

NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the County of Middlesex has filed a request with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program, proposing to divert 0.055 acres (2,405 square feet) of land for a permanent easement within the Middlesex Greenway, located within a portion of Block 815, Lot 1, in Edison Township, near U.S. Route 1 and Starkin Road. The major diversion is for a permanent easement for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of new underground natural gas pipeline. The pipeline easement will cross through approximately 120 linear feet of the Middlesex Greenway and will be buried approximately four feet below ground under an elevated pedestrian bridge on the Middlesex Greenway. The easement is proposed as part of Texas Eastern Transmission, LP's ("Texas Eastern") construction of approximately 1.55 miles of 20-inch diameter natural gas pipeline and related above ground facilities (the "Middlesex Extension Project"). The Middlesex Extension Project will provide necessary pipeline infrastructure to provide natural gas transportation to interconnect with existing systems for ultimate delivery to the Woodbridge Energy Center, an existing power plant providing electricity locally. For the permanent easement, Middlesex County has proposed the monetary compensation amount of \$200,000, which the County will use to acquire additional parkland or open space. Texas Eastern also has asked the County to grant a license for the temporary use of an additional 0.214 acres (9,312 square feet) adjacent to the pipeline easement during construction.

In accordance with New Jersey Governor Murphy's Public Health Emergency Executive Orders concerning the COVID-19 pandemic, the two (2) public hearings required by N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.11(e) and N.J.S.A 40A:12-13.5 to solicit public comment on the proposed major diversion of the Middlesex Greenway will be held remotely via the "Zoom" platform as follows:

Hearing 1: Wednesday, August 5, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Hearing 2: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

All interested parties are invited to attend and participate in the hearing via the following options:

- To join by Computer/Mobile Phone: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85054285942>; or
- To join by Telephone (Audio Only):
- Dial: (646) 558-8656; Meeting ID: 850 5428 5942
- For International Dial-In Numbers: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keFUjOm5Am> .

Once you log into the Zoom account, you will be asked to enter your name and an email address. We anticipate starting the public hearings promptly at the referenced times, and ask that you log in a few minutes earlier to allow for time to address any connection, installation or uploading delays. Any questions about joining the hearings may be directed to Cristina Stummer, Esq., attorney for Texas Eastern, Cristina.Stummer@saul.com, (609) 452-5023.

Information in support of this requested major diversion of the Middlesex Greenway is available for public inspection on the following Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation website pages: <http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/About/ParksRecreation/Pages/PR/PublicNotices.aspx> ; or <http://www.middlesexcountynj.gov/About/ParksRecreation/Pages/default.aspx> .

To access application materials from the Parks and Recreation homepage, scroll down to the section titled “Explore Park Facilities and Programs,” click “Upcoming Public Hearings,” and select “SHC 1200051/Texas Eastern/Middlesex Greenway.” Please contact Mr. Rick Lear, County Director of Parks and Recreation at (732) 745-3900 or Cristina Stummer, Esq., attorney for Texas Eastern, Cristina.Stummer@saul.com, (609) 452-5023, if you have any questions about accessing the information on the County website.

Public comment on this diversion request will be accepted during the hearings and until August 25, 2020. Written comments on the diversion request may be directed to Mr. Richard Lear, 6Director of Parks and Recreation (732) 745-3900 at: Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 661, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903-9968. Please send a copy of any comments submitted in connection with this request to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program Bureau of Legal Services and Stewardship, Melissa P. Abatemarco, Esq., (Melissa.Abatemarco@dep.nj.gov), Mail Code 501-01, 501 East State Street, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420.