



Mayor and Council

400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, NJ 08540

Meeting: 10/11/21 07:00 PM
Department: Engineering

RESOLUTION 21-318

Resolution in Support of the New Jersey Department of Transportation's Modified Preliminary Preferred Alternative to Improve Pedestrian Safety at the Nassau Street (New Jersey State Highway 27) / Witherspoon Street Intersection by Replacing the Traffic Signal Equipment, Implementing an Exclusive Pedestrian Signal Phase, and Installing Curb Extensions

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) has identified that Nassau Street (New Jersey State Highway 27) at Witherspoon Street is severely congested and experiences high pedestrian volumes which result in conflicts with vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the NJDOT Bureau of Bicycle Safety and Pedestrian Programs and has rated the intersection as a high priority segment for safety improvements; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation has informed the Municipality of Princeton of the creation of a limited scope concept development study entitled "Route 27, Witherspoon Street" to identify a Preliminary Preferred Alternative (PPA); and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Preferred Alternative (Exhibit A) includes the installation of curb extensions along the eastern (northbound) side and at the two western corners (southbound) side of the roadway, replacement of the traffic signal equipment in new locations, and installation of ADA-compliant curb ramps to improve pedestrian safety and decrease the pedestrian crossing distance in the roadway; and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Preferred Alternative incorporates an exclusive pedestrian signal timing phase to facilitate pedestrian crossing in all directions while vehicles are stopped on all approaches; and

WHEREAS, the Preliminary Preferred Alternative incorporates the Municipality of Princeton's one-way operation of Witherspoon Street from Nassau Street heading north (west

according to NJDOT orientation); and

WHEREAS, on March 22, 2021 Princeton Council approved Resolution 21-109 in support of NJDOT's PPA; and

WHEREAS, NJDOT modified the PPA in September 2021 to establish a twenty-two foot (22') wide Witherspoon leg instead of the approved twenty-five foot (25') wide leg; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have no objection with the modified Preliminary Preferred Alternative and support NJDOT's efforts to make pedestrian safety improvements in this highly pedestrianized intersection on Princeton's historic Main Street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Municipality of Princeton:

1. Support and endorse the NJDOT Preliminary Preferred Alternative (Exhibit A) for the "Route 27, Witherspoon Street" limited scope concept development study;
2. Request the installation of Opticom traffic signal preemption equipment for emergency services response; and
3. Request the installation of a raised crosswalk across the Witherspoon Street leg of the intersection to further enhance safety at this intersection.
4. Request the installation of removable / retractable bollards within the Nassau Street right of way south / east of the raised crosswalk, near the Nassau Street curb line, to facilitate future closures of Witherspoon Street for pedestrian activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk will provide signed and sealed Resolutions to the following staff at the New Jersey Department of Transportation and State Office of Historic Preservation:

Ms. Kimberley Nance
 New Jersey Department of Transportation Office of Community Relations
 P.O. Box 600
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Ms. Jaimini Patel
 New Jersey Department of Transportation
 Division of Project Management
 P.O. Box 600
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Ms. Lindsey Thivierge
 New Jersey Historic Preservation Office
 P.O. Box 420
 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420

Councilperson	Absent	Present	1 st	2 nd	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Disqualified
Mr. Cohen		X	X		X			
Ms. Fraga		X			X			
Ms. Niedergang		X			X			
Ms. Pirone Lambros	X							
Ms. Sacks		X			X			
Mr. Williamson		X		X	X			
Mayor Freda		X						

I, Delores A. Williams, Municipal Clerk of Princeton, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council of Princeton at a meeting held October 11, 2021.



Delores A. Williams, Municipal Clerk

ATTACHMENTS:

- Memo to Council 10-8-21 (DOCX)
- Presentation to Council October 11, 2021 (PDF)
- Exhibit A Rt 27 Witherspoon Construction Plan - Modified PPA (PDF)