



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2026

Presentation on Fishing Pier at next Crest Board of Commissioners Meeting

WILDWOOD CREST – The Borough of Wildwood Crest Board of Commissioners will host a presentation about the Wildwood Crest Fishing Pier project at its next meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 4, at 9:30 a.m. at Borough Hall.

Local resident Cal Schmoyer will highlight the history of the Fishing Pier, while the borough's engineer, DeBlasio and Associates, will speak about the Fishing Pier's engineering aspects and the borough's plans to improve and extend the structure.

The Wildwood Crest Fishing Pier is located at Heather Road beach. Originally built in 1919, the Fishing Pier was run by the Wildwood Crest Fishing Club, which was founded by Philip Baker, Wildwood Crest's first mayor. The pier was turned over to the Borough of Wildwood Crest in 2006. The borough made \$700,000 worth of upgrades -- \$400,000 of which were funded through a grant from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs -- and reopened the Fishing Pier to the public in 2008. Due to sand accumulation, however, the pier no longer reaches the ocean.

The Borough of Wildwood Crest recently announced a high-end \$7.37 million project to improve and extend the Fishing Pier more than 1,200 feet into the ocean. However, the project is expected to be scaled back due to cost and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection permitting. The new design will widen the structure to 12 feet in some areas and elevate it to accommodate the borough's dune system and emergency vehicles traveling on the beach. The project will also include new decking and railings, lighting, benches, water stations and signage, as well as a large area at its easternmost point to separate pedestrians from fishing activities.

The Cape May County Board of Commissioners recently approved \$2.5 million through its Open Space program to help fund the project. The borough has also secured a \$1.1 million grant from the New Jersey Boardwalk Preservation Fund and has applied for \$400,000 in additional funding through the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for a total of \$4 million in grant funding.

Construction is set to begin in 2027.

The public is encouraged to attend the meeting. For those who cannot attend, the meeting will be shown live on the Wildwood Crest Facebook page and on the Wildwood Crest YouTube channel.

For more information, contact the borough clerk's office at (609) 729-8040.