

# Chestnut Hill Booster Pumping Station Rehabilitation Project

## Project Background

The Philadelphia Water Department is preparing bid documents for the complete rehabilitation of the Chestnut Hill Booster Pumping Station (CHBPS) located on the property of the John S. Jenks School at 8301 Germantown Avenue. Constructed in 1924, Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) has recently identified the CHBPS for rehabilitation and improvements as the last major upgrade to the station was in 1957.

## Building Rehabilitation

PWD proposes to replace existing pumps, piping, valves, and electrical equipment to complete the required infrastructure improvements to provide reliable drinking water to the Chestnut Hill area.

Additionally, PWD plans to replace the roof, gutters, downspouts, door, and the station's windows in-kind to maintain its historic aesthetics; this includes replacing the current asphalt shingle roof with synthetic slate shingles to reflect the original 1924 design.

Based on comments from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC), due to the damage vine growth can have on buildings which accelerates decay of the masonry and mortar joints, PWD plans to remove the ivy completely and install a fixed steel window to reflect the original design of the building in 1924. The window will have spandrel glazing with a green frame to match the existing windows. A rendering is provided in Figure 1.



*Figure 1: Renovated Chestnut Hill Booster Pumping Station Rendering*

## Community Impacts

The water distribution piping for the CHBPS is in the center of Germantown Ave. ***To complete this work, Germantown Ave will need to be fully closed between Southampton Ave and Gravers Lane for up to 8 weeks over the summers of 2025 and 2026.*** During the rest of the project, two-way traffic on Germantown will be maintained, with parking removed between Southampton Ave and Gravers Lane.

Pedestrian access along Germantown Ave will be maintained on the southern sidewalk throughout the project. Additionally, access to the playground on the school property will be maintained throughout the project duration. PWD is coordinating with the J.S. Jenks school to minimize project impacts on the school and students. Safety and permanent fencing will be implemented to protect students and the public.

### **Project Schedule:**

Tentative schedule, assuming Contractor Notice to Proceed by June 2024:

- ❖ Phase 1: June 2024 - May 2025
- ❖ Phase 2: June - Aug 2025
- ❖ Phase 3: September 2025 - May 2026
- ❖ Phase 4: June - Aug 2026
- ❖ Phase 5: September - October 2026

Total Duration: June 2024 - October 2026 (~28 Months)

- Phase 1: June 2024 – May 2025 (10 Months)
  - On Germantown Ave between Southampton Ave and Gravers Lane, the current 1-lane each way traffic will be maintained but parking will be removed.
  - Pedestrian sidewalk access will be maintained on the south side of Germantown Avenue and access to the playground will be maintained.
  - Ardleigh Ave will close for up to 1 month.
- Phase 2: June-Aug 2025 (8 Weeks)
  - Germantown Avenue will be fully closed to traffic between Southampton Ave and Gravers Lane.
  - Pedestrian sidewalk access will be maintained on the south side of Germantown Avenue and access to the playground will be maintained.
- Phase 3: September 2025-May 2026 (10 Months)
  - On Germantown Ave between Southampton Ave and Gravers Lane, the current 1-lane each way traffic will be maintained but parking will be removed.
  - Pedestrian sidewalk access will be maintained on the south side of Germantown Avenue and access to the playground will be maintained.
- Phase 4: June-Aug 2026 (8 Weeks)
  - Germantown Avenue will be fully closed to traffic between Southampton Ave and Gravers Lane.
  - Pedestrian sidewalk access will be maintained on the south side of Germantown Avenue and access to the playground will be maintained.
- Phase 5 – September-October 2026 (5 Weeks)
  - On Germantown Ave between Southampton Ave and Gravers Lane, the current 1-lane each way traffic will be maintained but parking will be removed.
  - Pedestrian sidewalk access will be maintained on the south side of Germantown Avenue and access to the playground will be maintained.