

COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

TAKE NOTICE that the **County of Middlesex** has filed a request with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection proposing to divert **0.088 acres** of **Merrill Park located in Woodbridge Township, Middlesex County, Block 426, Lot 1.01**, in connection with **a project to upgrade an existing sanitary sewer that passes through the park to prevent sanitary sewer backups. The project will reroute the sewer away from a tributary of the South Branch of the Rahway River and away from a footbridge and the Fairview Avenue Bridge over this tributary to minimize impacts on the park's natural resources and infrastructure.** As compensation for the proposed diversion, the County of Middlesex proposes to **remit \$25,000 to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for deposit into the Garden State Preservation Trust Fund for the new subsurface easement.**

Pursuant to **N.J.A.C. 7:36-26.6(c)**, a hearing to obtain public comment on this request will be held at

Woodbridge Town Hall – 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ on Thursday, January 16, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. EST.

All information submitted by the **County of Middlesex** to the Department in support of this requested **diversion** of parkland is available for public inspection at **Woodbridge Town Hall – 1 Main Street, Woodbridge, NJ and the Department's Office of Transactions and Public Land Administration (see address below).**

Written comments on the **diversion** request may be directed to the **County of Middlesex, 75 Bayard Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, attn.: Gerard Acquaviva or via email to Gerard.Aquaviva@co.middlesex.nj.us**. Please send a copy of any comments submitted on this request to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Transactions and Land Administration, Public Land Compliance Section, Attn: Middlesex County Compliance Officer, 401 East State Street, 7th Floor, Mail Code 401-07, P.O. Box 420, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0420 or via email to: publiclandcompliance@dep.nj.gov.

Public comment on this **diversion** request will be accepted during the public hearing or until **Thursday, January 30, 2025.**