Residents may be receiving letters from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) requesting access to their properties. The USACE is requesting these rights of entries for additional parcels extending upstream along the Green Brook River. This is part of their process to access properties at cross sections to see where the river is currently located. Following this step, they will do wetland delineations. The USACE plans to take soil samples in order to understand the soil composition so they may better determine what type of wall or levy may be built to assist in flood mitigation. It should be noted that survey work can occur 200 feet from the floodway; therefore, do not be surprised if they ask for access if you reside within this range of the river.

Following this, the USACE will come up with a preliminary layout for the overall design and implementation plan. Once this is completed, the USACE will begin to seek construction and access permits. There may be additional parcels where they will need permanent easements and/or land purchases for the maintenance and construction of the flood mitigation project. Your residence will be appropriately notified by these federal agencies. This overall project has been a long-time coming, but thankfully we are one big step closer to alleviating flooding in Dunellen and surrounding municipalities, due in thanks to Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman’s advocacy in federal funding. For more information on this project and updates, please visit the Green Brook Flood Commission website at: http://www.gbfcc.org/index.htm

Thank you for your time in this matter.

Yours very truly,

Jason F. Cilento, Mayor
Borough of Dunellen