



September 15, 2020 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM
Safe Routes to School - Shunpike Road Sidewalk
Shunpike Road (CR 646)
Pine Street to Falmouth Road
Chatham Township, Morris County

The Township of Chatham is committed to ensuring transportation safety improvements that best balance the environment, community concerns, and cost. The Township will hold a virtual **Public Information Center (PIC)** to inform local residents, officials, and the community about the **Preliminary Engineering Design of the Safe Routes to School - Shunpike Road Sidewalk project**. You are encouraged to participate by providing comments during the meeting, or in advance by mail, or e-mail.

THE MEETING

To provide the public with the opportunity to learn more about the project, while observing the current concerns that the Covid-19 pandemic poses for in-person events, the PIC meeting will be instead held virtually, between 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM on September 15th, 2020. To access the meeting during that time, please find the meeting under the "Meetings Calendar" section of the Township's website (www.chathamtownship-nj.gov) and click on the link to view or participate in the meeting. Property Owners will have the opportunity to review the exhibits, presented by the engineering firm responsible for the project's design. Following a short presentation, the design team will field questions or comments that have been typed into the meeting's "chat" function, located on the right side of the screen. Questions/comments will be addressed in the order of which they are received, beginning with any questions that were received in advance of the meeting, as emailed to Mr. John Ruschke (contact information provided below). Property owners of rental units are advised that tenants are also invited and encouraged to participate.

BACKGROUND

The proposed project is to construct a sidewalk approximately 2,600 linear feet (0.5 miles) along the southern side of Shunpike Road (CR 646) from Falmouth Road to Pine Street. Shunpike Road is a high speed/high volume roadway with a lack of existing shoulders and is not conducive for pedestrian traffic. The current network of sidewalks along the Shunpike Road corridor is plagued by gaps, obstructions, and conditions that are not conducive to a walkable community environment. The sidewalks being proposed would provide a sidewalk connection from Lenape Trail, Robin Hood Lane, and Pine Street to Washington Avenue School and Lafayette School, as well as other residential neighborhoods nearby, along the south side of Shunpike Road. The proposed sidewalk will also create a safe walkable route to Chatham Middle School, which helps avoid the unsafe crossing of Shunpike Road at unsignalized locations to access existing sidewalk on the north side.

THE PROJECT

The project will construct ADA compliant sidewalk along the south side of Shunpike Road (CR 646) between Pine Street and Falmouth Road, as well as the installation of granite curbing, to match the curb to the west of Pine Street. Minor driveway modifications and regrading of turf areas within the public right-of-way will be required. All impacted areas will be replaced once construction is complete in that area. Modifications to the stormwater runoff system and underground utilities will also be required.

Construction is anticipated to last one season. All work/work zones requiring any lane closures will be limited to one block stretches at a time, with access to all side streets maintained at all times. The contractor will be required to complete any work that they began that day, at days end, to avoid open excavations, and reopen the full roadway width. No work will be permitted during nighttime/overnight hours. During work shifts, one travel lane will be maintained along one-half of the roadway which other will be used as a two-way lane, in which traffic directors (flaggers) and local Police will direct alternating traffic as necessary.

During construction, driveway/pedestrian access will be maintained. Prior to sidewalk construction directly within your driveway limits, you will be contacted to coordinate possible access impacts during sidewalk/driveway pouring/grading. Steel plating will be placed over any newly constructed sidewalk during curing time, to allow for maintained vehicle access. A small number of driveways may have steep existing grades that constructing ADA compliant sidewalk through the driveway will have greater impact, the Township will contact you for further coordination. Owners of existing driveways that are not comprised of asphalt (ie. brick/granite pavers) within the state right of way, will be presented with replacement options to best match existing material.

ANTICIPATED PROJECT SCHEDULE

- Start Final Design: Fall 2020/Winter 2021
- Start Construction: Spring/Summer 2021
- End Construction: Fall 2021

For further information, please contact:

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