State Highway remains closed.

The safety of my fellow residents is my top priority as Mayor; therefore, I respectfully request the immediate and full reversal of this directive.

I am happy to discuss this further with you and welcome you to visit the Henry Hudson Trail.

Sincerely,


Tony Perry
Mayor