

New Jersey Department of Transportation Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti www.njdot.nj.gov





# **Public Information Center**

Tuesday, March 5th, 2019, 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Northern Valley Greenway Technical Planning Assistance Study General Study Area: Northern Branch Railroad Corridor, Bergen County, NJ Municipalities of Tenafly, Cresskill, Demarest, Closter, Norwood, and Northvale

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), committed to developing transportation improvements that best balance transportation needs, the environment, community concerns and costs, will hold a Public Information Center (PIC) to provide local residents and businesses with information on the Northern Valley Greenway Technical Planning Assistance Study. 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 at: Northern Valley Regional High School at Demarest 150 Knickerbocker Road Demarest, NJ 07627 Tuesday, March 5th, 2019 From 5:00 - 8:00 PM

In the event of inclement weather, the make-up date is Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 PM at the same location.

Please come at a time that is convenient for you. You will have an opportunity to review exhibits of the draft study findings, ask questions and discuss any concerns with NJDOT representatives and the Planning Contractor, NV5. Property owners with rental units are advised that tenants are also invited and encouraged to participate.

#### PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Northern Valley Greenway is a local initiative to create a non-motorized transportation facility for walkers, joggers, and bicyclists in Bergen County's Northern Valley, a region of 15 municipalities between the Palisades and the Hackensack The greenway is envisioned to traverse six municipalities over a distance of 7.4 miles, converting Northern Branch Corridor railroad right-of-way (currently owned by CSX) into a non-motorized transportation facility with recreation opportunities.

The local initiative for the greenway builds on a Rotary Service project that had ascertained that it may be possible to convert the railroad right-of-way to trail use in the future through a railbanking agreement. A local citizens' committee was formed in 2016, and the mayors and councils of the six boroughs along the right-of-way passed a set of resolutions in 2017 to authorize the formation of the Northern Valley Greenway Committee. The Committee is tasked to plan and advance the greenway initiative, work with stakeholders and the pubic, and coordinate municipal, county, state, federal, and regional agency interest and activities related to the initiative.

#### TECHNICAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE STUDY

The Public Information Center will provide the findings of a planning-level study to develop an initial understanding of the feasibility of a non-motorized, multimodal transportation facility within the Northern Branch Corridor from Tenafly to Northvale. The study utilizes available Geographic Information Systems (GIS) data supplemented by field observation, stakeholder, and public input to document and assess environmental constraints, general opportunities for a greenway, and future considerations related to constructability and permitting. The study is being conducted through the NJDOT Office of Bicycle and Pedestrian Programs.

#### PROJECT SCHEDULE

Start of Study: July 2018 Estimated Completion of Study: March 2019

## For further information, please contact:

### Anthony Sytko, Regional Manager

New Jersey Department of Transportation Community & Constituent Relations PO Box 600. Trenton, NJ 08625-0600 Phone: 609-530-2110

E-mail: Anthony.Sytko@dot.nj.gov

Governor Phil Murphy Lt. Governor Sheila Oliver

Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti

