

Media Contact:

Anton Lahnston, Chair, Princeton Borough and Princeton Township Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission

AntonLahnston@aol.com or (609) 306-8595

**Princeton Consolidation Commission Invites the
Community to Jan. 26 Public Forum to Discuss
*The Princetons: Who Does What & What Does It Cost?***

*Princeton Borough & Princeton Township Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study
Commission Releases 1st Report & Invites Community Feedback*

Princeton, NJ – January 10, 2011 – The Princeton Borough & Princeton Township Joint Consolidation/Shared Services Study Commission today released its first major report to the community, and also announced a public forum to discuss the findings.

The first report, “Municipal Services and Financial Overview, Borough and Township of Princeton” is available at www.cgr.org/princeton. A public forum to discuss the report will be held on Wednesday, January 26 from 7:30 – 9:30 pm at the John Witherspoon Middle School Auditorium, 217 Walnut Lane in Princeton. The forum will be a dialogue between the Princeton community and the Commission about current governance and services in the two Princetons.

“This is our first report to the community and it contains the building blocks on which we will base future decisions about consolidation and shared service options for the two Princetons,” said Anton Lahnston, Commission Chair. “It forms the shared knowledge base we all need in order to ask critical questions about what consolidation might look like, and what impact it would have in the community.”

Valerie Haynes, Commission Vice Chair, added: “This report is not about options or recommendations for what Princeton *might* be. Rather, it documents what *is* in Princeton today. What services are we providing? How are we funding them? How are they similar or different? We need to answer those questions before we can move forward. Discussing the report with the community is important. We want community input, discussion and feedback before we move forward.”

The joint Commission of Borough and Township 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.

“We not only invite but also encourage the public to attend this important forum,” said Anton Lahnston. “We are strongly committed to engaging the public as we continue to examine consolidation and shared services. The January 26 forum offers an excellent opportunity for

residents and stakeholders to review the knowledge base built to-date, and offer their own feedback on what is important to them concerning services and governance in the two Princetons.”

The meeting will be moderated by Anton Lahnston, and will include a brief presentation of the initial report by the study consultant, the Center for Governmental Research (CGR). The session will then be opened for public comment and dialogue.

Tentative meeting agenda:

- Introduction – Commission Chair Anton Lahnston
- Review of Report – CGR
- Discussion – Public & Commission

Commission Members

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

About the Study Consultant: 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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