



State of New Jersey

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

January 31, 2011

Honorable Mildred T. Trotman
Mayor
Borough of Princeton
P.O. Box 390
One Monument Drive
Princeton, New Jersey 08542

Honorable Chad Goerner
Mayor
Township of Princeton
400 Witherspoon Street
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Mayor Trotman and Mayor Goerner:

I am writing in advance of this evening's joint meeting of the Princeton Borough Council and the Princeton Township Committee to express my support and that of my Administration for the proposed Arts and Transit Neighborhood in Princeton.

Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno, Transportation Commissioner Jim Simpson and my Chief of Staff Rich Bagger have between them met several times with representatives of Princeton Borough, Princeton Township and Princeton University to review the Arts and Transit Neighborhood proposal and discuss the economic development, transportation and cultural arts benefits it would bring to the Princeton community.


Princeton University's plan to invest approximately \$300 million of its own resources to transform the neighborhood in the vicinity of McCarter Theatre and the Princeton Station into a vibrant arts center for both the University campus and the Princeton community has my full support. State agencies including the Department of Transportation and New Jersey Transit Corporation are ready to work with Princeton University, Princeton Borough and Princeton Township to implement the plan, including the relocation and improvements to Princeton Station at the University's expense.

I am aware that there has been a robust debate about how best to ensure continuation and even improvement of rail service from Princeton to Princeton Junction. It is my view that approval and implementation of the Arts and Transit Neighborhood, with the substantial economic

development and cultural benefits it would create, represents the best plan for the Princeton rail shuttle, both now and in the future.

I encourage you to work with Princeton University to create the Arts and Transit Neighborhood. You will continue to have the full support and cooperation of my Administration in that important effort.

Sincerely,



Chris Christie
Governor

- c: Princeton University President Shirley M. Tilghman
- Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno
- Commissioner of Transportation Jim Simpson
- Chief of Staff Rich Bagger