

Media Contact:

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Public Meeting on Township & Borough of Princeton Consolidation/Shared Services Study to be Held Oct. 28

Opportunity to Learn about Project and Provide Feedback

Princeton, NJ – October 8, 2010 – A public meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28 for residents and taxpayers to learn about – and provide feedback on – a recently-initiated study of consolidation and shared service options between the Township and Borough of Princeton. The community forum will be held from 7-9 pm at the John Witherspoon Middle School Auditorium, 217 Walnut Lane in Princeton.

A joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission of Township and Borough representatives was formed in August to begin the process of evaluating the feasibility and potential benefits of consolidating the municipalities into a single governmental unit, and alternatively to assess the feasibility of sharing services in the areas of police and public works.

“I encourage residents to attend this important forum,” said Valerie Haynes, Commission Vice Chair. “We have a strong commitment to engaging the public as we undertake this examination of consolidation and shared services. The October 28 forum offers an excellent opportunity for residents and stakeholders to learn more about the study approach and offer feedback about which services are most important to them.”

The meeting will be moderated by Commission Chair and Borough resident Anton Lahnston, and will include a brief presentation by the study consultant, the Center for Governmental Research (CGR). Community members can meet the CGR project team leaders, and learn more about the study’s methodology, timeframe and objectives.

CGR will also outline a newly-launched project website, which will be a key vehicle in facilitating public engagement as the study process unfolds. The website (www.cgr.org/princeton) will offer access to Commission meeting schedules, minutes, reports and key data components as they become available. By going to the website, community members will also be able to email comments to the Commission. In addition, they can sign up to receive email “alerts” when any significant new information is posted to the website.

Vice Chair Haynes noted, “The upcoming forum and the website will give community members a direct line to the Commission at project outset, which will help shape the process as we move forward.”

Tentative meeting agenda:

- Introduction – Commission Chair Anton Lahnston
- Project Overview – CGR
- Website and Methods of Public Input/Information – CGR
- Key Consolidation and Shared Services Issues – Comments from Public

Commission Members

Anton Lahnston, Chair
Valerie Haynes, Vice Chair
Chad Goerner
Carol Golden
David Goldfarb
Ryan Lilienthal
William Metro
Bernard Miller, Township Mayor
Patrick Simon
Mildred Trotman, Borough Mayor
Alternate: Alice Small

About the Center for Governmental Research (CGR)

CGR is a 95-year-old nonprofit, nonpartisan, independent consulting organization with significant expertise conducting local government consolidation and shared service studies and developing implementation plans. CGR is headquartered in Rochester, NY and in early October was engaged by the Commission to serve as study consultant.

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