

Madison Train Station Efficient Landscape Design Project Update 2019

Madison's Efficient Landscape Design project, the re-landscaping of the Madison Train Station grounds, was completed in 2010 and continues to be maintained and improved by the Friends of Madison Train Station (FMTS). Ten years in the making, the re-landscaping of the Madison Train Station grounds complements the refurbishing of the historic station building and the ADA enhancements of the station building and platforms. The project was made possible by a federal T-21 grant, the fundraising efforts of FMTS and in-kind donations.

The overall project included both re-landscaping and pedestrian improvements. The Friends of the Madison Train Station worked with the Friends of Madison Shade Trees, NJ Transit, Davies Associates Landscape Architects, LLC and Coviello Bros. Horticultural Services, a Madison-based business, among others, to carry out the project.

To quote from the Borough website: "This substantial endeavor...has enhanced all entrances to the station, stabilized steep slopes, provided seasonal interest, and features a full irrigation system to assure ease of maintenance in the future." Grass was removed from the steeply sloping embankments leading up to the train platform and replaced with groundcover, shrubs and trees, plus a drip irrigation system. On the flatter areas, grass was minimized through the use of perennial beds (and annual beds where snow accumulates). Soaker hoses were employed for hedgerows. Trees were retained, preserved and added throughout the site (only one tree, a blue spruce, was removed, due to its state of decline).

The landscape plans called for mulching and soil amendments with very specific requirements as outlined in the fuller report included in the documentation below. The pedestrian improvements included the replacement of concrete walkways with pavers.

Additional improvements in recent years include the installation of a permanent hard-wired zone for the irrigation system for the Lincoln Place island maintained by local business J&M Plants. On the steep slopes of Lincoln Place, mulch has replaced the original ground cover where it did not take, to eliminate the need for mowing and weed whacking, thus, keeping maintenance low. A mature copper beech on the Prospect/King Roads side failed and has been replaced with the same species copper beech, 27' high by 15' wide. The now-exposed understory area will be relandscaped with native, low maintenance shrubs and plants that will continue flow line of the existing plantings. The irrigation system on Kings Road/Prospect Street side has been expanded to accommodate the new plantings and the new tree has a double loop drip line as part of system instead of a sprinkler head. Every year the Friends of Madison Train Station maintain and upgrade the irrigation system, replace broken heads, adjust heights of heads and basically maintain the system. Where plants have been lost, they are replaced with the same or similar plantings to keep the integrity of the design.

Other improvements since 2016 include changing the striping for pedestrians to make access easier to the portico, using international striping standards, replacing sidewalks on Kings Road side three years ago due to tree roots heaving them; restriping and rejuvenating the driveway. (Rejuvenating is a new process being used in NJ, which impregnates instead of laying on top like cold tar and lasts longer, extending the life of the driveway by at least double.)

According to Richard Romano, chair, the Friends of MTS maintain the premise from the tracks down to street on both sides excluding stairs and building, including snow removal, hardscape maintenance, and repaving, restriping rejuvenating.

The Friends also installed bike racks under the overpass at Prospect and Waverly and inside the station tunnel and recently moved to a cashless payment system for parking, using virtual technology, introducing another low maintenance system and saving on man hours since there are now no physical cash boxes to maintain. Formerly, the police had to monitor the cash boxes, count the money, etc. Now commuters have 30 minutes from when they get on the train to enter their license plate and pay. New signage at the station publicizes the system.

Island in front of Lincoln Place entrance to station





May Day
Saturday, May 4th
Contact the DDC
to Volunteer!
ddc@rosenet.org
Downtown Development
Commission

MADISON
**INTO
YELLOW**
A Collaboration
of Madison
Area Businesses
and Residents
Supporting Public Safety
[Logos]

Part of the irrigation system



Lincoln Place slopes







New copper beech; exposed area will be relandscaped to match existing landscaping















Green Avenue/Kings Road end of train station property



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SPRING CLEANING

Photos by Judi Whiting May 9, 2019



SPRING CLEANING

Saturday, May 4, brought the ultimate “spring cleaning” in Madison with the arrival of “May Day in Madison,” the 21st annual town-wide spring beautification day for the borough’s public spaces, with hundreds of volunteers fanning out across the community for weeding, mulching, planting, and clearing out winter debris. Taking pride in their mulching and replanting work at the Madison Train Station on Kings Road, from left, are Janice Corte, Connie Jardula, Margaret Weisgerber and Sue Schreiber, all of Madison. “May Day in Madison” is a project of the borough’s Downtown Development Commission (DDC) and the all-volunteer “May Day in Madison” Committee.

Photos by Judi Whiting

As featured on



Madison Mayor Robert Conley digs in to beautify the grounds of the the Madison Train Station on Kings Road on Saturday, May 4, during "May Day in Madison," the annual town-wide beautification day in which hundreds of volunteers help clean, mulch and improve Madison's parks, business districts, and other public places.

As featured on

Lincoln Place Redevelopment Project

Madison, NJ



The Madison Train Station is the centerpiece of Lincoln Place and Downtown Madison

Summary

The Friends of the Madison Train Station, a charitable 501c3 organization, is seeking a charitable donation of \$25,000 from PSE&G which will be directed towards the purchase of seventeen "Victorian-style" lamp posts for Lincoln Place, an important roadway in the heart of Madison's downtown. The total cost for the lamp posts including materials and installation is over \$75,000 and the Borough of Madison will pay for the difference. The lamp posts are part of a larger \$650,000 road reconstruction plan, which in turn is part of a larger \$16 million redevelopment project of the area.



Victorian-Style Lamp Post

PSE&G will receive significant benefits, including:

- Sole sponsor of the Lamp Posts and sole corporate sponsor for the entire Lincoln Place Redevelopment Project.
- Permanent recognition plaque mounted on every lamp post.
- Borough proclamation presented to PSE&G by Mayor and elected officials on site, at Bottle Hill Day, a festival that draws over 10,000 into town on a single day.
- Multiple photos and press releases issued to media publicizing PSE&G's support of the project.
- Opportunity to present donation check to the Mayor and elected officials at a Borough Council meeting.
- Significant community recognition. Over 300 volunteers have supported the redevelopment project, through donation of time and money.



Why consider this project?

Support the local economy. Lincoln Place is an economic engine for the region with many important businesses located on the street including the Madison Train Station, Post Office, Movie Theatre, two restaurants and multiple retail establishments.



Visibility. Lincoln Place is a gateway to Madison with over five thousand visitors a week coming to the Lincoln Place from Madison and the surrounding communities including Florham Park, Chatham Borough, Chatham Township, Harding and Morris Township. The identification plaques placed on the lamp posts will be seen by thousands of people every week.

Part of a \$16 Million Redevelopment Plan with multiple funding partners.

Investment includes:

- \$15 million from NJ Transit to renovate the Historic Train Station.
- \$140,000 in donations was raised by the Friends of the Madison Train Station to repair pedestrian walkways.
- \$100,000 in ISTE A Transportation Grant funds were used to improve landscaping and irrigation at the Train Station through the Friends of Madison Train Station.
- \$650,000 municipally funded road reconstruction project currently underway to improve infrastructure and enhance the streetscape and pedestrian safety.
- \$20,000 in funds donated by the Downtown Development Commission towards Lincoln Place landscaping.
- \$10,000 in funds appropriated by the Shade Tree Management Board to fund the purchase of trees on Lincoln Place.

