



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

P.O. Box 600

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0600

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

JAMES S. SIMPSON
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

April 9, 2014

Dear Mayor Matthies:

Last July when the Route 35 Reconstruction Project commenced, the NJ Department of Transportation sent a notice by mail to property owners adjacent to the highway. The notice addressed the State's Right-of-Way and called for property owners to remove any materials, fencing, irrigation or lighting systems, etc. that are encroaching on State property. The Right-of-Way generally extends 10 feet off the edge of the pavement or face of curb, but property owners are strongly urged to check the property deed or municipal tax map to confirm the distance as this will vary throughout the island.

While this still remains a problem for some properties, a growing concern is the number of sump pumps or roof downspouts being discharged into the roadway through a connection in the curb. **These discharge pipes are in violation of NJ law and will not be re-connected.** As curbs are being replaced along the Route 35 corridor, these existing pipes will be cut off by the nature of construction.

Please remind your residents that these connections are not legal and they should be rerouted to a rain garden, flower bed, etc. Pipes through the State's Right-of-Way as well as irrigation and lighting are vulnerable to be damaged during construction and steps should be taken to remove these materials as previously recommended.

Residents may have already experienced these disconnections so to avoid any basement or crawl space water problems they should address this immediately.

For any questions regarding this please contact our On Site Community Outreach team immediately at 732-230-7356 or restore.nj35@dot.state.nj.us.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Attanasio
Assistant Commissioner
Government & Community Relations