



Township of Branchburg

1077 U.S. HIGHWAY 202 NORTH, BRANCHBURG, NJ 08876-3936

Telephone: (908) 526-1300 142 Fax: (908) 526-2452

www.branchburg.nj.us

OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

North Branch River Road Project Update

Letter to Residents

April 15, 2022

Dear Resident,

I would like to start by thanking you for your patience with this project. The permit process was daunting and with the impacts of COVID complicating the process there seemed to be no end. I am happy to notify you we have obtained all the approvals and it is currently out to bid. The Township anticipates receiving the bids on May 17th, and to award the project on May 23rd. Once our contracts have been executed a notice to proceed will be issued, where the contractor will have 150 days to complete the project. You will receive a notice when the construction is to start.

The Township has posted the plans on the Township website if you are interested in reviewing the proposed improvements. We have also provided a FAQ sheet providing various information we typically receive from residents impacted by this type of construction; however you may have questions which are not on the sheet. If so, please call my office or email us.

This letter is being emailed to you as well as via regular mail. If you haven't received an email and would like to have any communication received via email, please forward your email to engineering@branchburg.nj.us. If we do not have your email address, you will continue to receive notification through your regular mail.

If you should have any questions, or medical needs during the construction phase, do not hesitate to contact me at the Engineering Department at (908)526-1300 ext. 142.

Sincerely,

Doug Ball, P.E.
Township Engineer

C:Branchburg Township Committee (email)
Gregory Bonin, Township Administrator (email)



Township of Branchburg

1077 U.S. HIGHWAY 202 NORTH, BRANCHBURG, NJ 08876-3936

Telephone: (908) 526-1300 142 Fax: (908) 526-2452

www.branchburg.nj.us

OFFICE OF THE TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Improvements to North Branch River Road Frequently Asked Questions

April 15, 2022

1. What is the project scope of work?

- The project includes various drainage improvements where new storm sewers and inlets are being installed throughout the project. These sewers are designed to drain low areas and collect runoff along the roadway and to discharge along the south side of the roadway. As you are very much aware, a significant length of the roadway is within the floodplain where many of these drains will be inundated, once the floodwaters subside, the sewers will drain the low points.
- There are two large culverts which are being replaced, located at house nos. 35 and 65. The culverts will be replaced with concrete box culverts with new concrete headwalls and wingwalls. Since a significant drop off will be created by these headwalls, a guiderail will be installed to protect the traffic. The guiderail will be epoxy coated (painted) a brown color similar to the new NJ Transit bridge on River Road.
- The road pavement surface will be reconstructed by having the existing roadway milled and excavated to receive a bituminous stabilized base course and a new surface course. The profile and cross slope of the roadway will be smoothed out which will improve the rideability. No curbing or sidewalks are being proposed.
- In order to do the work certain trees are required to be removed and you'll find them listed on the plans. Trees less than 6" inches in diameter and brush which is to be removed for the construction is not shown on the plans, please call us with any questions.
- Site restoration includes new driveway aprons and lawn restoration.

2. What are the project limits?

- The project will extend from Old York Road to approximately house no. 94.

3. What detours will be used for the construction, and will I have access to my property?

- The detour will utilize Route 202 and Old York Road.
- The work will require sections of the roadway to be closed to thru traffic. Specifically, the two large culverts will require road closures for a period of time and will be staggered to maintain access to your home.
- Storm sewer improvements will restrict access to your home during the construction, however access will be provided at the end of each day.
- Driveway apron construction will restrict access to home; however access will be provided at the close of each day.
- Road reconstruction will restrict access to your property; however, the contractor will be required to provide access to property at the close of each day.
- Notice of these closures will be provided.

4. Will the emergency service vehicles have access to my property?

- The 911 coordinator will be notified of the road closures and the impacts of these closures will be coordinated for any emergency responses along North Branch River Road.
- The Township and our Contractor is aware of concerns and will immediately provide the necessary access to the incident.

5. What if I have medical needs at my house or a standing doctor's office appointment?

- Please notify the Engineering Department of any needs in this regard and we will provide those accommodations.
- If you have any urgent appointments, please contact the Engineering Department 48-hours in advance of that appointment.

6. Will there be any interruption of public utilities such as gas and water?

- We anticipate gas and water service interruptions with the two large culvert improvements. Currently the gas main is strapped to the guiderail on the culvert at house no. 35, this gas main will be installed in the roadway under the new culvert. As part of this contract the contractor is to locate all the existing utilities in proximity to the culverts and then we will be certain of which ones needs to be relocated. We will notify you of any interruptions.
- Generally, any interruption of service will be restored by the end of each day. Coordination of the affected homes will be made via the respective utility company.
- In regards to the storm sewer work, there are many utility service crossings which the contractor will have to physically locate during the construction the sewers. Occasionally the utilities are not marked accurately, or the contractor makes an error, these cases are unfortunate but may happen.
- The storm sewer work may impact your gas or water service based on the grades of the sewer. Prior to construction we will have a meeting with the utility companies to coordinate those impacts and necessary work. The utility company, contractor and/or Township will notify you of any impacts, unfortunately these at time are unanticipated and may interrupt service to your home.

7. Are there any sanitary sewer improvements proposed?

- The large culvert located at house no. 65 will be near the existing sanitary sewer main. As a result, the contractor will be installing a new sanitary sewer main encased in concrete. This work will require the contractor to bypass pump to maintain flow. We will be requesting the residents to refrain generating any flows where it can be avoided.
- We do not anticipate the storm sewer installation impacting the sanitary service lateral to the individual homes.