



MUNICIPALITY OF PRINCETON

Department of Infrastructure
& Operations

400 Witherspoon Street

Princeton, NJ 08540

(609) 921-7077

engineering@princetonnj.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Council
From: James J. Purcell, PE, *Assistant Municipal Engineer*
Subject: Grover Avenue Culvert Design PSA Amendment
Date: August 11, 2025

Attached for Council approval at its August 11, 2025 meeting is a resolution to amend the professional services agreement with GPI, Inc. for the design of the Harrys Brook Tributary culvert under Grover Avenue. This amendment is to provide for design of improvements to Grover Park due to the impact that the stream has and will have during extreme storm events.

Harrys Brook Tributary 2 flows through Grover Park between the Princeton Shopping Center and Grover Avenue. The current culvert under Grover Avenue consists of multiple drainage pipes that are inadequate to convey the stream flows expected in future storms. GPI was awarded the professional services agreement to design a culvert replacement to convey the stream under future flow conditions.

During design, GPI determined that the future 100-year storm flows (using NJDEP projected rainfall data) could not be conveyed under Grover Avenue without impacting a residential home downstream above allowable limits. It was determined that flooding of Grover Park will occur in the future, as it does today, during such a storm event. In order to safeguard the public, improvements in Grover Park are being proposed that will elevate the walkway on boardwalks above the flood elevation, a raised picnic area, rehabilitation of the basketball court, upgrades to the playground, and replacement of the footbridge over the stream. GPI will provide conceptual design of these improvements to identify environmental constraints and permitting requirements and to determine budgetary costs for consideration. Preparation of permits and construction contract documents is not included – if the conceptual design is determined to be feasible, a separate design contract will be solicited. Construction of the improvements are partially funded by a contribution from Avalon Bay as part of the development of *Avalon Princeton on Harrison*.

Please contact me if you have any questions.