

## Demographic Information



Fort Lee is adjacent to New York City via the George Washington Bridge.

Land Area: 2.58 square miles

Population: 32,067

Housing Units:

Total: 16,847

Single-family dwellings: 2,387

Owner-occupied units: 8,904

Renter-occupied units: 6,332

Number of households: 15,236

Median rent: \$1,001

Median value single-family dwelling: \$283,000.00

Income:

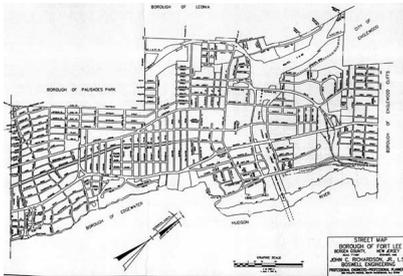
Median: \$46,395

Per capita: \$31,758

Number of retail stores: 269+  
Retail sales: \$259,961,000.00

### Map of Fort Lee

{phocamaps view=map|id=15}



### Directions to Fort Lee Borough Hall

*From East:* Take upper level of George Washington Bridge. Get off at Fort Lee exit (Center & Lemoine Avenue). At light, make a right. Proceed one block and make a right onto Lemoine Avenue. Go 2 lights and make a right onto Main Street. Borough Hall is at 309 Main Street, on your right hand side.

*From South and West:* Follow Route 80, Route 46, or Route 4 East to exit which says “Last Exit in NJ, Fort Lee, Palisade Interstate Parkway”. (From NJ Turnpike/95 North, take Exit 18W and follow signs for George Washington Bridge to last exit in NJ). Follow in an easterly direction, crossing the following streets: Fletcher, Linwood, Center. The next street is Lemoine Avenue - make a right onto Lemoine. Follow to the next light and intersection, which is Main Street. Make a right turn onto Main Street. Borough Hall is at 309 Main Street, on your right hand side.

*From North:* Take Palisades Interstate Parkway to Hudson Terrace South. Go under George Washington Bridge, cross Marginal Road, bear to the right fork (sign says "To Main Street"). Make a right turn onto Main Street. Borough Hall is at 309 Main Street, on your right hand side.

### Fort Lee Historical Highlights



The first people known to have lived in what is the present Borough of Fort Lee were the Lenni Lenape Indians. The first recorded reference to the area atop the Palisades which is now Fort Lee was by Captain Henry Hudson in 1609. In 1664, the British gained control of the Dutch lands in New Jersey and New York. In 1756, Stephen Bourdette purchased 400 acres of wooded land north of present-day Edgewater; present-day Fort Lee was part of his property. The stone house Mr. Bourdette built was the only one for nearly a mile around. This same house later became General George Washington's headquarters during the American Revolution.

Fort Lee found its place in American history during the 1776 British campaign to control New York City and the Hudson River. After the siege of Boston, Washington turned his attention to the defense of New York and the Hudson Valley. The British plan was to control the length of the Hudson with the overwhelming dominance of its Royal Navy. The plan, if successful, would split the colonies in half and hopefully bring an early end to the Revolution.

Washington felt it imperative, along with the construction of fortifications at New York City and Long Island, to build new fortifications along the Hudson River. In July of 1776, work was begun on the site which was originally named Fort Constitution and was eventually named for General Charles Lee, who aided in the defense of New York City. On the opposite New York shore, work had already begun on Fort Washington.

On July 12, Admiral Richard Howe sent two British naval vessels up the Hudson River. Cannon fire from Fort Washington had little effect on their passage. Washington then ordered that work on Fort Lee continue as quickly as possible. Using Major General Israel Putnam's suggestion, sunken ships were placed in the river channel. With these obstructions and artillery fire from the sister forts, it was felt that no British shipping could sail up the Hudson without sustaining severe losses.



### Birthplace of the Motion Picture Industry

Most people are familiar with the term “cliffhanger”, used to describe a movie filled with suspense, danger, and “seat-of-your pants” thrills. But did you know that the term originated out of the early serials filmed on the New Jersey Palisades in Fort Lee—the birthplace of the motion picture industry in America? For comprehensive information on the origin and growth of the film industry in Fort Lee, please visit the official web site of the Fort Lee Film Commission at [www.FortLeeFilm.org](http://www.FortLeeFilm.org)

### The George Washington Bridge



The George Washington Bridge crosses the Hudson River between Fort Lee and Upper Manhattan, constituting a part of Interstate Highway I-95. Originally designed by Swiss-American engineer Othmar H. Ammann, then-Chief Engineer for the Port Authority, ground was broken for the original six-lane bridge in October of 1927. The bridge was first opened to traffic on October 25, 1931; however, volume required that two additional lanes be created in 1946.

As the traffic volume continued to grow, on August 29, 1962, the Lower Level was opened. This made the George Washington Bridge one of the world’s busiest bridges and the world’s only 14-lane suspension bridge. In 1981, the American Society of Civil Engineers designated the GWB as a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.

#### Bridge Data:

Opened to traffic: October 25, 1931  
Lower Level opened: August 29, 1962  
Bus Station opened: January 17, 1963

Length: 4,760 feet or 1,451 meters (between anchorages)  
Length of center span: 3,500 feet or 1,067 meters  
Width: 119 feet or 36 meters  
Width of roadway: 90 feet or 27 meters  
Height restrictions, Lower Level: 13' 6"  
Height of tower above water: 604 feet  
Water clearance at mid-span: 212 feet or 65 meters

The Upper Level is suspended from four steel cables, each 36 inches in diameter and composed of 26,474 wires. The cables are carried by saddles on top of two 604-foot-high steel towers.

On the New Jersey side, the tower rises out of the river 76 feet from shore; on the New York side, the tower stands on land.

Number of lanes:  
Upper Level = 8 + 2 footways  
Lower Level = 6

Original cost: \$59,000,000

Traffic Volume - Eastbound toward NYC (1999)  
Typical weekday traffic: 151,685  
Total annual traffic: 53,417,768

## Fort Lee Public Schools

Fort Lee Board of Education  
2175 Lemoine Avenue  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024  
201-585-4612

Fort Lee School 1  
250 Hoym Street  
Fort Lee NJ 07024  
201-585-4620

Fort Lee School 2  
2047 Jones Road  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024  
201-585-4630

Fort Lee School 3  
2405 Second Street  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024  
201-585-4620

Fort Lee School 4  
1193 Anderson Avenue  
Fort Lee NJ 07024  
201-585-4650

Lewis F. Cole Middle School  
467 Stillwell Avenue  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024  
201-585-4660

Fort Lee High School  
3000 Lemoine Avenue  
Fort Lee NJ 07024  
201-585-4675

