



**Consulting & Municipal
ENGINEERS**

January 27, 2025

Mr. Joseph Danielsen - Executive Director
Township of Franklin Sewerage Authority
70 Commerce Drive
Somerset, NJ 08873

**Re: Engineering Status Report for January 2025
Our File No.: PFS00002.24**

Dear Mr. Danielsen:

In accordance with your request, please find herein our engineering status report and summary of work activities performed for the Authority during the month of January, 2025.

I. Weston Canal Pump Station (Phase 4)

- A site meeting was held at the pump station to review the limits of the flood damage.
- A meeting was held with the FTSA to review alternatives for improvements to the pump station.
- Preparing alternatives and cost estimates for relocating, elevating and upgrading the Weston Canal Pump Station. A meeting will be scheduled for the week of October 25, 2021.
- A meeting was held between CME Associates and FTSA discussing alternatives and associated cost estimates.
- A decision was made to pursue relocating the Weston Canal Road Pumping Station to the corner of the PSE&G Central Division Headquarters property located at 472 Weston Canal Road.
- We contacted PSE&G to pursue easement acquisition and our request is currently under review by the PSE&G asset management team.
- CME Surveyors were on site at the Weston Canal Pump Station on December 20, 2021 to complete the survey required for procurement of a FEMA Elevation Certificate. The Certificate was prepared and distributed electronically to FTSA on December 23, 2021. Hard copies will be delivered to the Authority.
- A meeting was held on January 28, 2022 with CME, FTSA and PSE&G to discuss easement acquisition for the relocation of the Pumping Station.

CONSULTING AND MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS LLC
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- A follow up meeting took place on February 18, 2022 with the Vice President of Asset Management at PSE&G regarding same. PSE&G is receptive to the Authority's request and has requested further discussion regarding constructing a parking area in the vicinity of the proposed relocated Pump Station.
- We are scheduling a call with the DRCC on Thursday March 31, 2022 to discuss requirements for the proposed relocated Pump Station.
- The Delaware and Raritan Canal Commission recommended an Application for Jurisdictional Determination be submitted in order to provide the DRCC with information necessary to determine the extent of review and approval to be required.
- PSE&G has decided not to pursue a Parking Lot Extension in the area behind the site of the Proposed Relocated Pump Station.
- CME prepared an updated Conceptual Site Plan for FTSA Review and Approval and subsequent distribution to PSE&G. A meeting will then be scheduled with PSE&G to further discuss Easement Acquisition.
- A meeting between CME, FTSA, FTSA Attorney's Office and PSE&G was held on July 14, 2022 to discuss next steps for the Pumping Station Relocation Land Acquisition.
- Following the meeting CME re-issued the Preliminary Site Plan with property dimensions included as requested by PSE&G.
- Next step is awaiting an Escrow Request from PSE&G. The Escrow will fund their Review of the Proposed Project.
- PSE&G issued a Memorandum of Understanding to the Authority requesting submission of \$75,000.00. CME has reviewed the MOU and provided comments to the Authority.
- An Architectural Reconnaissance meeting took place on December 2, 2022 to review the architectural style of the Proposed Relocated Pump Station.
- We are coordinating with USA Architects for the preparation of a Concept Phase Proposal.
- We prepared a Conceptual Plan with approximate delineations of the proposed Easement Acquisition Area for use by the Appraiser.
- We are preparing a Request for Authorization for a Geotechnical Investigation.
- Revised Concept Plans were sent for Authority Review on January 17, 2023. The layout of the Proposed Pump Station and upstream piping were reconfigured to reduce the Proposed Easement Acquisition Area by over 40%.



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- We met with the Authority, Authority's Attorney and Appraiser on January 24, 2023 to discuss the revised Pump Station Layout.
- We contacted the County Planning and Engineering Departments and verified that there are no future road widening plans along Weston Canal Road in the vicinity of the Proposed Pumping Station.
- We met with the Authority, Authority's Attorney and Delaware Raritan Canal Commission on January 30, 2023. The DRCC is amenable to waive the 200-foot setback requirement if compelling public need is proven.
- We had further discussions with representatives from the New Jersey State Park Service regarding state owned Property in the vicinity of existing and proposed piping. Initial discussions have been positive, however there will be a required Permit Process.
- We met with the New Jersey Office of Transactions and Public Land Administration on March 7, 2023 to discuss the proposed relocated Pumping Station in the vicinity of State Owned Property along Weston Canal Road.
- The State indicated that they are amenable to working with the Authority and requested the submission of a Concept Plan to initiate their Review Process. Accordingly, a draft Concept Plan was sent to the Authority for review.
- We are finalizing a Permit Application to the New Jersey Office of Transactions and Public Land Administration to review use of NJDEP Property. We will circulate a Draft for Authority and Legal review prior to submission.
 - The Permit Application has been submitted to the New Jersey Office of Transactions and Public Land Administration to review use of NJDEP Property.
- We await response from the NJDEP Office of Transactions and Public Land Administration regarding the submitted Request for Use of NJDEP Property Form and associated attachments.
- The NJDEP contacted our Office on July 20 indicating that the Project is still undergoing internal review.
- A meeting was held on August 29, 2023 with PSE&G to discuss the status of their review of the proposed easement acquisition.
- We responded to comments from the NJDEP Office of Transactions and Public Land Administration regarding the request for use of State property.
- A follow-up meeting was held with PSE&G on September 19, 2023 to review the Project status and proposed easement acquisition.
- We are collaborating with the Director regarding a Land Appraisal.
- We met with the Authority on September 25, 2023 to discuss updated estimated Project costs.



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- We are scheduling a preliminary meeting with the I-Bank to review the proposed Project.
- A follow-up meeting was held with PSE&G on October 25, 2023 to review the Project status and proposed easement acquisition.
- A meeting with Authority Staff and the NJDEP / I-Bank was held on October 31, 2023 to discuss potential funding sources. The NJDEP / I-Bank Staff recommends initiating the application for funding of the Project through the I-Bank's application procedure.
- A Right of Entry Agreement has been established with PSE&G allowing property access in order to conduct a Limited Boundary and Topographic Survey as required for easement acquisition.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on November 29, 2023 to review the Project status and proposed easement acquisition.
- The Limited Boundary and Topographic Survey of the proposed easement area has been completed. We are finalizing the survey basemap.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on January 17, 2024 to review the Project status and proposed easement acquisition. A follow-up meeting is tentatively scheduled with PSE&G for February 28, 2024 to review Project status.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on February 28, 2024 to review the Project status. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2024 to review and discuss the proposed easement acquisition.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on April 4, 2024 to review the Project status. PSE&G indicated that they are coordinating with NJDEP to acquire a portion of the State owned property located between PSE&G's lot and Weston Canal Road. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2024 to review and discuss the proposed easement acquisition.
- The soil borings began on June 24, 2024 and are anticipated to be completed within approximately 5 days.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on June 20, 2024 to review the Project status and proposed easement acquisition. A follow-up meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 7, 2024.
- We have incorporated PSE&G's comments into the survey basemap. The updated survey has been sent to FTSA for approval prior to distribution to PSE&G. The survey has been sent to PSE&G.
- We met with the Authority and Authority's Attorney to discuss the status of the Authority's Request for Use of State Property. We prepared a Draft Letter to the State requesting an expedited review of the FTSA Application.
- On August 6, 2024 we had a call with the Director and New Jersey Office of Transactions and Public land Administration to review the status of FTSA's



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request for use of State property. The State indicated that they are preparing a License Agreement relative to the Authority's request to construct utility crossings and an access driveway across State property. The NJDEP indicated that the Draft License Agreement is under internal legal review.

- A meeting was held with PSE&G on August 7, 2024 to review the Project status and proposed easement acquisition.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on September 11, 2024 to review the status of PSE&G's proposed acquisition of State property concurrent to FTSA's proposed easement acquisition. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2024.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on October 23, 2024 to review the status of PSE&G's proposed acquisition of State property concurrent to FTSA's proposed easement acquisition.
- A meeting was held with PSE&G on December 18, 2024 to review the status of PSE&G's proposed acquisition of State property concurrent to FTSA's proposed easement acquisition. A follow-up meeting is scheduled on February 10, 2025.
- As discussed, we have contacted the NJDEP to schedule a Pre-Application meeting to review the anticipated Land Use permit requirements for the proposed Project. The NJDEP Pre-Application Meeting is scheduled on January 30, 2025.

II. **Brookline Watershed Sewerage System Rehab – Bid & Construction**
(Expenditures: Budget 26%, Schedule 6 of 18 Months)

- Two (2) bids were received for the Project. The apparent low bidder is BLD Services, LLC.
- The bids are currently under Engineering and Legal review.
- The Bid Report was submitted to the Authority on December 20, 2023.
- We are coordinating with the NJDEP to receive approval for bid rejection. All requested documentation has been provided to the NJDEP. NJDEP Approval for bid rejection was received on February 6, 2024.
- SED 30 Day Notice was issued on February 7, 2024 and approved on February 22, 2024. We anticipate advertising the Project on March 12, 2024 pending NJDEP authorization.
- We coordinated with the Authority and Authority's Attorney to draft an Addendum to incorporate a Contractor Qualifications Form into the Contract Documents. The Addendum was submitted for NJDEP approval on February 22, 2024.



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- The Project was re-advertised as anticipated on March 12, 2024. We anticipate the following Bid Schedule:
 - Advertisement: March 12, 2024
 - Bid Opening: April 16, 2024
 - Project Award: May 7, 2024
- The Bid Opening was held as anticipated on April 16, 2024. Two (2) bids were received for the Project. The apparent low bidder is National Water Main Cleaning Company. We reviewed the bids and issued a Bid Report to the Authority on April 26, 2024.
- The Bid Package was submitted for NJDEP review and approval on May 13, 2024. We await NJDEP Authorization to Award. NJDEP Authorization to Award was received on June 4, 2024.
- Contract Documents were provided to National Water Main Cleaning Company (NWMCC) on June 7, 2024. Executed copies were received on June 24, 2024 and will be provided to the Authority and Authority's Attorney for review.
- The preconstruction meeting was held on July 30, 2024. Construction is scheduled to begin in early September, 2024.
- Notice To Proceed issued on August 12, 2024. Contract Final Completion is 550 Calendar Days from Notice.
- A site meeting was held on August 13, 2024 with the Franklin Township Police Department, FTSA, CME and National Water Main Cleaning Company regarding Police Traffic Directors throughout construction.
- The Contractor's SED Utilization Plan was approved by the NJDEP on August 15, 2024.
- Contract work is anticipated to start on or about September 9, 2024. National Water Main Cleaning Company has revised the start of construction to on or about October 7, 2024. They have indicated that this adjustment will not impact their ability to complete the Project on schedule.
- Shop Drawings were submitted for review on September 20, 2024.
- Construction began on October 7, 2024.
- NWMCC is currently performing Sewer Main Cleaning, Pre-Lining CCTV Inspection and Grouting of Sewer Main Joints. NWMCC anticipates completing Sewer Main Cleaning, Pre-Lining CCTV Inspection and Grouting of Sewer Main Joints during the week of December 6, 2024. Sewer Main Cleaning, Pre-Lining CCTV Inspection and Grouting of Sewer Main Joints was completed on December 2, 2024.



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- A site walk through with a representative from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is scheduled for December 12, 2024. The site walk through with EPA, FTSA and CME was completed on December 12, 2024.
- Manhole to Manhole Cured in Place Pipe (CIPP) Lining is anticipated to begin the week of December 6, 2024. Manhole to Manhole Cured in Place Pipe (CIPP) Lining began on December 10, 2024 and is approximately 19% complete to date.
- Main to House (MTH) Service Lateral Lining (SLL) began on December 16, 2024 and is approximately 3% complete to date.
- Cured in Place Point Repair Lining began on January 16, 2025 and is approximately 3% complete to date.

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grant Status

- **Somerset County Grant: \$3,000,000.00**
 - Pay App C-1: \$39,305.84
 - Will be submitted to Somerset County for reimbursement under the County Grant in the month of February, 2025
 - Pay App C-2: \$43,331.68
 - Will be submitted to Somerset County for reimbursement under the County Grant in the month of February, 2025
 - Balance After this Submittal: \$2,917,362.48
- **Franklin Township Grant: \$2,000,000.00**
 - Planning and Design Phase Services - \$294,380.22
 - Submitted to Franklin Township for reimbursement under the Municipal Grant in the month of January, 2025
 - Balance After this Submittal: \$1,705,619.78

III. Commerce Drive Pumping Station Upgrade - Construction (Expenditures: Budget 17%, Schedule 4 of 15 Months)

- We submitted the Bid Package to NJDEP on August 14, 2024 requesting Authorization to Award. Authorization to Award was received on August 29, 2024.
- The Notice of Award was issued to Sovereign Consulting Inc. on September 17, 2024. Executed Contract Documents are due back to the Authority by October 8, 2024.



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- Executed Contract Documents have been returned by Sovereign and finalized by the Authority.
- We are coordinating with all parties to schedule a preconstruction meeting. The preconstruction meeting was held at FTSA on November 14, 2024.
- Notice to Proceed was issued to Sovereign on November 18, 2024.
- A site walk through with a representative from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is scheduled for December 12, 2024. The site walk through with EPA, FTSA and CME was completed on December 12, 2024.
- The Contractor's SED Utilization Plan was approved by the NJDEP on December 5, 2024.
- Sovereign Consulting, Inc., has submitted initial Shop Drawing Submittals currently under review by our Office. **Shop Drawing Review Phase in progress.**

IV. **Shirley Avenue Pump Station Evaluation**

- We conducted a Site Visit of the Shirley Avenue Pump Station with FTSA Staff on November 20, 2023.
- We are currently developing improvement alternatives and drafting Concept Plans. A meeting will be scheduled in January, 2024 to review potential alternatives with FTSA Staff.
- We are drafting Concept Plans for three (3) alternatives to upgrade the Shirley Avenue Pump Station. A meeting is scheduled with Authority Staff on February 7, 2024 to review alternatives.
- Flow meters were installed on January 26, 2024 to monitor sewage flow to the Shirley Avenue Pump Station. The flow meter is scheduled to be removed on March 27, 2024.
- A meeting was held with Authority Staff on February 7, 2024 to review Concept Plans. The Authority's feedback has been incorporated into the Drawings.
- An additional alternative was developed and was reviewed with Authority Staff on February 27, 2024. A meeting will be scheduled with the Director to review alternatives and estimated Project costs.
- We met with the Director and Authority Staff on March 7, 2024 to review alternatives and estimated Project costs. We are finalizing our Letter Report. Our Draft Letter Report was issued to the Authority on April 3, 2024.
- We are collaborating with the Authority to assist in investigating a potential easement acquisition adjacent to the existing Pump Station site. At the



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direction of the Authority, we mailed a letter to the owner of the subject property regarding a potential easement acquisition.

- We are collaborating with the Director regarding a potential property appraisal. We have reviewed a potential additional alternative with the Authority. We had a discussion with the Director regarding updated estimated construction costs for the additional alternative.
- As directed by the Authority, we are scheduled to perform a survey of the existing pump station and proposed easement acquisition during the week of January 10, 2025. Survey of the existing pump station and proposed easement acquisition area was performed on January 10, 2025. An updated Draft Concept Plan incorporating the survey basemap was sent to the Authority for review on January 23, 2025. We are preparing a metes and bounds description of the proposed easement acquisition area.

V. Solar Energy Investigation

- A meeting was held with the Authority on January 16, 2024 to review locations for a potential photovoltaic system.
- We are preparing a Request for Authorization to prepare Contract Documents for the Project.
- We coordinated with Authority Staff to collect and review electrical usage at the Authority's pump stations for net metering consideration.
- A meeting was held on February 13, 2024 with the Authority to review the alternatives of entering into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) vs. purchasing a Solar Energy System.
- We are reviewing budgetary cost estimates received on March 22, 2024. Upon completion of our review, we will schedule a meeting with the Authority to discuss alternatives.
- We are estimating the cost of a potential parking lot canopy structure and evaluating the feasibility of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). A call will be scheduled with the Authority to discuss. We met with the Authority on May 8, 2024 to discuss alternatives and estimated costs. We have since developed an additional alternative and will schedule a follow-up call to discuss.
- A call has been scheduled with the Authority on June 28, 2024 to review updated alternatives.
- A memo summarizing solar energy alternatives was issued to the Authority on July 1, 2024. Upon Authority review, a follow-up meeting will be scheduled to discuss.



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Should you have any questions regarding these matters, please feel free to contact this Office.

Very truly yours,
CME ASSOCIATES

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wili Korosec', written in a cursive style.

William E. Korosec, P.E.
Consulting Engineer's Office

MJM/wek
cc: FTSA Chairman & Commissioners