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:

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Commissioner Dianne Gutierrez-Scaccetti

Governor Phil Murray