

Ronald G. Rios  
Freeholder Director

Kenneth Armwood  
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Claribel A. Azcona-Barber  
Charles Kenny  
Leslie Koppel  
Shanti Narra  
Charles E. Tomaro  
Freeholders



Charles Kenny  
Chairperson,  
Transportation

John A. Pulomena  
County Administrator

Solomon Caviness  
Department Head

Douglas J. Greenfeld, AICP/PP  
Director

Allan Williams  
Chairman, WRA

Suzan Colon  
Vice Chairwoman, WRA.

Doriann Kerber  
Secretary, WRA

Mirah Becker, PP, AICP  
Supervising Planner

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
Office of Planning  
Water Resources Association

**REVISED PACKET 5/8/20**

April 23, 2020

**Meeting Notice**  
**Meeting of the Middlesex County Water Resources Association**

A meeting of the Middlesex County Water Resources Association will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020. **In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq. the meeting will be held via audio conference only and will not be held in the Middlesex County Administration Building. The committee members and public may call the number below to conference into the meeting.**

<b>Telephone Number</b>	<b>1-732-515-5844</b>
<b>Conference ID #</b>	<b>104 656 412#</b>

**AGENDA**

**Action Items**

- I. Reading of Open Public Meeting Act
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Introductions of those present
- \* IV. Minutes of the Meetings of March 9, 2020
- \* V. Annual Meeting Activities
  - Adoption of 2020/2021 Meeting Calendar



**Action Items**

- \* VI. Review of Proposed WQMP Amendment Application:  
Bridgepoint South Plainfield, LLC -- Block 284, Lot 18 – South Plainfield
  
- \* VII. Review of Proposed WQMP Amendment Application:  
SUEZ Water Princeton Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant – Block 1801, Lot 117 -- Plainsboro
  
- VIII. Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership (LBWP) (Alan Godber)
  
- IX. Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP) (Heather Fenyk)
  
- X. Manalapan Brook Watershed Protection and Restoration Plan (Freehold Soil Conservation District) (Michael Hill/Tim Thomas)
  
- XI. Middlesex County Flood Control Commissions (George Ververides)
  - Green Brook Flood Control Commission
  - South Central Flood Control Commission
  
- XII. NJ Water Supply Authority (NJWSA) Activities/Projects (Kyle Clonan)
  - Raritan Basin Watershed Plan/Raritan Basin Watershed Alliance
  - D & R Canal Tributary (Franklin) Project
  - Cedar Grove Brook (Franklin) Project
  
- XIII. Raritan Riverkeeper (Bill Schultz)
  
- XIV. Rutgers Cooperative Extension Activities (Michele Bakacs)
  
- XV. Status Update on the Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan & Amendments (Mirah Becker)
  
- XVI. Status Update on NJDEP NJ Resilient Program and CRS/MS4 Group (Nick Tufaro)
  
- XVII. Sustainable Raritan River Initiative (Sara Malone)
  
- XVIII. Correspondence
  
- XIV. Old Business
  - ANJEC Single-Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance
  
- XX. New Business
  
- XXI. Public Comment



**Action Items**

XXII. Next Meeting – September 8, 2020

XXIII. Adjournment

Enclosures: Minutes of March 9, 2020

2020/2021 Meeting Calendar

Staff Report WQMP Amendment: Bridgepoint South Plainfield, LLC

Staff Report WQMP Amendment: SUEZ Water at Princeton Meadows

Proposed WRA Resolutions: Bridgepoint South Plainfield, LLC & SUEZ Water at Princeton Meadows



**MINUTES  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION/WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING  
HELD AT THE  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS MEETING ROOM  
March 9, 2020  
1:30 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Williams at 1:40 p.m. Notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 and the NJ Water Quality Management Planning Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:15-9.3(b)7, have been complied with and are entered into the minutes of this meeting. A salute to the flag was observed prior to the start of today's meeting.

**I. Roll Call**

Attendance was as follows:

William Robins	Borough of Dunellen	Not present
Theodore Chase, Jr.	Township of Franklin	Not present
Freeholder Charles Kenny	Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders	Not present
Alan Godber	Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership, Inc.	Not present
Sewell Peckham	Borough of Helmetta	Not present
Dawn Mc Donald	Borough of Spotswood	Not present
Margaret Drozd		Not present
Michael Hill	Freehold Soil Conservation District	Not present
Tim Thomas		Present
Theodore Gassman	Middlesex Water Company	Present
Donald Newton	Borough of Sayreville	Not present
Gail Lalla	Middlesex County Planning Board	Not present
Siegfred Hubak	Township of Woodbridge	Not present
Alice Tempel	Borough of South Plainfield	Present
Brian Racin	Borough of South River	Not present
Bryan Bidlack	Township of South Brunswick	Not present
Leigh Jones	Township of East Brunswick Water and Sewage	Not present
Ron Yake	Township of Plainsboro	Present
Robert Noel	Monroe Township	Present
Heather Fenyk	Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership	Not present
Doriann Kerber		Present
George Ververides	Middlesex County Office of Planning	Present
Mirah Becker		Present
Laurie Sobel		Not present
Nicholas Tufaro		Present
Lori Kahel		Present
Alex Zakrewsky		Not present
Sharon Martens	Middlesex Cty. Office of Public Health –	Not present
Gary Rojek	Environmental Division	Not present
Ronald Sendner	Middlesex County Office of Engineering	Not present
Edward Kuchie		Not present
Kyle Clonan	NJ Water Supply Authority	Present
Wale Adewunmi	Middlesex County Utilities Authority	Not present
Daria Ludas	Borough of Jamesburg	Not present

**I. Roll Call (continued)**

Allan Williams	Highland Park Environmental Commission	Present
Rick Lear	Middlesex County Office of Parks and Recreation	Not present
Michele Bakacs	Rutgers Cooperative Extension	Not present
Sara Malone	Rutgers Sustainable Raritan Initiative	Not present
Suzan Colon	Old Bridge Twp. Environmental and Open Space Committee	Not present
David Hall	Township of Old Bridge	Not present
Bill Schultz	Raritan Riverkeeper	Present
Brandon Goldberg	City of New Brunswick	Not present
Scott Tarnoski		Not present
Joseph Meyer	SUEZ Water	Not present
Maximo Vazquez	City of Perth Amboy	Not present
Maritza Rodriguez		Not present
Bryan Cardenas		Not present
Edward Segotta	Borough of Carteret	Not present
Greg Remaud	NY/NJ Baykeeper	Not present
Tom Boccino	Somerset County	Not present
Steve Gottlieb	East Brunswick Township	Not present
Sean Kaplan	Borough of Middlesex	Not present
John Kranz	Middlesex County Mosquito Extermination Com.	Not present
Denise Marabello	Township of Cranbury	Not present
Barbara Rogers		Present
Chris Gianotto	Township of North Brunswick	Not present
Thomas Vigna		Not present
Dini Checko	ANJEC	Present
James Fogerty	Middlesex County Office of Information Technology	Present

**I. Minutes of the Meeting of January 13, 2020**

The minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2020 were distributed prior to today’s meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Noel, seconded by Mr. Schultz and approved to adopt the minutes as distributed.

**II. Presentation – Dini Checko - “Discussion of Single-Use Plastic Pollution & Call for Action for Regional, Local and Statewide Policies**

Mr. Williams introduced Ms. Dini Checko who made a presentation on Single-Use Plastic Pollution & Call for Action for Regional, Local and Statewide Policies. Highlights of her presentation included an effort to stop plastic bag pollution in New Jersey, the problems with disposable bags, effectiveness of recycling efforts, bring you own bag policies and the ANJEC Model Single-Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance. (See attached handouts for more details)

Ms. Checko stated that currently there are 118 local ordinances managing single use plastic reduction. The only Middlesex County municipality that had adopted an ordinance was Highland Park, but she has been in conversation with Metuchen, Cranbury and a few other towns as well.

## **II. Presentation – Dini Checko - “Discussion of Single-Use Plastic Pollution & Call for Action for Regional, Local and Statewide Policies (continued)”**

ANJEC would definitely provide support and education to any town who would need assistance with moving this effort forward. They are also encouraging regional efforts since having different ordinances in each town can become confusing and frustrating for residents and business owners.

Two counties (Camden and Bergen) have adopted resolutions banning single use plastics in all county facilities and countywide events. Ms. Checko had also been in conversations with Somerset and Hunterdon counties. A proposed Resolution Authorizing a Ban on the Use of Single-Use Plastic Bags, Polystyrene Foam Food Service Ware, Straws, Utensils and Similar Single-Use Plastics in All Middlesex County-Owned or Leased Facilities and At All County Sponsored Events was distributed for the members’ review (attached). She asked that the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders consider adopting this resolution as well.

Ms. Checko added that the State Senate recently adopted SA-864 which bans the use of single use paper or plastic bags and polystyrene containers and plastic straws given upon request in stores over 2,500 square feet. The bill still needs Assembly and the Governor’s approval. This is the third time ANJEC is trying to get the law approved. Ms. Checko encouraged the members to reach out to Assemblyman Coughlin to express their support of this bill.

Local support and education is key to this effort. The average American uses 500 bags per year multiplied by the population of New Jersey amounts to four (4) billion bags used annually. Education of students, especially middle schoolers, must be encouraged who will in turn educate their parents.

Mr. Williams stated that due to Home Rule, the County could not ban the use of single use plastic bags throughout the County. However, he asked the members if they would be willing to recommend the proposed resolution to the Freeholders. The members agreed with the proposal to pursue the resolution with the Freeholders. Mr. Williams thanked Ms. Checko for her presentation.

## **III. Presentation by Doriann Kerber: Watershed Educational Opportunities and Insights**

Ms. Doriann Kerber spoke about some educational opportunities she participated in over the last few years. Ms. Kerber participated in the green infrastructure project with Dr. Obropta. This work led her to become a Green Infrastructure Champion. In order to maintain her Green Infrastructure Champion status, she was invited to become a member of the Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP) Board.

Ms. Kerber spoke about LRWP engagement activities such as the Sculpture Project, Project WADES, #lookfortheriver Project, and Stream keepers. More exciting events are planned such the installation of rain gardens. Please visit the LRWP website at: <http://lowerraritanwatershed.org> for more details on LRWP programs.

Ms. Becker added that Dr. Heather Fenyk will be the guest speaker at the May WRA Meeting where she will present the water quality sampling results for the Raritan.

**IV. Lawrence Brook Watershed Partnership (LBWP) (Alan Godber)**

No report.

**V. Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP)**

See above.

Mr. Tufaro invited everyone to the March 16, 2020 LRWP Meeting where a workshop on NJDEP's Connecting Habitat Across New Jersey Program will be held. The workshop will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon in the Middlesex County Freeholder Meeting Room.

**VI. Manalapan Brook Watershed Protection and Restoration Plan (Freehold Soil Conservation District)**

Mr. Thomas reported that FSCD met with NJDEP to give a Quarterly Progress Report. The next phase of programming has begun. There was some educational outreach done in Monroe. A project meeting was held to discuss programming for the next phase of the project. The team decided to design and contract for a treatment train at the Manalapan Lake Park Zoo. Please visit FSCD website at <https://freeholdsoil.org/conservation-projects/projects/> to view project videos.

**VII. Middlesex County Flood Control Commissions**

- **Green Brook Flood Control Commission (Middlesex County)**

Mr. Ververides stated that the current focus is in Middlesex Borough. There are some differences of opinion between the towns in the upper reaches in Union County. The maintenance agreement between Middlesex and Somerset Counties is working out well.

- **South Central Middlesex County Flood Control Commission**

No report.

**VIII. NJ Water Supply Activities/Projects (NJWSA)**

- **Raritan Basin Watershed Plan/Raritan Basin Watershed Alliance**
- **D & R Canal Tributary (Franklin) Project**
- **Cedar Grove Brook (Franklin) Project**

No report.

**IX. Raritan Riverkeeper**

Mr. Schultz spoke about his prediction for an early summer due to the mild winter.

**X. Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE)**

No report.

**XI. Sustainable Raritan River Initiative**

No report.

**XII. Middlesex County Wastewater Management Plan**

Ms. Becker provided a brief update on the Wastewater Management Plan. The plan is under review by NJDEP. Middlesex County staff met with representatives of Plainsboro Township on February 26 to review flow calculations and methodology. The developable layer is currently being reviewed to come to a consensus. NJDEP has assured county staff that this is the last obstacle to overcome before beginning the public review process.

**XII. Status Update on NJDEP NJ Resilient Program and CRS/MS4 Group**

Mr. Tufaro provided a brief update on the NJDEP NJ Resilient Program. NJDEP is hoping to have a consultant on board shortly.

**XIII. Status Update on WMP Amendment Applications**

Ms. Becker provided the following update on pending WMP Applications:

<b>Application</b>	<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Status</b>
Scotto (D'Anello)	South Brunswick	The public hearing will be held on March 18, 2020. Public comment period will end on April 2, 2020.
South Ridge Hills Section 2C	South Brunswick	Application was deemed incomplete. It is the subject of a builder's remedy lawsuit. Waiting for an endorsement resolution from South Brunswick which is expected to be received by March 31, 2020.
Cranbury Dey Road Residential Development	Cranbury	Approved by the Board of Chosen Freeholders at their March 5, 2020 meeting. Waiting for NJDEP approval.
Bridgepoint South Plainfield, LLC	South Plainfield	Staff will attend a pre-application meeting.
Northwood Manor	Old Bridge	Application is incomplete.
SUEZ Water	South Brunswick, Plainsboro, Cranbury	Application is incomplete.

**XIV. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence presented at today's meeting.

**XV. Old Business**

There was no Old Business discussed at today's meeting.

**XVI. New Business**

There was no New Business presented at today's meeting.

**XVII. Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment at today's meeting.

**XVIII. Next meeting, date, time and place**

The next WRA meeting will be held on May 11, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. in the Freeholder Meeting Room, County Administration Building.

**XIV. Adjournment**

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

lak

# Stop Plastic Bag Pollution in New Jersey

## *Switch to Reusable Bags!*



Over the last few decades, the issue of plastic bag pollution has become a global concern. Plastic bags have become ubiquitous, and are taking a toll on our environment and our economy. According to the EPA, between 500 billion and a trillion plastic bags are consumed worldwide each year, and each of those bags is used for an average of 12 minutes. NJ residents use 4.4 billion plastic bags each year. These bags, which never fully break down, end up in our landfills, parks, beaches, along roadways, parking lots and in our waterways. Disposable bags are harmful, wasteful, and unnecessary. People around the world are now choosing the sustainable alternative; reusable bags.

### **What Are the Problems With Disposable Bags?**

*Wasting Natural Resources* – Both plastic and paper bags require vast amounts of our natural resources to manufacture and to transport. In the US alone, it takes 12 million barrels of oil and 14 million trees to produce the plastic and paper bags we consume each year. In addition to the resources needed to produce disposable bags, they also need to be shipped around the world, further wasting fossil fuels and increasing greenhouse gas emissions.

*Polluting Waterways* – Globally, there is now more plastic than plankton in our oceans, and if we do nothing, there will be more plastic in our oceans than fish by 2050. Plastic pollution kills birds, whales, seals and turtles, and negatively impacts 267 species of marine and avian life. Plastic bags that enter our local waterways never fully break down, but rather “break up” into microplastics in our estuaries, rivers, and oceans. These tiny pieces of plastic attract toxins, including pesticides, PCBs, and flame retardants, which work their way up the food chain to our dinner plates. Microplastics are being found in our tap water, bottled water, fish, shellfish, sea salt, beer, soil, honey, and most recently, in our digestive systems.



*Clogging Storm Drains* – Disposable bags often end up as unsightly litter in our communities, and when it rains, this litter is swept towards storm drains blocking them and causing infrastructure damage and localized flooding. Clogged storm drains due to plastic bag pollution was found to be the main cause of devastating floods in Bangladesh, when 2/3 of the country was submerged in 1998.

*Costing Consumers and Taxpayers* – U.S. retailers spend approximately \$4 billion annually to purchase disposable bags, which is being passed on to the consumer in the form of higher prices. Municipalities are also spending millions of dollars to clean up and dispose of plastic bags. Plastic bags not sent to landfills are often put in recycling bins, where they clog recycling machines and cost recyclers time and money to remove. Ocean County Recycling Center identified the cost of cleaning screens contaminated by plastic bags in excess of \$155,000 and loss of production cost of \$1 million annually (2016).

### Recycling Efforts Alone are Not Effective

Only 5-10% of plastic bags are recycled in the US. In New York, which has had a plastic bag recycling law since 2009, recycling rates have not significantly improved. The solution to the plastic bag problem is not recycling, it's reduction.

### Bring Your Own Bag (BYOBag) Policies

In the last decade, municipalities and countries have begun passing legislation to ban or place a fee on disposable bags. From Bangladesh to Italy to China, to Rwanda to Hawaii, these laws have proven very effective at reducing disposable bag use while increasing the use of reusable bags. To date, 35 New Jersey municipalities have implemented bans and in some cases fees on single-use bags to encourage BYOBag behavior.

**Bag Fees:** Fees are a proven method of reducing single-use bag use.

- **Washington D.C.**'s 5 cent fee on bags not only reduced usage by as much as 60% but part of its revenue goes to help clean up the Anacostia River. A survey done of residents and businesses 3 years after the law was passed shows the majority of people are still bringing their own bag. There is decreased local litter and the legislation enjoys widespread support among residents of different demographics as well as the business community.
- **Suffolk County, NY** implemented a 5 cent fee on plastic and paper bags in January of 2018. Stores are reporting over 80% decreases in both plastic and paper bag use and residents report less litter in parking lots, on streets, and at local beaches.

**Bag Bans:** Bag bans also significantly reduce single-use bag use, but they have limited success without a fee.

- **Chicago** banned plastic bags but did not place a fee on paper, leading many stores to simply give away slightly thicker "reusable" plastic bags or paper bags for free. After finding their plastic bag ban actually increased waste and did not change public behavior, Chicago chose to switch from a ban to a 7 cent tax on disposable bags. Plastic bag bans tackle the worst part of the problem, but are not effective without a fee on paper.

**A Ban/Fee Hybrid is the Most Effective BYOBag Bill:** With municipalities in California reporting over 90% reductions in single-use bag use, we need to move forward with this type of bag reduction law in New Jersey. By getting rid of the polluting single-use plastic/paper bags entirely and incentivizing reusable bags with a small fee, municipalities across the country have seen large-scale consumer behavior change!

### Case Study: California Ban on Plastic, Small Fee on Paper

- **San Jose** - Litter was reduced by 89% in storm drains, 60% in creeks and rivers, and 59% in city streets and neighborhoods.
- **Los Angeles** - 95% overall decrease in single-use bag use after their legislation, including a 30% decrease in paper bag use. Similar results in San Francisco and San Jose found that consumers did not switch to paper, but switched to reusable bags.
- **San Francisco** - A study of the financial effects of this law predicted "slight positive impact on the local economy" from their BYOBag law. That same study predicts a \$3 million dollar savings for retailers.





## **ANJEC MODEL SINGLE-USE PLASTIC REDUCTION ORDINANCE**

**<https://anjec.org/action-alerts/>**

**AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "SINGLE-USE PLASTIC POLLUTION REDUCTION" TO REGULATE THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC/PAPER CARRY-OUT BAGS, POLYSTYRENE FOAM FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS AND PLASTIC STRAWS**

### **Definitions.**

The following definitions apply to this ORDINANCE:

**CARRYOUT BAG** - Means a bag that is provided by a store or food service business to a customer for the purpose of transporting groceries, prepared foods, or retail goods. "Carryout bag" shall not include: (1) a bag used solely to contain or wrap uncooked meat, fish, or poultry; (2) a bag used solely to package loose items such as fruits, vegetables, nuts, coffee, grains, baked goods, candy, greeting cards, flowers, or small hardware items; (3) a bag used solely to contain live animals, such as fish or insects sold in a pet store; (4) a bag used solely to contain food sliced or prepared to order, including soup or hot food; (5) a laundry, dry cleaning, or garment bag; (6) a bag provided by a pharmacy to carry prescription drugs; (7) a newspaper bag; and (8) any similar bag, as determined by the department pursuant to rule, regulation, or guidance.

**OPERATOR** — The person in control of, or having the responsibility for, the operation of a retail establishment, which may include, but is not limited to, the owner of the retail establishment.

**PERSON** — Means any individual, corporation, company, association, society, firm, partnership, joint stock company, or governmental entity.

**PLASTIC** - Means a synthetic material made from linking monomers through a chemical reaction to create an organic polymer chain that can be molded or extruded at high heat into various solid forms retaining their defined shapes during the life cycle and after disposal.

**POLYSTYRENE FOAM** – Means blown polystyrene and expanded and extruded foams that are thermoplastic petrochemical materials utilizing a styrene monomer and processed by a number of techniques, including, but not limited to, fusion of polymer spheres (expandable bead polystyrene), injection molding, foam molding, and extrusion-blow molding (extruded foam polystyrene).

**POLYSTYRENE FOAM FOOD SERVICE PRODUCT** – Means a product made, in whole or in part, of polystyrene foam that is used for selling or providing a food or beverage, and includes, but is not limited to, a food container, plate, hot or cold beverage cup, meat or vegetable tray, cutlery, or egg carton.

**PRODUCE BAG or PRODUCT BAG** — A very thin bag without handles used exclusively to carry produce, meats, or other food items to the point of sale inside a retail establishment or, for reasons of public health and safety, to prevent such food items from coming into direct contact with other purchased items.

**RECYCLABLE** — Material that can be sorted, cleansed, and reconstituted using available recycling collection programs for the purpose of reusing the altered, incinerated, converted, or otherwise thermally destroyed solid waste generated therefrom. The material must be recycled in a manner that is environmentally effective, economically feasible, and safe for employees as deemed feasible by the municipality.

**RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT** — Any store or commercial establishment that sells perishable or nonperishable goods, including, but not limited to, clothing, food, and personal items, directly to the customer and is located within or doing business within the geographical limits of the (municipality). Retail establishments include: a business establishment that generates a sales or use-tax; a drug store, pharmacy, supermarket, grocery store, convenience food store, liquor store, food mart, or other commercial entity engaged in the retail sale of a limited line of goods that include milk, bread, soda, and snack foods; a public eating establishment (i.e., a restaurant, take-out food establishment, or any other business that prepares and sells prepared food to be eaten on or off its premises); and a business establishment that sells clothing, hardware, or any other nonperishable goods.

**REUSABLE CARRYOUT BAG** – Means a carryout bag that: (1) is made of polypropylene, PET nonwoven fabric, nylon, cloth, or other machine washable fabric; (2) has stitched handles; and (3) is designed and manufactured for multiple reuse.

**SINGLE-USE PAPER CARRY-OUT BAG** – Means a carryout bag made of paper that is not a reusable carryout bag.

**SINGLE-USE PLASTIC CARRY-OUT BAG** — Means a carryout bag made of plastic that is not a reusable carryout bag.

**Single-use carry-out bags prohibited.**

A retail establishment that occupies at least 2500 square feet shall **NOT** provide to any customer a single-use plastic and single-use paper carry-out bag, as defined above. This prohibition applies to bags provided for the purpose of carrying goods away from the point of sale and does not apply to product bags or produce bags used to carry produce within the retail establishment to the point of sale. The prohibition applies to single-use plastic and single-use paper carry-out bags used for take-out deliveries from retail establishments within the municipality. The point of sale in such transactions is deemed to be at the retail establishment, regardless of where payment for the transaction physically occurs.

A retail establishment that occupies less than 2500 square feet shall NOT provide to any customer a single-use **plastic** carry-out bag, as defined above. A retail establishment **MAY** choose to charge a fee of at least \$0.10 for a single-use **paper** carryout bag.

**Availability and use of reusable carryout bags.**

A. All retail establishments shall make available to customers, for a fee, reusable carryout bags, as defined herein, for the purpose of carrying goods or other materials away from the point of sale, subject to the provisions of this chapter. The fee charged shall be reflected in the sales receipt.

B. Nothing in this chapter prohibits customers from using bags of any type that they choose to bring to retail establishments themselves, in lieu of using bags available for a fee from the retail establishment, or from carrying away goods that are not placed in a bag.

C. All monies collected by retail establishments under this chapter shall be retained by the store.

**Use of reusable carryout bags encouraged.**

A. A retail establishment may choose, in its discretion, to provide a credit to customers that choose to bring their own bags.

B. Each retail establishment shall be strongly encouraged to educate its staff to promote the use of reusable bags and to post signs encouraging customers to use reusable bags.

C. A retail establishment is strongly encouraged to educate on plastic bag and plastic film recycling and offer a take back program.

**Single-use polystyrene foam food service products prohibited.**

No food service business and retail establishment shall provide or sell any food on a single-use polystyrene foam food service product, as defined above. The following products shall be exempt:

(1) disposable, long-handled polystyrene foam soda spoons when required and used for thick drinks;

(2) portion cups of two ounces or less, if used for hot foods or foods requiring lids;

(3) meat and fish trays for raw or butchered meat, including poultry, or fish that is sold from a refrigerator or similar retail appliance.

**Single-use plastic straws only provided upon request.**

A food service business shall only provide a single-use plastic straw to a customer upon the request of the customer. In addition, a food service business shall maintain an adequate supply of single-use plastic straws to provide at the request of customers. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a store from selling packages of single-use plastic straws to customers, or from providing or selling a beverage pre-packaged by the manufacturer with a single-use plastic straw, including, but not limited to, a juice box.

## **Reporting.**

A. No later than (month, day, year), and annually thereafter, the (department) shall report to the governing body on the progress of single-use plastics reduction, which may include the following:

- (1) The amount of carry-out bags in the residential waste and recycling streams;
- (2) The amount of carry-out bags/polystyrene foam/straws identified as litter on streets, sidewalks and in parks;
- (3) The amount of carry-out bags/polystyrene foam/straws found in city storm drains;
- (4) The number of warning notices or notices of violation issued pursuant to this chapter;
- (5) Any estimated cost savings for the (municipality) attributable to single-use plastics reduction such as reduced contamination of the residential recycling stream, or reduction in flooding or combined sewer overflows;
- (6) Number of requests for exemptions.

## **Enforcement; violations and penalties.**

The department (E.g., Code Enforcement, Director of the Department of Environmental Services, Department of Health), or his/her designee, has the responsibility for enforcement of this chapter and may promulgate reasonable rules and regulations in order to enforce the provisions thereof, including, but not limited to, investigating violations and issuing fines.

B. Any retail establishment that violates or fails to comply with any of the requirements of this chapter after an initial written warning notice has been issued for that violation shall be liable for an infraction.

C. If a retail establishment has subsequent violations of this chapter after the issuance of an initial written warning notice of a violation, the following penalties will be imposed and shall be payable by the operator of the retail establishment:

- (1) A fine not exceeding \$100 for the first violation after the written warning notice is given;
- (2) A fine not exceeding \$200 for the second violation after the written warning notice is given; or

(3) A fine not exceeding \$500 for the third and any subsequent violations after the written warning notice is given.

D. A fine shall be imposed for each day a violation occurs or is allowed to continue.

E. Any appeal of a written warning notice or fine shall be conducted pursuant to standard municipal regulations and procedures concerning appeals already adopted by the (municipality).

**Authority to promulgate rules.**

The (department) shall have the authority to promulgate rules as necessary and appropriate for the implementation of this chapter.

**Severability.**

The provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof for any reason be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining sections, subsections, sentences, clauses and phrases of this Ordinance, but shall remain in effect; it being the legislative intent that this Ordinance shall stand notwithstanding the invalidity of any part.

**Effective Date.**

This Ordinance shall take effect six months after passage and publication as provided by law.

# Resolution

**Resolution Authorizing a Ban on the use of single-use plastic bags, polystyrene foam food service ware, straws, stirrers, utensils and similar single-use plastics in all Middlesex County-owned or leased facilities and at all county sponsored events, Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_**

WHEREAS, according to recent data supplied by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) as many as 1 trillion plastic bags are used worldwide each year, NJ residents uses 4.4 billion plastic bags annually, and it is estimated that less than 5% of those plastic bags are recycled; and

WHEREAS, in the United States alone, according to the EPA, over 380 billion plastic bags and wraps are used each year, approximately 40% of the bags used are single-use plastic bags, which require an estimated 12 million barrels of oil to create; and

WHEREAS, at present there is no widespread acceptance or use of biodegradable and environmentally safe plastic bags in the marketplace and it is unclear that such bags would prevent all of the negative impacts documented herein; and

WHEREAS, across the globe, people throw away roughly 4 million tons of trash every day, enough to fill 350,000 garbage trucks or 10 Empire State Buildings and approximately 12.8% of that waste is plastic. In 2016, NJ residents generated 1 million tons of plastic waste; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that global plastic production is projected to be 12 billion metric tons by 2050 and currently 79% accumulates in landfill, 12% incinerated and 9% is recycled. And by 2050, it is projected that there will be more plastic than fish by weight in our oceans; and

WHEREAS, studies have demonstrated that with exposure to sunlight and pounding waves, plastic breaks up into microplastics that measure 5 millimeters or less, which are digested by shrimp, plankton, fish, birds, turtles, and other sea animals; and

WHEREAS, polystyrene foam contains styrene, a known neurotoxin and probable carcinogen as defined by the World Health Organization, can leach from polystyrene foam disposable food service ware into food and drink, which potentially threatens human health; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2018 study, researchers from Rutgers University–New Brunswick found high levels of microplastic in the Raritan and Passaic rivers. They identified more than 300 organic chemical compounds associated with microplastic particles in the two rivers. Plastics and water in the Passaic River had the highest number of compounds (299), followed by the Raritan River (255) and Raritan and Newark bays (81); and

# Resolution

WHEREAS, plastics from generation to disposal is public health crisis and humans are exposed to a large variety of toxic chemicals and microplastics through inhalation, ingestion, and direct skin contact, all along the plastic lifecycle; and

WHEREAS, it is beyond dispute that the use of single-use plastic has a severe and negative environmental impact on the local and global environment as a result of the greenhouse gas emissions emitted to produce plastic, the land based and ocean-based pollution created, the hazards posed to wildlife, the blocking of storm drains by plastic, the hazards posed to sources of water for humans, and the negative impact on the ecosystem and food chain as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the County of Middlesex seeks, to the fullest extent of its jurisdiction and authority, to conserve resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, reduce waste and litter, and to protect the public health, welfare, and safety, which includes protection of the environment, waterways, and wildlife, in order to protect and increase the quality of life of the County's residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the County of Middlesex currently bears the cost associated with the negative effects of single-use plastic on the solid waste stream, drainage systems, litter and garbage nuisance, increased recycling costs and the negative consequences of the foregoing environmental damage; and

WHEREAS, based upon the foregoing, the County has concluded that residents and visitors should use reusable bags and that a prohibition on the distribution of single-use plastic carryout bags by the County is appropriate and will incentivize the use of reusable and recycled bags by County residents; and

WHEREAS, based upon the foregoing, the County has further concluded that it is unquestionably in the best interests of the health, safety, and welfare of the residents and visitors of the County to reduce the cost of waste disposal and to protect the environment, wildlife, and natural resources by reducing the distribution of single-use plastic carryout bags and incentivizing the use of reusable bags at businesses; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Middlesex, hereby authorizes banning that the distribution and use single-use plastic bags, polystyrene foam food service ware, straws, stirrers, utensils and similar single-use plastics is banned in all County-owned or leased facilities and at all County-sponsored events, effective\_\_\_\_\_.

2020/2021  
WRA  
MEETING SCHEDULE

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9/8/20

11/9/20

1/11/21

3/8/21

5/10/21

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## Staff Report

### Site Specific Sewer Service Area Amendment Application, Received 4-20-2020

Project Name: Bridgepoint Warehouse South Plainfield/602 New Market Avenue

Location: Block 284, Lot 18

South Plainfield, NJ

Existing Site Coverage (Developed Acreage/Undeveloped Acreage):	4.555 ac./16.146 ac.
Existing Structures (Total Square Ft. & Acreage of Footprint):	36,975 sf (0.849 ac.)
Proposed Site Coverage (Developed Acreage/Undeveloped Acreage):	10.077 ac./10.624 ac.
Proposed Structures (Total Square Ft. & Acreage of Footprint):	189,059 sf (4.340 ac.)

Project Description: Bridgepoint South Plainfield, LLC (Applicant) proposes to construct an approximate 189,059-square foot warehouse building at the above-referenced 21-acre site, situated along New Market Avenue, west of Lakeview Avenue and east of South Clinton, in the central portion of the Borough of South Plainfield, Middlesex County, New Jersey. Approximately 57,850-square feet of the proposed building – or 30 percent of the total site—extends beyond the sewer service area boundary of the Middlesex County Utilities Authority. Please see “602 New Market Site Specific Sewer Service Area Amendment” graphic for depiction of the proposed sewer service area. The analysis that follows is focused on the hatched portion of the site, since the majority of the property is presently located in the sewer service area. The project proposes to install two gravity sanitary sewer laterals that will connect to the 8-inch diameter municipal sanitary system that exists within New Market Avenue and along the entire frontage of the property.

Wastewater Capacity at MCUA: All wastewater proposed to be discharged to an existing sanitary sewer system that is owned and operated by the Borough of South Plainfield. All effluent is to be conveyed to the Middlesex County Utilities Authority via the Plainfield Area Regional Sewage Authority Interceptor system. The amount of wastewater generated by the project is 2,400 gallons per day. The Middlesex County Utility Authority confirmed that the plant has enough excess capacity to treat the wastewater generated from the warehouse project. See MCUA letter attached.

Stormwater: A stormwater retention basin will be provided that will attenuate stormwater runoff and provide a controlled release that is less than the pre-constructed conditions. It does not generate wastewater so is not part of the sewer service area.

Threatened and Endangered Species: A detailed Habitat Suitability Determination and Impact Assessment was undertaken by the consultants DuBois and Associates because suitable endangered or threatened wildlife habitat was presumed present by the NJDEP Landscape Maps of Habitat for Endangered, Threatened, and Other Priority Wildlife. If a site is underlain by a habitat patch of Rank 3, 4 or 5, it is considered suitable habitat for threatened and endangered species, until proven otherwise. Because the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Landscape Maps show

suitable habitat on the project site for bald eagle, loggerhead shrike, and wood turtle, a Habitat Suitability Determination and Impact Assessment was undertaken by the applicant to rebut this information from the Landscape Maps.

The consultant's analysis detail how the entire area of the site, inclusive of the proposed area for inclusion into the Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), has been historically disturbed and developed. The central and western sections of the site are to remain undeveloped. The project site is completely devoid of environmentally critical areas. Therefore, the project site is not viable for threatened and endangered species to live and thrive. NJDEP has accepted the findings in the Habitat Suitability Determination & Impact Assessment for the proposed warehouse project at 602 New Market Avenue in the Borough of South Plainfield, Middlesex County.

Wetlands and Flood Hazard Area: The portion of the site subject to the WQMP site specific amendment does not contain any environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands, wetland buffers, regulated waters, or riparian buffers. Wetland permits and a flood hazard area permit for the western and central portions of the property that are presently located outside of the proposed warehouse boundaries, will be obtained after the entire site is located in the sewer service area. These permits will facilitate the installation of a stormwater management basin. No construction will be allowed to occur on the project site until the appropriate land use permits are obtained from NJDEP.

Letter of Support: On February 19, 2020 the Mayor of South Plainfield, Matthew P. Anesh, wrote a letter of support for the property at 602 New Market Avenue to go into the sewer service area.

Present Status of Application: The application is administratively complete.

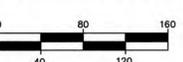
Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends that the WRA approve this project be placed in the sewer service area.

Written by Mirah Becker, AICP, PP, Supervising Planner, Office of Planning  
PP License Certification Number: 33L100569900



HORIZONTAL DATUM : NAD-83

GRAPHIC SCALE



REVISIONS

1) TOWNSHIP REVS	08/16/19
2) TOWNSHIP REVS	10/25/19

THIS DRAWING IS FOR PERMIT PURPOSES ONLY. NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION UNTIL THIS BOX HAS BEEN CHECKED AND DATED.

CHKD BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY REQUIRES NOTIFICATION BY EXCAVATORS, DESIGNERS, OR ANY PERSON PREPARING TO DISTURB THE EARTH'S SURFACE ANYWHERE IN THE STATE.



menlo engineering associates

Civil Engineering Consultants  
Landscape Architects  
Professional Planners

261 Cleveland Avenue  
Highland Park, NJ 08904

menloeng.com in f

732-846-8585 732-846-9439

Certificate of Authorization : 246A27951900

602 NEW MARKET AVENUE

BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
NEW JERSEY

BLOCK 284, LOT 18  
TAX MAP SHEET 27  
21.64 ACRES

OVERALL PLAN

DRAWN BY: \_\_\_\_\_ NF  
DESIGNED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ R,G  
APPROVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ CSO

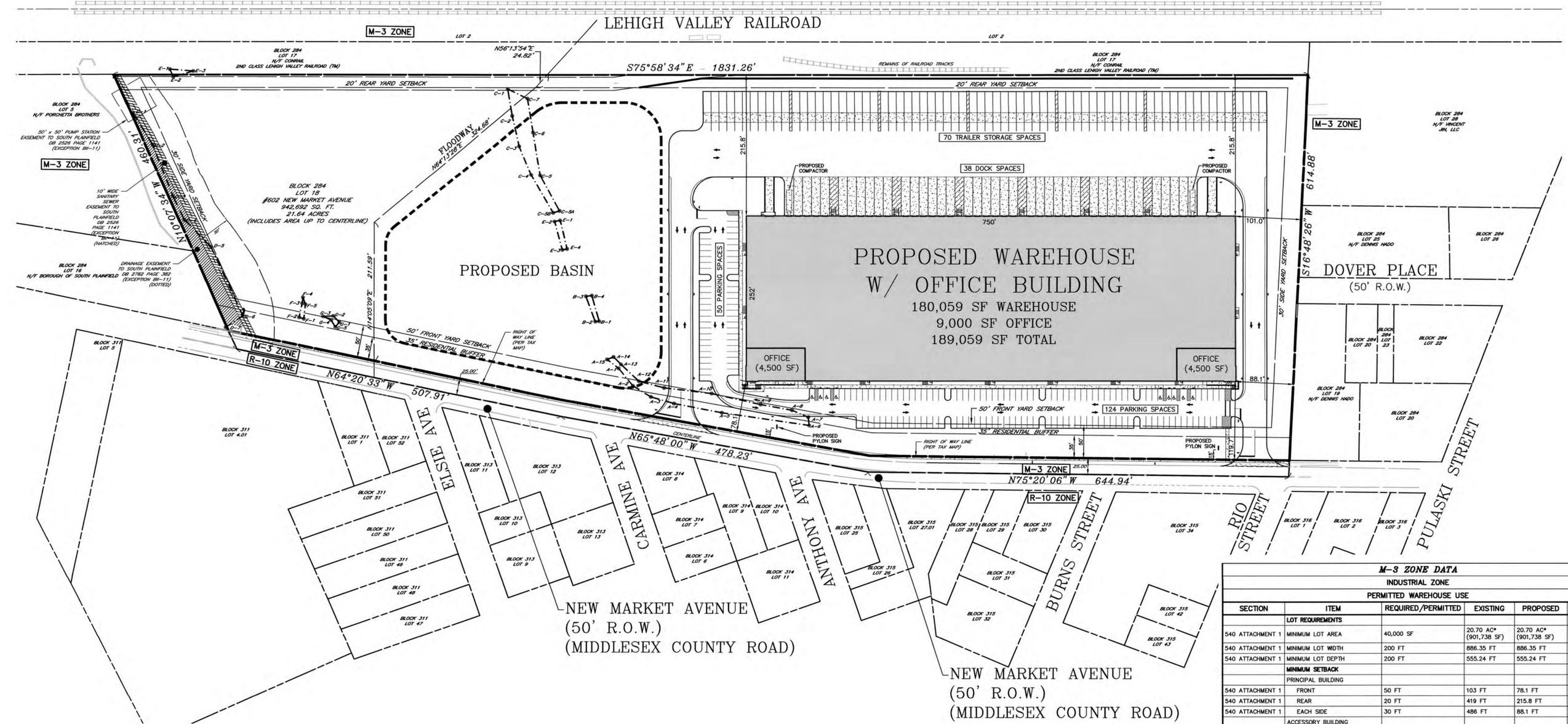
THIS WORK PREPARED UNDER MY DIRECT SUPERVISION.

GREGORY S. OMAN  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER  
N.J.P.E.# 435441

PROJECT NUMBER: 2018.060 OP-1

DATE OF ISSUE: MAY 14, 2019

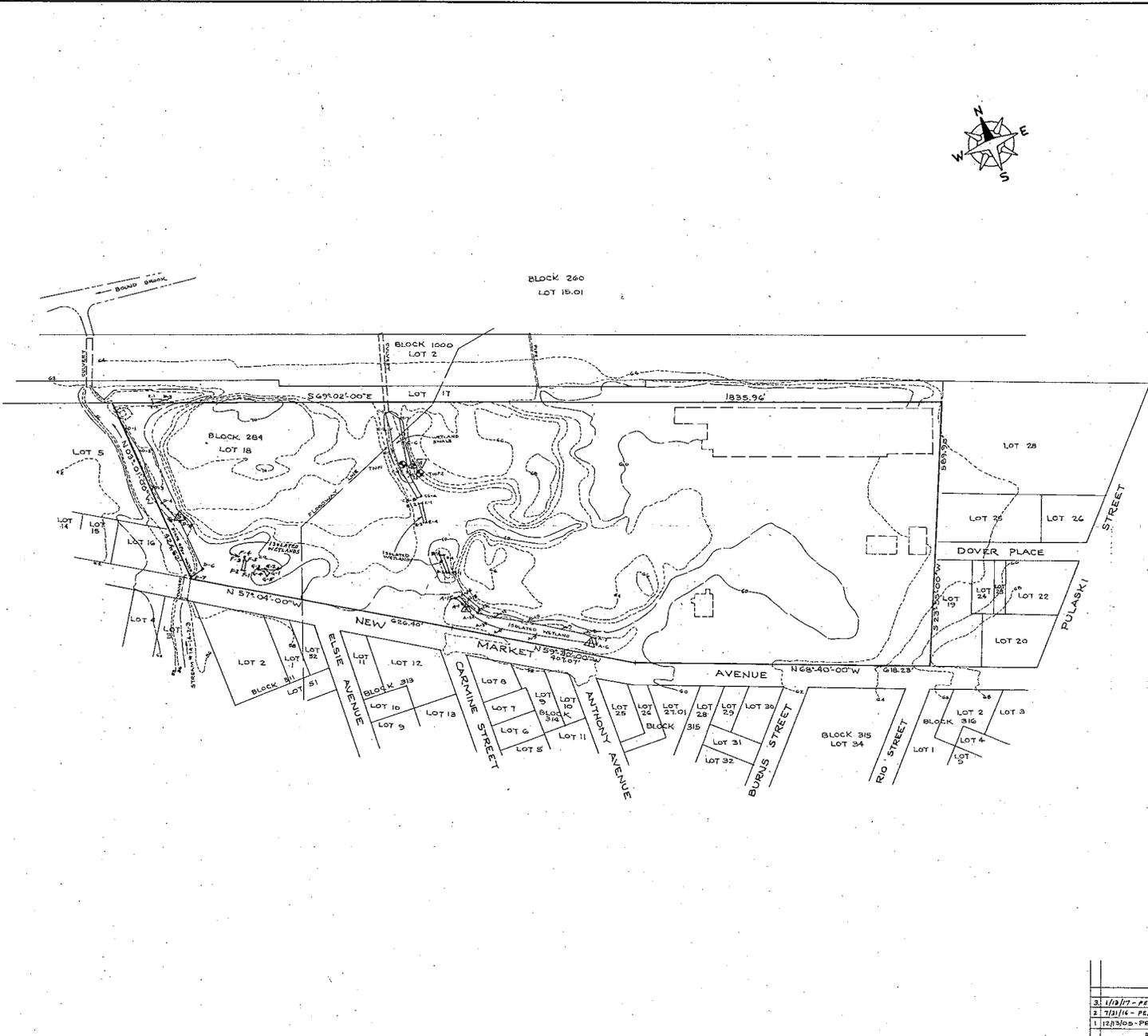
REVISION 2: OCTOBER 25, 2019



ADDITIONAL SITE DATA		
ITEM	EXISTING	PROPOSED
TOTAL GROUND FLOOR BUILDING AREA	0.2% (2,162 SF)	21% (189,059 SF)
IMPERVIOUS COVERAGE	22% (198,402 SF)	49% (438,958 SF)
TOTAL OPEN SPACE	78% (703,336 SF)	51% (462,780 SF)
TOTAL BUILDING AREA	2,162 SF	189,059 SF
RATIO OF PARKING TO BUILDING SIZE OR OCCUPANCY OR BOTH	N/A	28,512 SF:189,059 SF OR 0.15
NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (ON 1 SHIFT): TOTAL & MAXIMUM EMPLOYEES	N/A	96 EMPLOYEES

M-3 ZONE DATA					
INDUSTRIAL ZONE					
PERMITTED WAREHOUSE USE					
SECTION	ITEM	REQUIRED/PERMITTED	EXISTING	PROPOSED	CONDITION
540 ATTACHMENT 1	MINIMUM LOT AREA	40,000 SF	20.70 AC* (901,738 SF)	20.70 AC* (901,738 SF)	COMPLIES
540 ATTACHMENT 1	MINIMUM LOT WIDTH	200 FT	886.35 FT	886.35 FT	COMPLIES
540 ATTACHMENT 1	MINIMUM LOT DEPTH	200 FT	555.24 FT	555.24 FT	COMPLIES
<b>MINIMUM SETBACK</b>					
PRINCIPAL BUILDING					
540 ATTACHMENT 1	FRONT	50 FT	103 FT	78.1 FT	COMPLIES
540 ATTACHMENT 1	REAR	20 FT	419 FT	215.8 FT	COMPLIES
540 ATTACHMENT 1	EACH SIDE	30 FT	486 FT	88.1 FT	COMPLIES
ACCESSORY BUILDING					
540 ATTACHMENT 1	REAR	10 FT	N/A	N/A	N/A
540 ATTACHMENT 1	SIDE	10 FT	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>BUFFER</b>					
540-43(E) & 540-29(E)	ADJOINING PROPERTY IS RESIDENTIAL	35 FT	N/A	35 FT	COMPLIES
<b>COVERAGE</b>					
540 ATTACHMENT 1	MAXIMUM LOT COVERAGE (BUILDINGS)	50%	0.2% (2,162 SF)	21% (189,059 SF)	COMPLIES
<b>BUILDING HEIGHT</b>					
540 ATTACHMENT 1	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	50 FT	< 50 FT	< 50 FT	COMPLIES
<b>OFF-STREET PARKING</b>					
REQUIRED SPACES: WAREHOUSE: 1 SPACE/1,500 SF = 120 SPACES					
540-30(I)	OFFICE: 1 SPACE/ 400 SF = 23 SPACES	9,000 SF/400 SF = 23 SPACES	N/A	174 SPACES	COMPLIES
TOTAL = 143 SPACES					
<b>REQUIRED ACCESSIBLE SPACES:</b>					
ADAAG 2010 208.2	6 ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES FOR 151 TO 200 OF TOTAL PARKING SPACES PROVIDED	6 SPACES	N/A	9 SPACES	COMPLIES
REQUIRED VAN ACCESSIBLE SPACES:					
ADAAG 2010 208.2.4	1 VAN ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES FOR EVERY 6 ACCESSIBLE PARKING SPACES	1 SPACE	N/A	2 SPACES	COMPLIES
540-29(A)	DIMENSIONS	9 X 18	N/A	9 X 18	COMPLIES
540-29(F)	MINIMUM AISLE WIDTH 90' PARKING, 2-WAY TRAFFIC	24 FT	N/A	24 FT	COMPLIES
<b>LOADING</b>					
540-31(A)	REQUIRED SPACES OVER 160,000 TO 240,000 GFA	4 SPACES	N/A	38 SPACES	COMPLIES
540-29(T) & 515-67(9)	DIMENSIONS	10 X 45, 15 FT OVERHEAD CLEARANCE	N/A	13.75 FT X 60, 15 FT	COMPLIES
<b>SIGNS</b>					
540-54(C)(2)	MAXIMUM QUANTITY	3 SIGNS	N/A	2 SIGNS	COMPLIES
540-54(C)(2)	MINIMUM SETBACK	15 FT	N/A	15 FT	COMPLIES
540-45(E)	BUFFER FOR PROPERTY ABUTTING RESIDENTIAL ZONE	35 FT	N/A	15 FT	VARIANCE
540-54(C)(2)	MAXIMUM AREA	32 SF	N/A	32 FT	COMPLIES
540-54(C)(2)	MAXIMUM HEIGHT	6 FT	N/A	5.3 FT	COMPLIES
540-54(C)(2)	MAXIMUM WIDTH	6 FT	N/A	6 FT	COMPLIES

\*THE AREA OF 20.70 ACRES IS INCLUSIVE OF THE AREA ONLY UP TO THE RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE (PER TAX MAP).



WETLAND LIMITS AS FIELD DELINEATED BY ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGY, INC.

FLOODWAY AND TOPOGRAPHY TAKEN FROM NJDEP FLOOD HAZARD MAP OF THE BOUND BROOK & STREAM # 14-14-2-3 DATED JUNE 1977 AS PLATE NUMBER 745.

PROPERTY AS SHOWN ON SITE PLAN AS PREPARED BY C.H. FIRSTBROOK, SR. AND CONTAINS 20.76 ACRES OF LAND.

- ▽ PHOTO LOCATION
- OBSERVATION POINTS



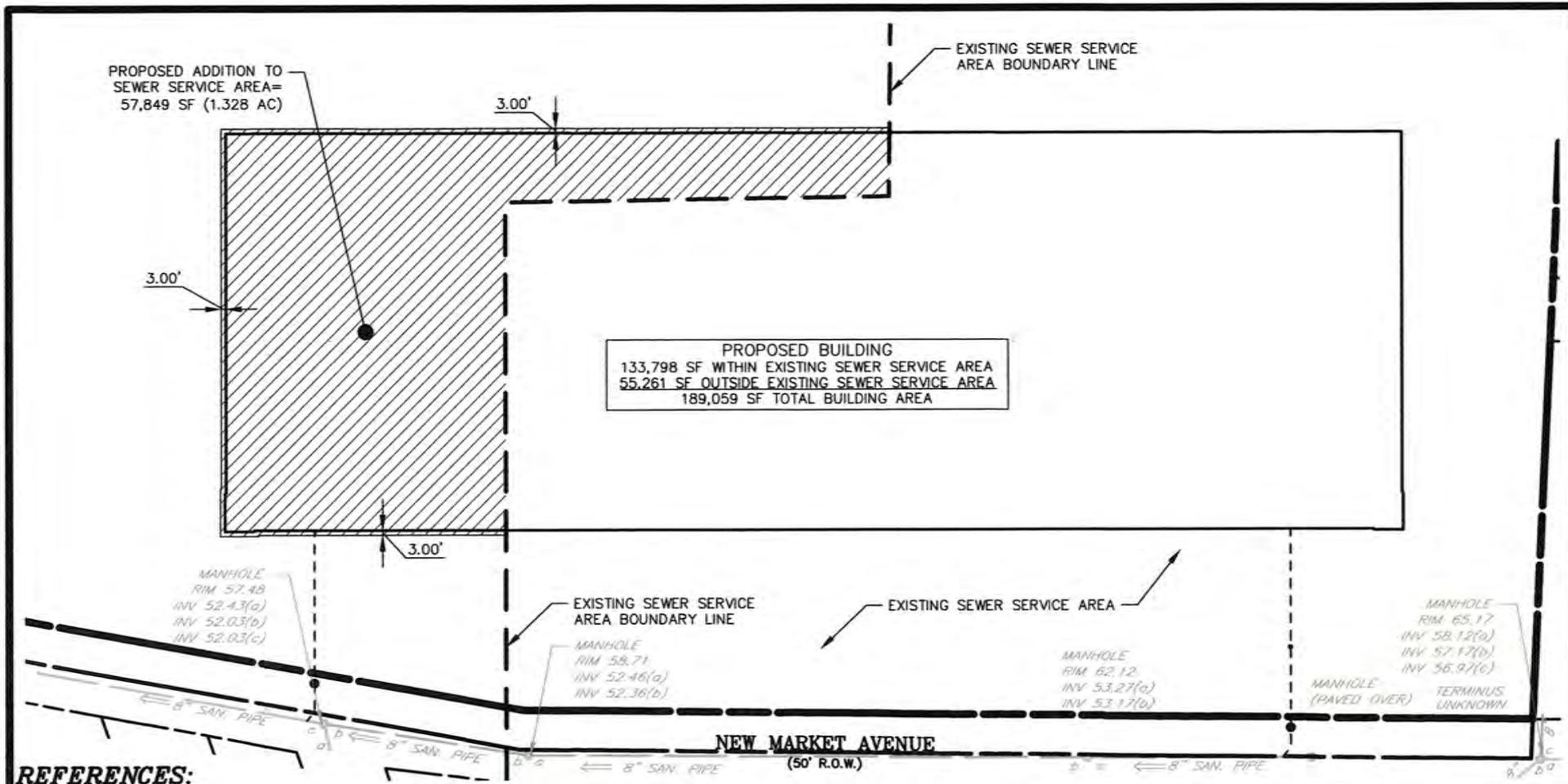
**FISS ASSOCIATES**  
 ENGINEERS - SURVEYORS - PLANNERS  
 631 UNION AVENUE  
 MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY 08846  
 Phone: 732-356-6322 Fax 732-356-6015

01/13/17 *Step M. Fisk*  
 STEPHEN M. FISK, L.S., Lic. 23919  
 PAUL A. FISK, P.E., Lic. 26353  
 L.S. - Professional Land Surveyor  
 P.E. - Professional Engineer

**WETLANDS PLAN**  
 602 NEW MARKET AVENUE  
 BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD  
 MIDDLESEX COUNTY NEW JERSEY

LOT 1B, BLOCK 284 TAX MAP NO. 27  
 [R.I.] SCALE: 1"=100' 5/15/17 SPL-3077-W

3	11/17/17 - PER DEP REVIEW
2	7/31/16 - PER E.T.C.
1	11/23/05 - PER E.T.C.
REVISIONS	



**REFERENCES:**

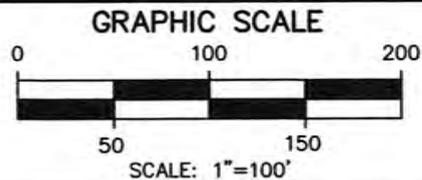
1. PLAN ENTITLED "ALTA/NSPS LAND TITLE SURVEY FOR BLOCK 284 LOT 18" PREPARED BY CONTROL LAYOUTS, INC.; JOB #890-18; DATED SEPTEMBER 5, 2018.
2. NJDEP GIS DATA FOR SEWER SERVICE
3. STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FLOOD HAZARD AREA VERIFICATION APPROVAL FILE NO. 1222-05-0012.1 LUP190001.
4. STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FRESHWATER WETLANDS LETTER OF INTERPRETATION: LINE VERIFICATION FILE NO.: 1222-05-0012.1, ACTIVITY NUMBER: FWW160001.



Civil Engineering Consultants  
Landscape Architects  
Professional Planners

261 Cleveland Avenue  
Highland Park, NJ 08904

732-846-8585 732-846-9439  
Certificate of Authorization : 24GA27951900



REVISIONS

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

**602 NEW MARKET**  
BOROUGH OF SOUTH PLAINFIELD, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY  
**SITE SPECIFIC SEWER SERVICE AREA AMENDMENT**  
BLOCK 284, LOT 18

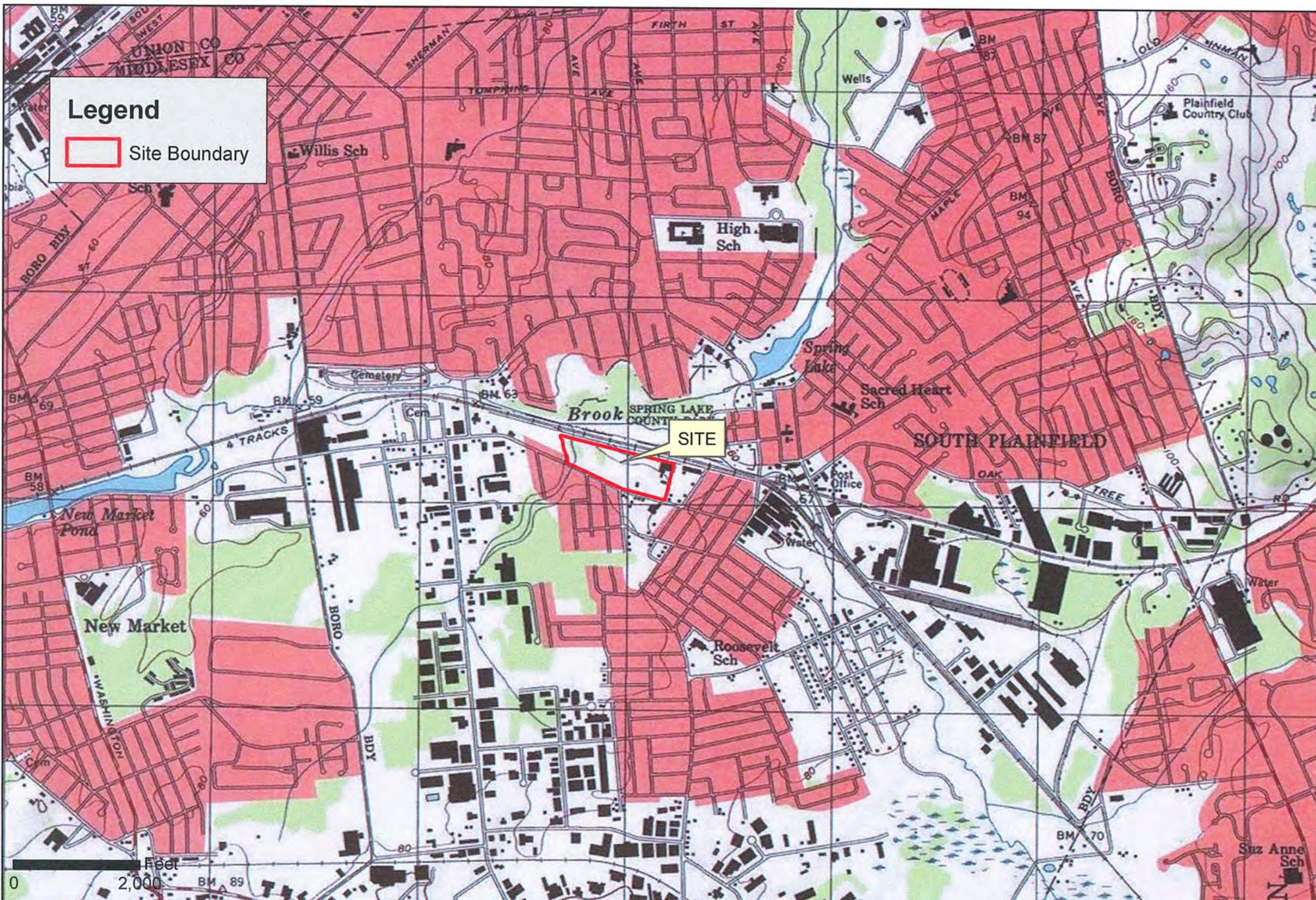
DRWN. BY NF  
DSGN BY RJG  
APPRD. BY GSO

DATE OF ISSUE  
MARCH 30, 2020

JOB # 2018.060  
DWG # SSA-1  
SHEET # 1/1

THIS WORK PREPARED UNDER MY IMMEDIATE SUPERVISION...

GREGORY S. OMAN  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER  
NJPE# 43441



# NE Plainfield USGS Quadrangle Map

Block 284 \* Lot 18  
Borough of South Plainfield, Middlesex County, NJ



Figure 2

Job No.: D1662.002
Scale: 1 in = 2,000 ft
Date: 3/1/2020
Drawn By: BG

**RESOLUTION OF  
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION  
APPROVAL WITH CONDITION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE  
LOWER RARITAN-MIDDLESEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Middlesex County Water Resources Association (hereinafter the MC WRA) is the advisory group established to oversee and provide public and stakeholder advice regarding the maintenance and updating of the Lower Raritan-Middlesex County Water Quality Management Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the rules and policies of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (hereinafter the NJDEP), require the preparation of Wastewater Management Plans and the mapping of sewer service areas and major treatment facilities;

**WHEREAS**, the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders approved the future wastewater service area map on January 15, 2015 which was adopted by the NJDEP on March 11, 2015;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the county requirement to consistently update the future sewer service area (FWSA) map for Middlesex County, the following amendment application has been received by the Middlesex County Office of Planning for consideration:

Bridgepoint South Plainfield, LLC  
602 New Market Avenue  
Block 284, Lot 18  
South Plainfield, Middlesex County, NJ

**WHEREAS**, the property meets the requirements to be included in the FWSA, based on review by the staff of the Office of Planning; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the application is approved by the Middlesex County Water Resources Association contingent upon approval of the South Plainfield Planning Board;

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the LR-MC WRA forward this amendment to the Middlesex County Planning Board for their consideration; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to the NJDEP Office of Water Resource Management, the Middlesex County Planning Board and the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allan Williams, Chairman

ATTEST: This Resolution was duly authorized by a motion approved by the MC WRA at its meeting of May 11, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mirah Becker, PP, AICP  
Supervising Planner  
Middlesex County Office of Planning

## Office of Planning Staff Report

### Lower Raritan-Middlesex County Water Quality Management Plan Site-Specific Amendment SUEZ Water-Princeton Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWPM)

Project Name: SUEZ Water-Princeton Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWPM)

Location: Block 1801, Lot 117  
31 Maple Avenue  
Plainsboro, NJ

Project Description: SUEZ Water New Jersey (SUEZ) owns and operates the SUEZ Water-Princeton Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant (SWPM), located on a 36.5 acre site, in Plainsboro Township, Middlesex County. The SWPM site is located in the existing sewer service area. SWPM is a private utility company providing sewer service to approximately 15,000 residential and commercial customers in Plainsboro Township. This wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), located in the southcentral portion of Plainsboro, accepts domestic wastewater from portions of Plainsboro Township, and is currently permitted to discharge up to 1.64 million gallons per day (MGD) of treated effluent to Cranbury Brook, a tributary of the Millstone River. The current Wastewater Management Plan also identifies the WWTP as having a capacity of 1.64 MGD.

SUEZ Water New Jersey Princeton Meadows is seeking a site-specific amendment to the Lower Raritan Water Quality Management Plan to identify the expansion of the existing Princeton Meadows wastewater treatment plant from 1.64 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.70 MGD. No expansion of the sewer service area is proposed. The increased flow is to serve properties within the existing sewer service area, such as infill properties and existing homes on septic systems, as detailed on a buildout analysis that was submitted to the County and to NJDEP.

SUEZ received a renewal of its New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permit from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) requiring new very stringent effluent limitations for total phosphorus and ammonia nitrogen. These new discharge permit standards go into effect in December 2022. This is the date by which SWPM must be able to show compliance. The existing plant cannot meet the new effluent limitations. SUEZ evaluated the current WWTP facility and operations and determined that the most cost-effective alternative to meet these new stringent effluent limitations is to construct a new treatment facility, rather than upgrade the decades old current WWTP.

This new facility will be constructed within the same site as the current facility and will retain the effluent discharge location to Cranbury Brook.

Buildout Analysis: A build out analysis was undertaken for the new plant. It was determined that the extent of the build-out analysis should be wholly within Plainsboro Township, and wholly within the existing sewer service area of the SUEZ Water-Princeton Meadows WWTP.

**No additional land area is being added to the sewer service area and there will be no expansion of the sewer service area.**

**Baseline Flow:** This is the existing flow conveyed and treated at the WWTP. The consultants were granted permission from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) to use a different methodology that required that baseline flow be determined by the highest consecutive 12-month rolling average over the most recent 10 years of influent flow data at the SWMP WWTP. Based on this analysis, the consultant determined the 10-year maximum annual average baseline (existing) flow is 1.477 MGD.

**Future Flow:** Evaluated areas in the existing sewer service area that will be hooked up to the WWTP as well as areas in the existing sewer service area on septic or vacant land that had the potential to be developed in the future, by block and lot, zoning, and flow rate by use. The future flow in the current SSA is 0.216 MGD.

**The new plant is proposed to have a design capacity of 1.70 MGD.**

**Letter of Support:** Unanimous support of the new SWPM WWTP by Plainsboro Planning Board members. Planning Board Resolution dated January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Mayor Cantu submitted an official letter of support to Middlesex County to expand the capacity of the SUEZ Water Princeton Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant from 1.64 MGD to 1.70 MGD on 5/5/20.

**Present Status of Application:** The application is administratively complete.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends that the WRA approve the increase in capacity of the SWPM WWTP from 1.64 to 1.70 MGD.

Written by Mirah Becker, AICP, PP, Supervising Planner, Office of Planning  
PP License Certification Number: 33L100569900

**SUEZ Water Princeton Meadows Wastewater Treatment Plant  
Plainsboro Township, Middlesex County  
Project Narrative and History  
For the  
Middlesex County Water Resources Association  
May 11, 2020**

SUEZ Water Princeton Meadows, a private utility company, is seeking a site-specific amendment to the Lower Raritan Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) to recognize a proposed expansion of the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) from its existing capacity of 1.64 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.70 MGD. Treated effluent is currently discharged to Cranbury Brook via an unnamed tributary which immediately flows into the Millstone River. Princeton Meadows also sends reclaimed water for beneficial reuse to Middlesex Golf Course for irrigation purposes. No expansion of the existing sewer service area is proposed.

### **History and Plant Expansion**

The WWTP was originally constructed in 1971 and upgraded in 1978 and 2003. The WWTP serves approximately 15,000 residential and commercial customers within Plainsboro Township. In 2017, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) issued a New Jersey Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NJPDES) permit renewal, which required the WWTP to meet significantly more stringent water quality effluent limitations for **total phosphorus** and **ammonia**. These new, more stringent effluent limitations were required by the then recently adopted Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Non-Tidal Raritan River Basin.

SUEZ immediately authorized a comprehensive alternatives analysis to determine the most environmentally and economically feasible manner to meet these new water quality requirements. Based upon the results of the alternatives analysis, SUEZ determined the most feasible alternative was to construct a new treatment facility at the same location, to replace the current facility. This proposed new \$40M state-of-the-art facility will improve water quality for both Cranbury Brook and the Millstone River, with a reduction in total phosphorus and ammonia and elimination of chlorine produced oxidants. SUEZ received preliminary and final major site plan approval from the Plainsboro Planning Board for the WWTP expansion on January 21, 2020, with a resolution adopted by the Board on the same day.

### **Build-Out Analysis and Plant Expansion**

Once it was determined that a new treatment facility would be constructed, SUEZ authorized a build-out analysis to determine the appropriate sizing of the new plant. The build-out analysis evaluated current and projected wastewater needs in accordance with NJDEP regulatory requirements at N.J.A.C. 7:15A and N.J.A.C. 7:14A-23.

The analysis began by determining existing baseline flow at the treatment plant, which was calculated using the highest 12-month rolling average flow over the last 10 years. Once existing baseline flow was determined, projected future flows from within the existing sewer service area were calculated based upon existing zoning, existing and proposed uses, and the feasibility of development as determined in coordination with Plainsboro Township.

Existing baseline flows at the WWTP were determined to be 1.477 MGD. Additional flow to the plant from properties within the existing sewer service area, but not yet connected to the WWTP (infill development, existing homes on septic systems and other parcels as determined by SUEZ and Plainsboro Township), was estimated to be 0.216 MGD. This project future flow, when added to the baseline flow, resulted in a build-out analysis flow requirement of approximately 1.7 MGD.

Plainsboro Township

South Brunswick Township

Cranbury Township

West Windsor Township

### FUTURE FLOWS & SEWER SERVICE AREAS KEY MAP

#### Site Specific Amendment SUEZ Princeton Meadows Sewer Service Area

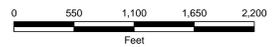
PROJECT NO.: 2036I

DRAWN: March 2020

DRAWN BY: ELD

CHECKED BY: PP

FILE NAME:  
S:\2036I SWPM Alternatives Study\GIS\2036I\_ProposedSSA\_Final\_rev03162020.mxd



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321 Wall Street, Princeton, NJ 08540  
Tel: 609-924-8821 • www.kleinfelder.com

**Legend**

- Approx. Stream Centerline
- Approx. 50 ft Riparian Buffer
- SUEZ Outfall
- Municipal Boundaries
- Middlesex County Parcels

**Future Flow SUEZ Water Princeton Meadows**

- Outside of Plainsboro Twp
- Within Plainsboro Twp
- Within Plainsboro Twp & SUEZ SSA
- SUEZ SSA Outside Plainsboro on Septic

**Existing Sewer Service Areas**

- SUEZ Water Princeton Meadows
- SBRSA River Road STP

**Existing Discharge to Groundwater**

- Princeton Alliance Church

Sources:  
2018 ESRI World Topographic Map  
2008 Municipal Boundaries  
2017 NJDEP Sewer Service Areas  
2017 NJDEP's Outfalls  
2002 National Hydrography Dataset





**RESOLUTION OF  
THE LOWER RARITAN-MIDDLESEX COUNTY WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION  
ENDORING AN AMENDMENT TO THE  
LOWER RARITAN-MIDDLESEX COUNTY WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**WHEREAS**, the Lower Raritan-Middlesex County Water Resources Association (hereinafter the LR-MC WRA) is the advisory group established to oversee and provide public and stakeholder advice regarding the maintenance and updating of the Lower Raritan-Middlesex County Water Quality Management Plan;

**WHEREAS**, the rules and policies of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (hereinafter the NJDEP), require the preparation of Wastewater Management Plans and the mapping of sewer service areas and major treatment facilities;

**WHEREAS**, SUEZ Water Princeton Meadows (SWPM) is seeking a site-specific amendment to the Lower Raritan-Middlesex County Water Quality Management Plan to identify the expansion of the existing SWPM plant from 1.64 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.70 MGD;

**WHEREAS**, no expansion to the sewer service area is proposed;

**WHEREAS**, the increased flow is to serve properties within the existing sewer service area, such as infill properties and existing homes on septic systems, as detailed in a buildout analysis that was submitted to Middlesex County and the NJDEP;

**WHEREAS**, a detailed build-out analysis was undertaken that the SWPM plant should be expanded from 1.64 MGD to 1.70 MGD to address future flows in Plainsboro Township; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the LR-MC WRA, following their review of the build-out analysis, does hereby endorse the Amendment for the SUEZ Water Princeton Treatment Plant; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that the LR-MC WRA forward this amendment to the Middlesex County Planning Board for their consideration; and

**FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution shall be provided to the NJDEP Office of Water Resource Management, the Middlesex County Planning Board and the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION**

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Allan Williams, Chairman

ATTEST: This Resolution was duly authorized by a motion approved by the MC WRA at its meeting of May 11, 2020.

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Mirah Becker, PP, AICP  
Supervising Planner  
Middlesex County Office of Planning