

Meeting Overview

- Purpose
 - Public Hearing for EO No. 172 and the No Net Loss Reforestation Act
- Open House: 6:00 – 6:30
- Presentation: 6:30
 - Program Overview
 - Purpose and Need
 - Outreach Process
 - Map and Schedule
 - MP 43.0 U-Turn Overview
 - MP 46.1 U-Turn Overview
 - No Net Loss Process and Obligation
 - Mitigation Options and Strategy
 - Public Comments



EO 172 Public Hearing for Grade Separated U-Turn Program at M.P. 43.0 EO 172 and No Net Loss Public Hearing for Grade Separated U-Turn Program at M.P. 46.1

Grade Separated U-Turn Program
Springfield and Westampton Townships

June 16, 2025



Introductions



Grade Separated U-Turn Program Overview

- The NJTA has initiated the Grade-Separated U-Turn Program to provide for safe travel movements for emergency response and maintenance personnel.
- The Program replaces 23 “cut-throughs” in the median barrier with 7 new U-Turns.
- Placement was optimized to meet NJTA maintenance and emergency response needs while also limiting right-of-way, utility, and environmental impacts.
- U-Turns exist north of Interchange 4 and are required by NJTA design standards.



Grade-Separated U-Turn Program Median Cut-Throughs



Grade Separated U-Turn Program Overview

- The Program has coordinated extensively with emergency response personnel, including State Police, County OEM coordinators, first responders, and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) Transportation Group.
 - July 2022: NJ State Police
 - Nov 2022 – Jan 2023: County Offices of Emergency Management
 - March 2023: DVRPC Transportation Group Leadership
 - February 28 and July 17, 2024: Burlington County and Westampton Municipal, Fire, and Police Leadership
 - Fall 2024: DVRPC Transportation Group – Full Membership
 - November 21, 2024: Burlington County
 - December 6, 2024: Camden, Gloucester, Salem

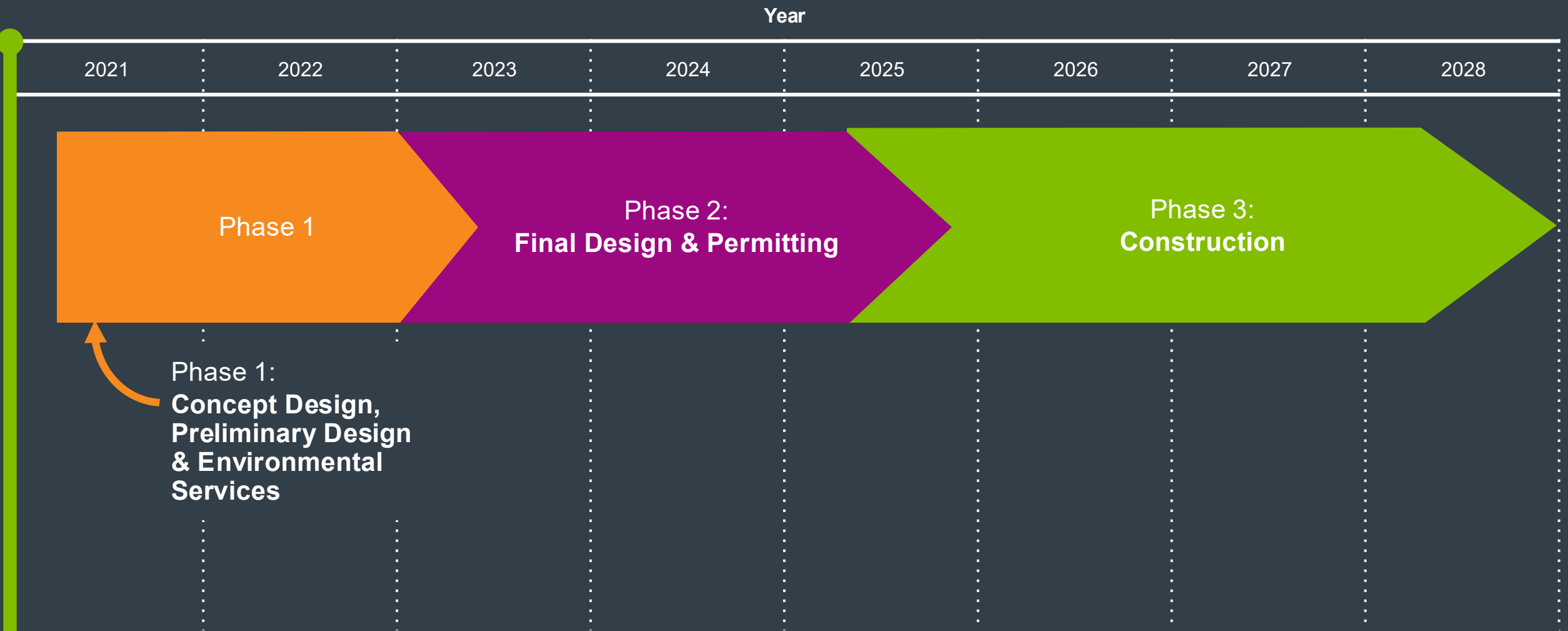


U-Turn Program Overview

- Replace median cut-throughs (23) with grade-separated structures (7 + 1 existing)
- Final Design began in March 2023
- Anticipated Construction at MP 43.0 and MP 46.1: 2026-2029

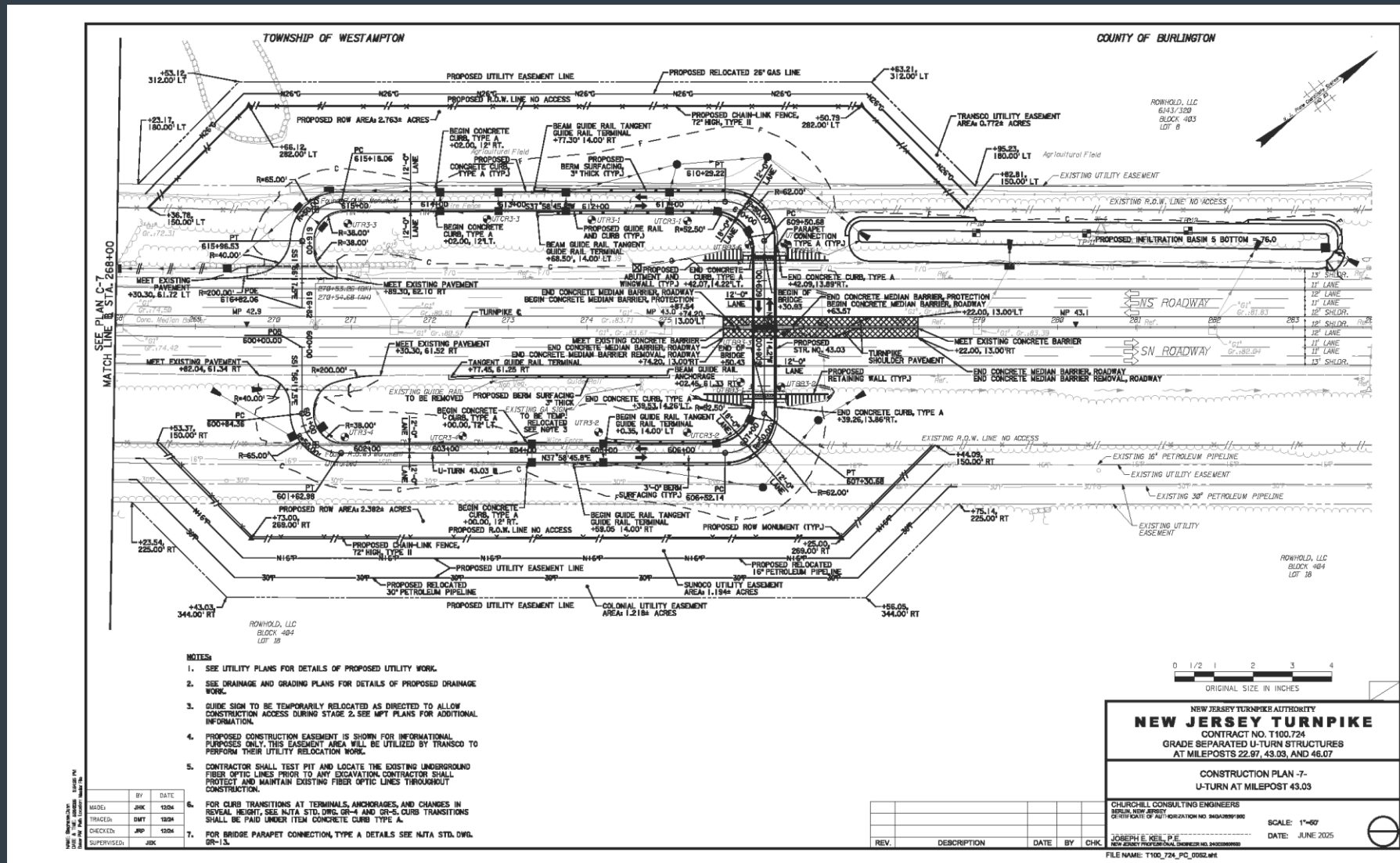


Grade-Separated U-Turn Program Schedule



Median cut-through closures will follow U-Turn completion

Grade-Separated U-Turn at MP 43.0

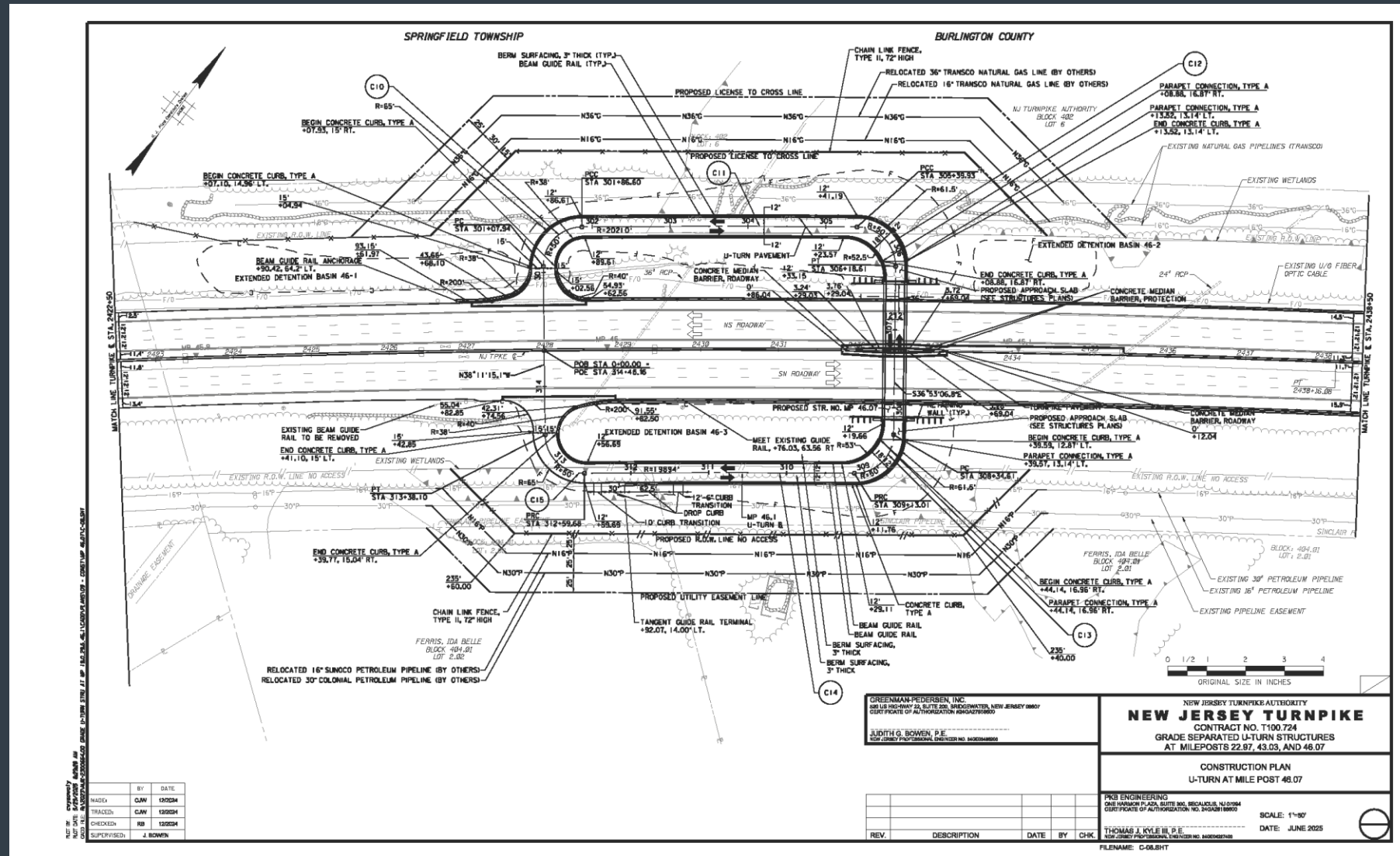


No Net Loss Public Hearing– MP 43.0

- The No Net Loss Reforestation Public Hearing was held within Westampton Township on August 27, 2024.
 - 3.0 acres of qualified forest will be impacted to construct the U-Turn.
- Within Westampton Township, re-planting within the municipality on public land was not viable; therefore, impacts were mitigated through a contribution of \$201,960 to the NJDEP State Fund for Reforestation.
 - The State Fund provides forestry grants to municipalities. While the deforestation will occur within Westampton, the funds will not be earmarked for Westampton.
- The Conditional Approval to Proceed was issued by the NJFS on December 13, 2024.
- Trees will be re-planted on private property used for pipeline relocation staging.



Grade Separated U-Turn at MP 46.1

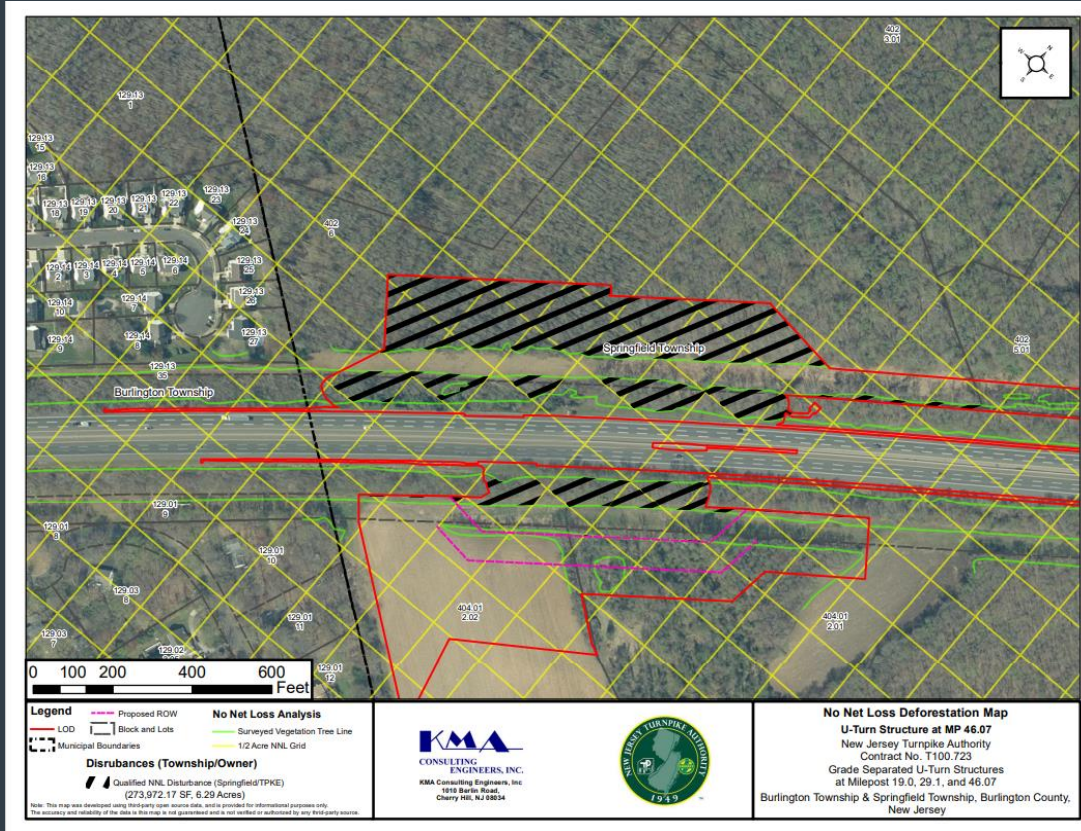


Environmental Commitments and No Net Loss

- The MP 46.1 U-Turn is subject to the following environmental commitments:
 - NJDEP Flood Hazard Area Individual Permit
 - NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands Individual Permit
 - NJDEP 5G3 Stormwater General Permit
 - Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan Certification
 - No Net Loss Reforestation Act
- State entities are required to abide by the No Net Loss Reforestation rules when trees are removed for projects under the following conditions:
 - One-half acre or more of forested land is affected, and
 - Land will be owned or maintained by a State entity
- Estimates show that the project will impact approximately 6.3 acres of qualified forest that is subject to 'No Net Loss' Reforestation
- A public hearing is required when tree clearing is greater than 1 acre



Measuring Tree Impacts – “Qualified Forest”



- NJDEP has established a statewide GIS grid, which is used to identify “qualified forest.”
- Qualified forest that is cleared must be addressed under No Net Loss.
- Within a given grid, an area is considered qualified established forest if it has:
 - 33% or more canopy cover, and
 - Trees predominantly 4" or greater in diameter.
- 6.29 acres of qualified forest will be impacted by the MP 46.1 U-Turn.

Tree Impact Mitigation

- Under No Net Loss, the following options exist for mitigation:
 - Planting on-site
 - Planting off-site on public land (State, County, or municipal)
 - Monetary compensation to the NJDEP State Fund for Reforestation, which provides grants to municipalities
- At MP 46.1, 702 trees will be replanted on-site within 2.30 acres of NJTA-owned property (Block 402, Lot 6).





Off-Site Mitigation Options

- A review of Springfield Township Open Space was conducted to determine if alternative-site locations were viable for reforestation under the NNL Rules.
- 19 municipal, state, and county parks were analyzed with township officials to determine viability of these options.
- Of these sites reviewed, 2 were determined by township and county officials to be viable options for planting:
 - Veterans Memorial Park
 - Burlington County Fairgrounds



Viable Options Reviewed with Township and County



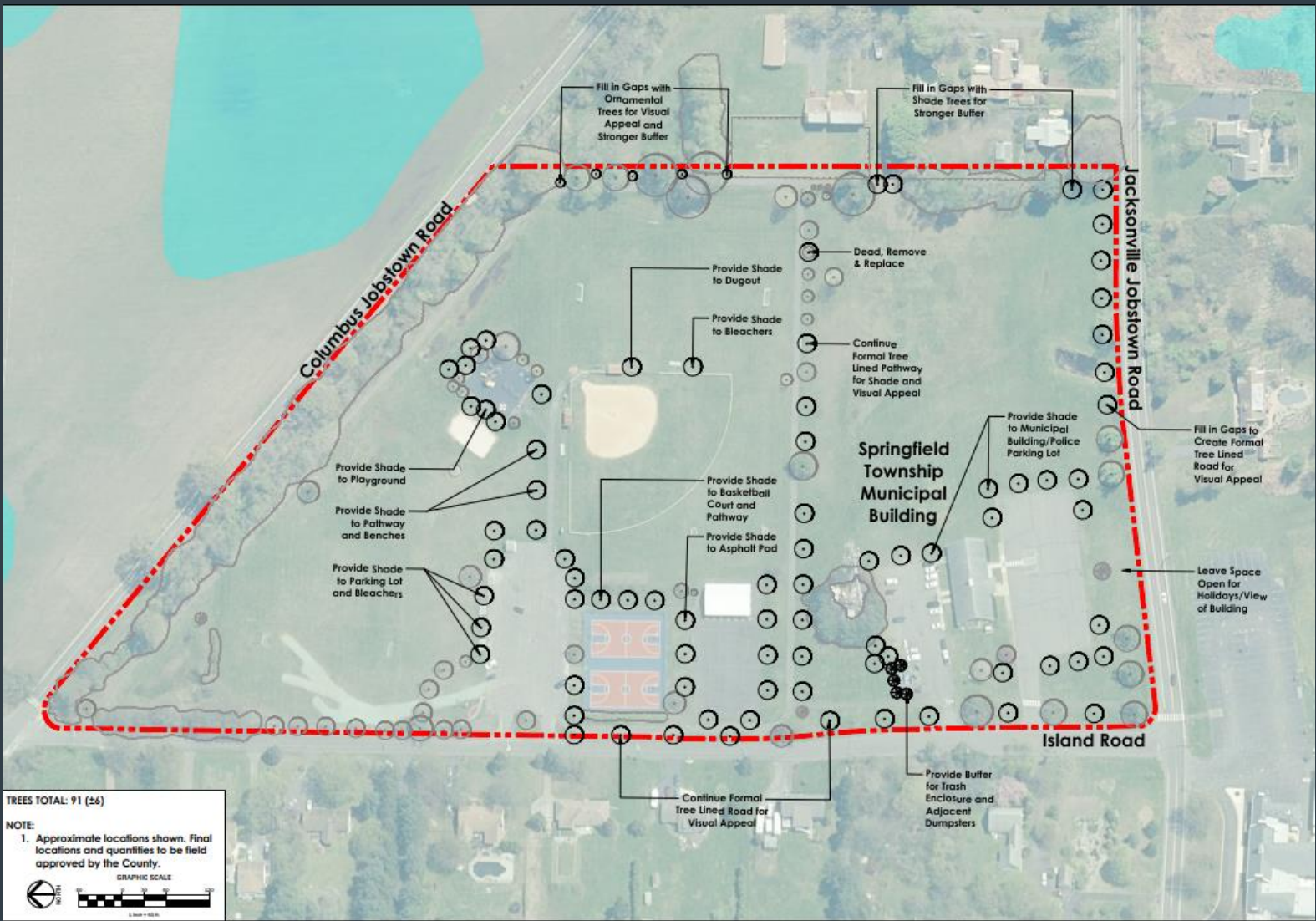
Veterans Memorial
Park



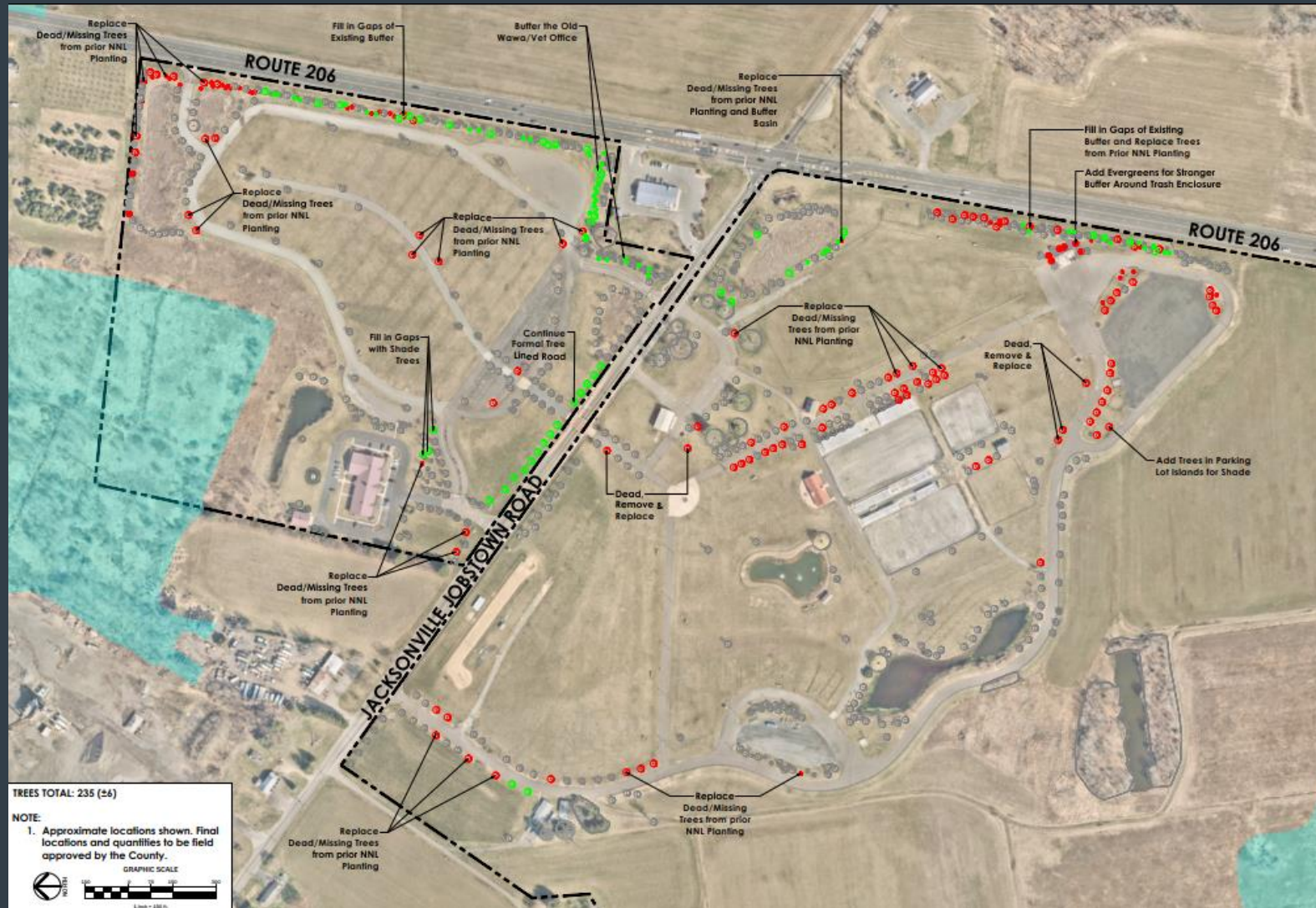
Burlington County
Fairgrounds



Reforestation Plan on Alternate Sites – Veterans Memorial Park



Reforestation Plan on Alternate Sites – Burlington County Fairgrounds



No Net Loss Compensation Strategy

- Amount of necessary reforestation was calculated using the following formula:

$$6.3 \text{ acres} \times 204 \text{ trees per acre (2" to 2.5" caliper)} = 1,286 \text{ trees}$$

- Compensation for deforestation will be a combination of on-site and off-site planting
 - On-site
 - Approximately 702 trees will be planted after construction
 - Off-site
 - Veterans Memorial Park – approximately 91 trees will be planted
 - Burlington County Fairgrounds – approximately 235 trees will be planted

		Forest Impacts (trees)
Deforestation		1,286
Reforestation	On-Site	702
	Off-Site	(91+235) = 326
Remaining Impact (trees)		258

Compensation to State Fund for Reforestation

- To compensate for remaining tree impacts, mitigation will be accomplished through a contribution to the State Fund for Reforestation, which provides forestry grants to municipalities.
- Monetary compensation is calculated using the following formula:
 - 258 trees (Compensatory Reforestation Obligation) x \$300 per tree = Reforestation Cost
 - Monetary Compensation = Reforestation Cost + (10% Reforestation Cost)
 - NJTA's anticipated contribution for MP 46.1 = ~\$85,140

Compensatory Reforestation Monetary Contribution	
Forest Impacts (trees)	258
Proposed Monetary Contribution \$300/tree =	\$77,400
Total Monetary Contribution Calculation	\$ 77,400 (Total)
	\$ 7,740 (10% Reforestation Cost)
	\$ 85,140

Public Comments

- All public comments will be officially recorded by the certified court reporter.
- Written comments may also be submitted through August 15, 2025 – forms provided.
- If you would like to make a comment in person, please:
 - Come to the podium
 - State your name and address
 - Public comments requiring responses will be provided as a written response to the commenter and included in the EO172 and No Net Loss Reforestation Act Public Hearing Reports.

Thank you for your participation.



