

# BLTA 2015 Survey - Top 6 Issue Results

270 Responders Total

IDENTIFIED ISSUE	RESPONSES /%	BLTA Actions	Borough Actions	Taxpayer Actions
Open Space	154/57.0%	Continue to monitor and report on Open Space initiatives	Open Space Committee	Contact Council when a project is proposed
School Taxes	142/52.6%	Continue flow of information to membership	Decide whether or not to participate in legal challenge to funding formula and/or Petition NJ Sec'y of Education	Contact Council re desire for action
Multi-Family Housing	108/40.0%	Present pro's/Con's to membership	Consider Planning/Zoning changes	Contact Planning commission and Council re desire for action
County Taxes	84/31.1%		none	Contact Freeholder's re desire for action
Beach Access Walkways/railings	13/4.4%	Bring to Borough's attention	Take action as needed	Contact Council re desire for action
Beach Repair /Cleanliness	13/4.4%	Bring to Borough's attention	Take action as needed	Contact Council re desire for action
All Other issues	59			

## **Borough Issues - General**

Law Enforcement

Water Rates are too high, Meters are needed.

Wise use of tax dollars for Roads, Good Water, Septic and street Drainage.

Long Term financial viability of the Fishing Industry.

Maintaining small town quality of life.

Lack of Water Meters. Pay for what you use.

Waterfront Construction.

Appearance of Town Gardens, ie Tennis Court entrance and front of Post Office.

Family recreation (Mini Golf)

Town budget

Unkempt properties, i.e. trash, excessive trash cans, overgrown vegetation.

Water tower contractors damaging my property. Remove the cell phone antennas.

Too many useless signs on Central Ave.

Keep Barnegat Light the same as now.

Local Taxes, Vacant and neglected Properties, Recent Vandalism.

Water Meters are needed. Current system is Unfair.

Metered water usage.

find ways to reduce property taxes.

Is there any interest in a Barnegat Light Swimming Pool?

Protect the character and atmosphere of Barnegat Light. Stop painting all of the roads, stop signs, speed signs, we get it already.....

Push the above issues with the Boro Council. File for "Port" status, there are Federal Grants available.

Advocate for removal of cell phone antennas on water tower.

Increase security of town marina by the Gazebo. Continue to be advocates for the residents.

There should be no parking on Central Ave. at all. It is a very dangerous street especially in the Summer.

Stop the building of ostentatious intrusions such as the one on E. 6th Street.

Have a Drop Box for out dated drugs/medications.

## **Borough - Multi-Family Housing Issues (108 respondents, of 270 total or 40%)**

Variances for Multiple Lots for single family units.

New Homes are too big for small lots. Zoning issue.

Not Duplexes, M-F-H- meaning 3 or more.

No Multi Family Housing and more open space.

Do Not Want Multi-Family Housing.

We would like to eliminate the possibility of future construction of Condo or MF Housing in the Borough.

## **Borough - Open Space Issues (154 respondents, of 270 total or 57%)**

Construction Projects. Enviromental Issues.

Open Space is very important

Open Space is a primary concern.

Work to maintain as much open Bay Front property as possible.

Buy up any available Open space, keep Barnegat Light special.

Try to keep development to a minimum.

Save the open space by the Bay. BL is a lovely place and needs to continue to be a quiet town with no Multi Family housing.

Take measures to keep housing density low, and maintain character of Borough.

## **Borough - Beach - Cleanliness - Repair**

Beach cleanliness - this is getting worse every year! Beaches should be raked monthly from June - Sept.

obstructed view of ocean from scrub pines.

Beach Cleanup.

condition of beach & dunes from storm damage if any.

Dirty beaches - should be raked at least once per summer. Dangerous debris is a safety and odor issue.

Beach restoration.

Condition of the Bay beach - needs new sand and a cleanup.

BL Borough maintenance of beach access walkways.

Better Beach Access.

Would like a Handicapped Beach Access on 19th Street

Would like to see the trash on the beach cleaned up more regularly. Possible beach rakings with a machine.

Have the Lifeguards stay on untill 6:00 pm

On 12th St the residents are not able to sufficiently fund making the walkway longer. The nails and splinters are very dangerous.

Rope Rails to help handicapped and elderly over dunes. Return Native plants as landscaping in peoples yards.

Have the Beach Cleaned and Raked once per week.

Keep boardwalks in repair. Wood boardwalks more slippery than regular walks. Extend the boardwalk length to the bottom of the slope.

Adding to Walkways to the Beach (need to go further up the Dune).

Improve Beach pathways.

Preservation of the Dunes. Roll up Mats on 30th street did not seem to work well. Too difficult for the elderly and those with small children.

Provide transportation to the Beach for people who can no longer walk there.

Rake the Beaches Twice a Year.

Will the "sand-buried" roll up walkways be retrieved? BLTA doing a nice job - thanks.

Encourage the Town to extend the Beach walkways further toward the ocean. Especially on 16th street.

## **Borough - Dog Rules - Beach Related**

The sole use of the ball field as a dog park makes it unusable by children

Residents not cleaning up after their dogs, especially on 16th & Bay.

Dogs should be allowed on the Beach till the end of April.

Dog Owners should buy a Dog Park Badge to use the facility. Similar to Beach Badges.

More enforcement of the dog and beach laws. Many dogs unleashed during the season in the morning and using the walkways as a curb.

Please address the Dogs on the Beach in September issue. Go back to Oct. 1st rule. We have a large Dog Park, people should use it.

## **BLTA Issues (107 responses)**

A little bit more information would be interesting.

Would like to know more of what is happening in BL.

not currently on a timely basis

Any topic that concerns Barnegat Light.

FEMA Guidelines -New Flood Maps-Flood Insurance info.

Town Events and News.

Continue to actively pursue a solution to the school tax disparity.

The Environment.

Keep Barnegat Light the same as now.

General Meetings.

Better Beach Access.

More Mailings. Would appreciate descriptions of and full reports of council meetings and more feedback on what is going on in Barnegat Light.

We really like the Web site. Keep up the good work.

Be proactive to reduce taxes.

Advocate protection of the Dunes and Bay.

Keep us updated (by e-mail) as to happenings in and around Barnegat Light.

Keep the same level of BLTA communications. Work to change the school taxes.

BLTA should report more frequently on Town Council meetings.

Just continue working to keep Barnegat Light the way that it is.

Provide updates on water quality. Beach erosion over the Winter. Continue involvement over Open Space.

Would like to see a General Meeting every month from May - September inclusive.

I find the BLTA very helpful and informative. The Website is always current. Keep up the good work.

Help keep our beautiful town quaint and Un-Jersey-Shore like.

Advocate and keep members informed of tax usage.

More get togethers.

I appreciate the work of the BLTA and how they keep an eye on School taxes.

Prohibit Beach Access from becoming General Access.

Would like to see more regular & routine reporting by the BLTA on topics of importance, like Council Meetings.

Special Meeting, once a year, to get to know my neighbors.

Send more Emails.

Use email more. Try to get Members to accept email only correspondence. Do not have email, send written correspondesnce.

Keep me informed of what is going on in Barnegat Light.

Weekend Meetings

Encourage the Town to extend the Beach walkways further toward the ocean. Especailly on 16th street.

Have weekend meetings.

More timely information.

Continue to protect the quality & integrity of the town.

Get together, like your meet and greet picnic.

Have an August Meeting and Speaker.

Just stay on current track of protecting our interests.

Try to keep property values from falling.

Would like BLTA reports on a more regular and timely basis. BLTA should report on Boro Council Meetings.

Provide spotlights on different depts of town government. Provide information on building regulations, flood insurance, CAFRA changes.

Provide more unbiased information on all issues that may impact homeowners in BL, and LBI in general

I love the open space preservation. I also strongly oppose Multi Family Housing and appreciate the advocacy of the BLTA.

Keep up the good work.

Information regarding the town would be most helpful.

Community Picnic/Meet & Greet

Please continue to look out for Taxpayers interests.

Offer a point of view of what is fair and not fair.

New regulations.

Perhaps some sort of fund raising.

Answer my e-mail.

Inform all residents about council support for and resident opposition to Multi-Family Housing.

Environmental initiatives, open space and runoff to the Bay.

E-mail the outcome of monthly Boro Council meetings.

We used to attend meetings, they were good gatherings, due to health issues we stopped, but will continue to attend this year.

Promote Barnegat Light events

BLTA is doing a good Job (27 such comments were recorded).

## **BLTA and the Borough have little or no control over these issues**

Real Estate Taxes went up over 10% from 2014 vs. 2015. Why?

Let's try to come up with an equitable solution to the school tax issue. The present formula is outrageous.

Continue to actively pursue a solution to the school tax disparity.

Flood elevation and insurance increases

Natural Gas on the Island and LED street lighting.

The Environment.

more influence on the care of peoples properties.

Summer residents pay too much for school taxes.

The closing of Gitmo, we are not involved in Foreign Policy.

## 2015 SURVEY RESPONSES

302 Survey Replies out of 387 Total Replies - 78.%

	<u>Respondents</u>	<u>% of Respondents</u>
<b>▪ Does BLTA provide you with enough timely information on the current topics of Barnegat Light?</b>		
Enough	242	90.3%
Too little	26	9.7%
	For 268 respondents	
Comments	5	
<b>▪ Did you know that Officers of the BLTA attend monthly Borough Council meetings?</b>		
Yes	182	63.4%
No	105	36.6%
	For 287 respondents	
<b>▪ What would you like to see more of?</b>		
Mailings	39	17.0%
Emails	160	69.6%
General Meetings	18	7.8%
I don't care	31	13.5%
	For 230 respondents	
<b>▪ Which topic(s) concerns you the most about Barnegat Light?</b>		
School Taxes	142	52.6%
Multi-Family Housing	108	40.0%
Open Space	154	57.0%
County Taxes	84	31.1%
Other	44	16.3%
	For 270 respondents	
<b>▪ What would you like to see BLTA do more of?</b>		
Responses	107	

Data as of: Jun 4, 2015