

June 15, 2018

# TOWNSHIP OF UNION

IN THE COUNTY OF UNION

DEPARTMENT of ADMINISTRATION

1976 MORRIS AVENUE

UNION, NEW JERSEY 07083

908-851-8500

908-851-4660 FAX

[Rmanzella@uniontownship.com](mailto:Rmanzella@uniontownship.com)

**Ronald H. Manzella, Administrator**

RE: US Route 22 Bridge Replacement Minor Diversion  
Block 2914, Lot 1  
Township of Union, Union County, New Jersey  
Notice of Green Acres Public Hearing  
Certified Mail

Dear Property Owner:

This letter is to provide you with written notification that the Township of Union, located at 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey will hold a Public Hearing to obtain comments regarding its application to the NJDEP Green Acres Program for the proposed Minor Diversion of parkland owned by the Township of Union. This application is subject to NJDEP Commissioner and State House Commission approval and is available for review at the Union Township Clerks office at 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey and Union Township Public Library at 1980 Morris Avenue, Union New Jersey, and at the NJDEP Green Acres Program Offices at the below address.

The Public Hearing will be held on July 17, 2018 between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM at the Township of Union Municipal Building, Main Meeting Room at 1976 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey. All interested parties are invited to attend and participate in the public hearing. In addition to oral comments presented during the Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the offices listed below. All written comments must be received within two weeks following the Hearing by July 31, 2018.

The proposed parkland diversion would involve approximately 0.038 acres or 1,639 square feet of park property. The proposed Minor Diversion involves a proposed utility easement within Veterans Memorial Park. In accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.5, compensation for the diverted property and tree loss will involve the planting of 482 trees with a 3" caliber as well as monetary compensation for 114 trees which will be deposited within the Garden State Preservation Trust (GSPT). The compensation for the use of the park (proposed Minor Diversion) will result in a total land compensation of \$62,000. Based on the guidelines of the Green Acres Program, the \$62,000 will be used by the Township for operating, maintenance or capital expenses related to the park or to its recreation program.

RECEIVED  
6/14/18

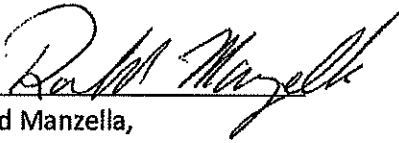
All written comments should be submitted to the Township of Union with copy to the NJDEP Green Acres Program at the following addresses:

Township of Union Administrator  
Township of Union, Department of Administration  
1976 Morris Avenue  
Union, New Jersey 07083

NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
Green Acres Program  
Bureau of Legal Service and Stewardship  
501 East State Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
PO Box 420  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0420  
Attention: Kevin Appelget, County Steward

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (908) 851-5455.

Very truly yours,



Ronald Manzella,  
Township Administrator

RM:pah

**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**Route 22 Chestnut Street Bridge Replacement (CR626)**  
**Public Information Center**  
**July 17, 2018, 5 – 8 pm**

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and cost, will hold a Public Information Center to discuss Deforestation / Reforestation for the Route 22 Chestnut Street Bridge Replacement Project located in the Township of Union, Union County. You are encouraged to actively participate by providing comments at the meeting, by mail, or by e-mail.

**The Meeting:**

The Public Information Center will be held on **Tuesday July 17, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Township of Union Municipal Building Committee Chambers at 1976 Morris Avenue, Township of Union, New Jersey.** You will have an opportunity to review deforestation / reforestation exhibits, ask questions, and discuss concerns with NJDOT staff members. If you are unable to attend but are interested in learning about the project's deforestation / reforestation needs, please contact us at the e-mail or phone number provided.

**The Proposed Project:**

The NJDOT is undertaking a project to reconstruct the Route 22 Chestnut Street Bridge to address the poor condition of the structure (No. 2003-166) and the safety of the roadway system within the immediate project area.

NJDOT proposes to make improvements to this section of Route 22 corridor and improve motorist safety by:

- replacing a two span bridge structures with a single span and eliminating the existing pier;
- eliminating the sidewalk overhangs and widening the bridge, within the State's right-of-way, the new bridge section provides a consistent 68' wide roadway section throughout this section of Route 22;
- resurfacing from before Rosemont Avenue to just past Fairway Drive North;
- replacing guiderail to current safety standards;
- improving Route 22 lighting and adding underdeck lighting;
- adding Digital Message Sign and CCTV Camera;
- adding Life Safety Standpipes facilities.

The project will be constructed over the course of 24 months in four construction stages utilizing temporary structures to maintain two lanes of traffic on Route 22 during construction.

**Proposed Reforestation Plan:**

The NJDOT is required by the New Jersey No Net Loss Reforestation Act to hold a public information center when one or more acres of deforestation occurs in an area owned or maintained by a state entity to present to the public the reforestation and reforestation plans for that project. Construction of this project will deforest approximately 1.30 total acres (265 trees) in Union Township according to the methodology outlined in the No Net Loss (NNL) Program Guidelines. Reforestation will total .38 of an acre (77 trees) in Union Township.

The law states that if tree planting adjacent to the deforested area is not possible, it shall be conducted in the following order: within the municipality in which the deforestation occurred, within five miles of the site of deforestation, or off-site. As none of these options are feasible, the Department will provide monetary compensation in the amount equal to the value of the number of trees required to the "Shade Tree and Community Forest Preservation License Plate Fund." The affected municipality will be advised by Community Forestry the amount of monies available for tree planting within their communities via a grant process. Plans showing the deforestation and reforestation for the project will be presented and opportunity for public comment on the plans will be provided.

**Estimated Project Schedule:**

Estimated Construction Start – January 2020

**For more information, please contact:**

Meredith Hammond, Regional Manager  
New Jersey Department of Transportation  
Office of Community Relations  
1035 Parkway Avenue P.O. Box 600  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0600  
Phone: 609.530.2110; Fax: 609.530.2010  
Meredith.hammond@dot.nj.gov

**Governor Phil Murray**



[www.njdot.nj.gov](http://www.njdot.nj.gov)

**Commissioner**  
**Dianne Gutierrez-Scaccetti**