



Municipality of Princeton

*Witherspoon Hall
400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08540-3496*

Office of the Engineer
*Telephone (609)921-7077
Facsimile (609) 688-2026*

DEANNA STOCKTON, P.E., C.M.E.
Municipal Engineer
dstockton@princetonnj.gov

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING NEW WITHERSPOON STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT October 12, 2019

Dear Witherspoon Street Property Owners and Businesses,

The Princeton Engineering and Planning Departments are jointly launching a master planning process to improve Witherspoon Street, from Nassau Street to Valley Road. The improvements will include, but not be limited to the following:

- Curb and sidewalk replacement. On the southern end of Witherspoon Street, this will extend from building frontage to building frontage.
- Crosswalk replacements.
- Traffic signal improvements at Paul Robeson Place / Wiggins Street / Witherspoon Street.
- Road repaving.
- Updated street lighting.
- Street tree removals and replacements.
- Storm and sanitary sewer improvements, as needed.
- Placemaking and streetscape improvements such as benches, bike racks, bike corrals, newspaper receptacles, and trash receptacles.
- Other utility company improvements. *Utility companies and property owners are advised to make necessary upgrades to water, electric, telecommunications, and natural gas systems now to avoid the 5-year moratorium that will be enacted upon completion of roadway paving. Utility company contacts are provided on page 4 of this letter.*

Traffic safety improvements including curb extensions, raised crosswalks and / or intersections, and rectangular rapid flashing beacons will also be included in the planning process for consideration.

The first phase of this project is to gather data on the street regarding the roadway features as well as the private basement areas that are accessed via the public sidewalks. To that end, Princeton has contracted with Dewberry Engineers Inc. to conduct this work. Dewberry has subcontracted with SoftDig to assist with video inspection of the underground piping as well as basement surveys.

The general schedule for the master planning process, design and construction project is envisioned as follows:

- October 11 and 14, 2019 – Establish horizontal and elevation survey control.
- October 14 – 18, 2019 – Perform video inspection of underground piping systems. SoftDig will be completing a video inspection of existing storm sewer piping. While this work is

underway some metered parking spaces that are adjacent to storm sewer inlets will be bagged and parking (including stopping and standing) will be prohibited.

- October 21 – November 1, 2019 – Conduct a survey of building basements that abut the public sidewalk along Witherspoon Street between Nassau Street and Green Street. More details are provided on page 3 of this letter.
- October 21 – November 8, 2019 – Perform land survey to create a base map of the roadway. Survey of all ground features such as utility boxes, sanitary and storm sewer manholes and inlets, utility poles, light poles, meter poles, signs, curb, sidewalk, steps, railings, and trees.
- January – March 2020 – Conduct public engagement events, surveys and other outreach to gather input regarding the needs and desires for Witherspoon Street.
- March – October 2020 – Prepare construction plans for Witherspoon Street (Nassau Street to Green Street). Princeton has a grant from the New Jersey Department of Transportation toward the construction costs, and this construction must be undertaken in Spring / Summer 2021.
- Spring – Autumn 2021 – Construction of improvements on Witherspoon Street (Nassau Street to Green Street).
- 2022 – 2025 – Design and construct improvements to the remainder of Witherspoon Street, as priorities and budgets allow.

We look forward to engaging with business owners, property owners, residents and visitors in creating a vision for Witherspoon Street over the next year. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the survey activities in October and November 2019, the following staff members can assist you:

- Richard Decker, Inspector – rdecker@princetonnj.gov
- Tejal Patel, P.E., Assistant Municipal Engineer – tpatel@princetonnj.gov

Best regards,



Deanna Stockton, P.E., C.M.E.

Municipal Engineer

Cc:

Mayor and Council	HPC Chair
Administration	Shade Tree Committee Chair
Delores Williams, Clerk	Zoning Board Chair
Chief Nicholas Sutter, Princeton Police	SPRAB Chair
Michael La Place, Planning Director	Planning Board Chair
Ben Stentz, Recreation Director	Princeton Environmental Commission Chair
Robert Gregory, Emergency Operations Director	Princeton Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair
Dan Van Mater, Director, DPW	Public Transit Committee Chair
Chris Torres, Assistant Director, DPW	Princeton Merchants Association
Taylor Sapudar, Municipal Arborist	
Sgt. Thomas Murray III, Traffic Safety Bureau	
Tejal Patel, P.E., Assistant Municipal Engineer	
Ian Baker, EIT, Construction Engineer	
Rich Decker, Engineering Inspector	

Basement Surveys

SoftDig will be conducting basement surveys to determine where the front walls of the basements are relative to the public right of way. The basement survey will not be conducted on properties that do not abut the street sidewalk. **We hereby request access to your basements to conduct this survey between Monday, October 21, 2019 to Friday, November 1, 2019 between the hours of 7 am and 3 pm, Monday through Friday.** We have preliminarily identified that the properties listed below have basements that need to be surveyed; if your property does not have a basement, then an inspection is not needed.

Basement Properties to be surveyed:

- 102 Witherspoon St.
- 74 Witherspoon St.
- 72 Witherspoon St.
- 70 Witherspoon St.
- 66 Witherspoon St.
- 4 Hulfish St.
- 42 Witherspoon St.
- 38 Witherspoon St.
- 36 Witherspoon St.
- 34 Witherspoon St.
- 32 Witherspoon St.
- 28 Witherspoon St.
- 27 Witherspoon St.
- 22 Witherspoon St.
- 20 Witherspoon St.
- 18 Witherspoon St.
- 16 Witherspoon St.
- 14 1/2 Witherspoon St.
- 14 Witherspoon St.
- 90 Nassau St.
- 92 Nassau St.
- 11 Witherspoon St.
- 17 Witherspoon St.
- 23 Witherspoon St.
- 25 Witherspoon St.
- 27 Witherspoon St.
- 33 Witherspoon St.
- 39 Witherspoon St.
- 43 Witherspoon St.
- 57 Witherspoon St.
- 65 Witherspoon St.

The basement survey includes the following tasks:

1. SoftDig employee(s), with a visible ID, will visit the building and request permission to enter the basement for the survey.
2. Upon receiving permission to access the basement, SoftDig employee(s) will enter and/or inspect the interior of the basement/vault to determine the existence and vertical and horizontal limits of cellar/basements/vault. In order to complete this inspection, we request that you clear a small area on the wall which is abutting the sidewalk (far wall on the street).
3. SoftDig employee(s) will record data on a spreadsheet, take pictures of the basement wall on the street side, and GPS survey elevations/horizontal alignment of basement/vault configuration at the intersection of the ceiling and basement/vault wall.
4. If not granted access to residence/business, SoftDig will note same.

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

Liz Lempert, Mayor llempert@princetonnj.gov, 609-924-5176

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Access Princeton (609) 924-4141, accessprinceton@princetonnj.gov
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Princeton Engineering Department (609) 921-7077
Deanna Stockton, P.E., C.M.E., Municipal Engineer dstockton@princetonnj.gov
Tejal Patel, PE, CME, LEED AP, Assistant Municipal Engineer tpatel@princetonnj.gov, x 1229
Rich Decker, Construction Inspector rdecker@princetonnj.gov, x 1223

Princeton Planning Department (609) 924-5366
Michael La Place, Planning Director mlaplace@princetonnj.gov, x 1251

Princeton Police Department (609) 921-2100
Emergency 911
Lt. Geoff Maurer, Traffic Safety Bureau gmaurer@princetonnj.gov, x 1887
Sgt. Thomas Murray III, Traffic Safety Officer tmurray@princetonnj.gov, x 1879

Princeton Public Works (609) 688-2566
Taylor Sapudar, Municipal Arborist tsapudar@princetonnj.gov, x 7666

New Jersey American Water Company (800) 272-1325
Public Service Electric and Gas (800) 436-7734
Verizon (Telephone) (800) 837-4966
Comcast Cable (800) 266-2278