

# Walter Baker Pedestrian Bridge over Neponset River Boston and Milton, MA



## DCR Public Meeting

November 17, 6:30 p.m.– 8:00 p.m.

Baker Square Condominiums - Park Mill Function Room



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

**Deval L. Patrick**

Lieutenant Governor

**Timothy Murray**

Energy and Environmental Secretary

**Ian A. Bowles**

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

**Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.**



## **DCR Mission Statement**

*To protect, promote and enhance our  
common wealth of natural, cultural  
and recreational resources.*

# Purpose of Meeting

- Review project goals/public benefits
- Present project scope/elements
- Describe project schedule
- Provide information on construction impacts and mitigation plans
- Answer questions and provide contact information

# Project Goals / Benefits

- Comply with Chapter 91 licensing requirements
- Improve public safety by providing a safe passage over a bridge that cannot be effectively barricaded
- Upgrade visitor experience in the area



# Project Funding

- Commonwealth of Massachusetts Accelerated Bridge Program (ABP)
- Winn Development (Baker Square II Limited Partnership) - \$70,000
- Construction Project Cost - \$843,300

# DCR Recent Investment in the Area

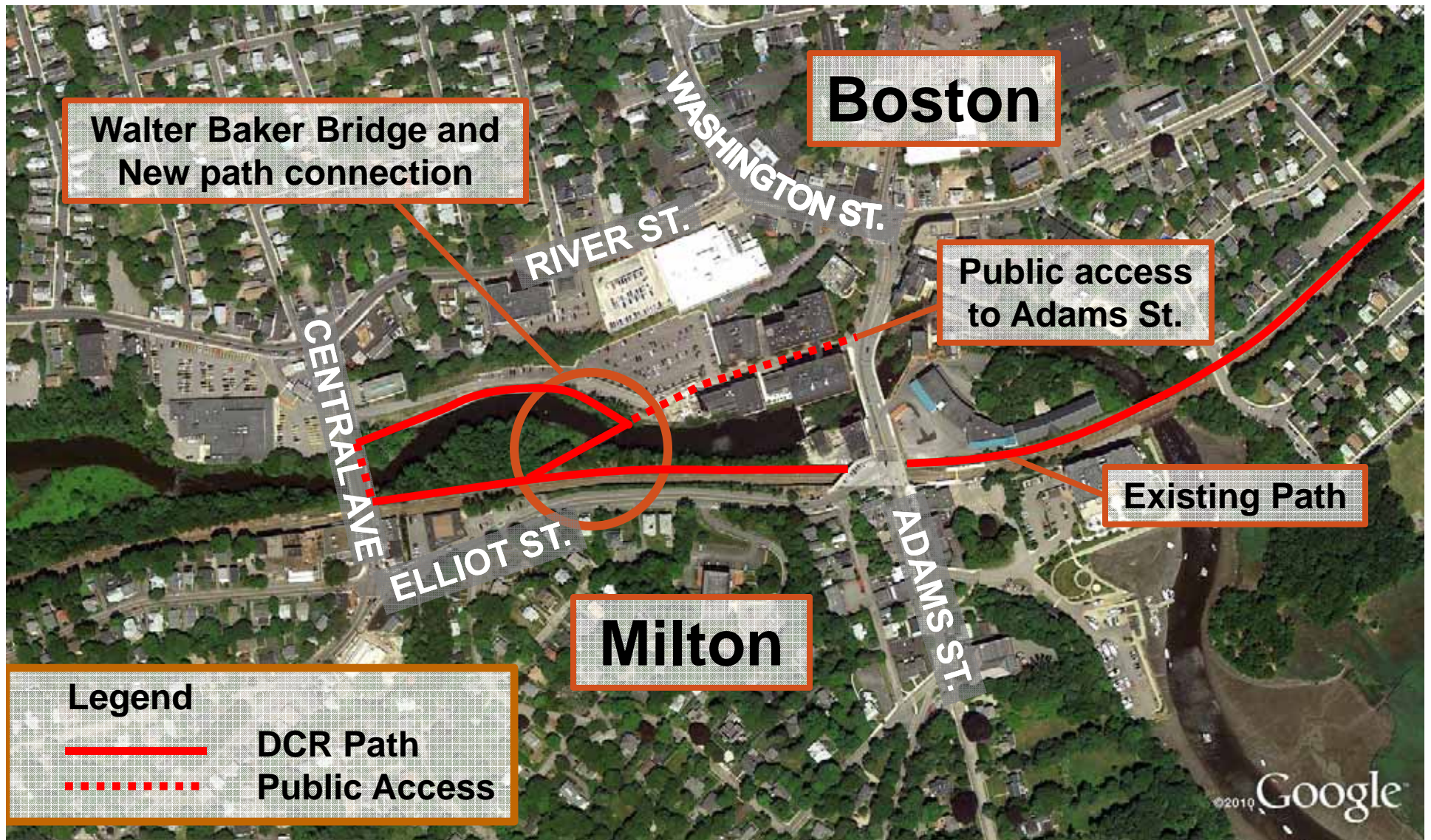
- Easement / Public access improvements at Baker Square Condominiums as part of Chapter 91 mitigation – \$350,000



# Project Team

- Structural – Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
- Landscape – Beals and Thomas, Inc.
- Underwater Inspection – Childs Engineering
- Environmental – Epsilon Associates
- Survey – Welch Associates
- Contractor – Unified Contracting, Inc.

# Aerial – Locus Plan



# Description and History of Bridge

- Three-span steel through-girder and floor beam rail road bridge on masonry piers
- Spur track used to access Walter Baker Chocolate Factory
- c. 1917



# Existing Conditions

- General corrosion of steel beams
- Missing rivet heads
- Large holes between existing timber ties, presenting safety hazard



# Existing Conditions

- Severe corrosion of top flange of stringers



# Considerations for Design

- Adjacent private property
- Adjacent to actively used trail by children and families
- Working over water
- Lead paint removal - containment

# Project Scope / Elements

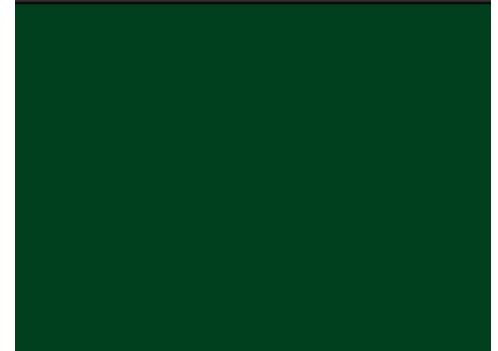
- Repair the existing stringer flanges
- Install new bolts where needed
- Replace the existing timber ties with a new 10-ft wide preservative-treated timber deck between curbs
- Use existing steel girders as 42" inch high railings



# Project Scope / Elements

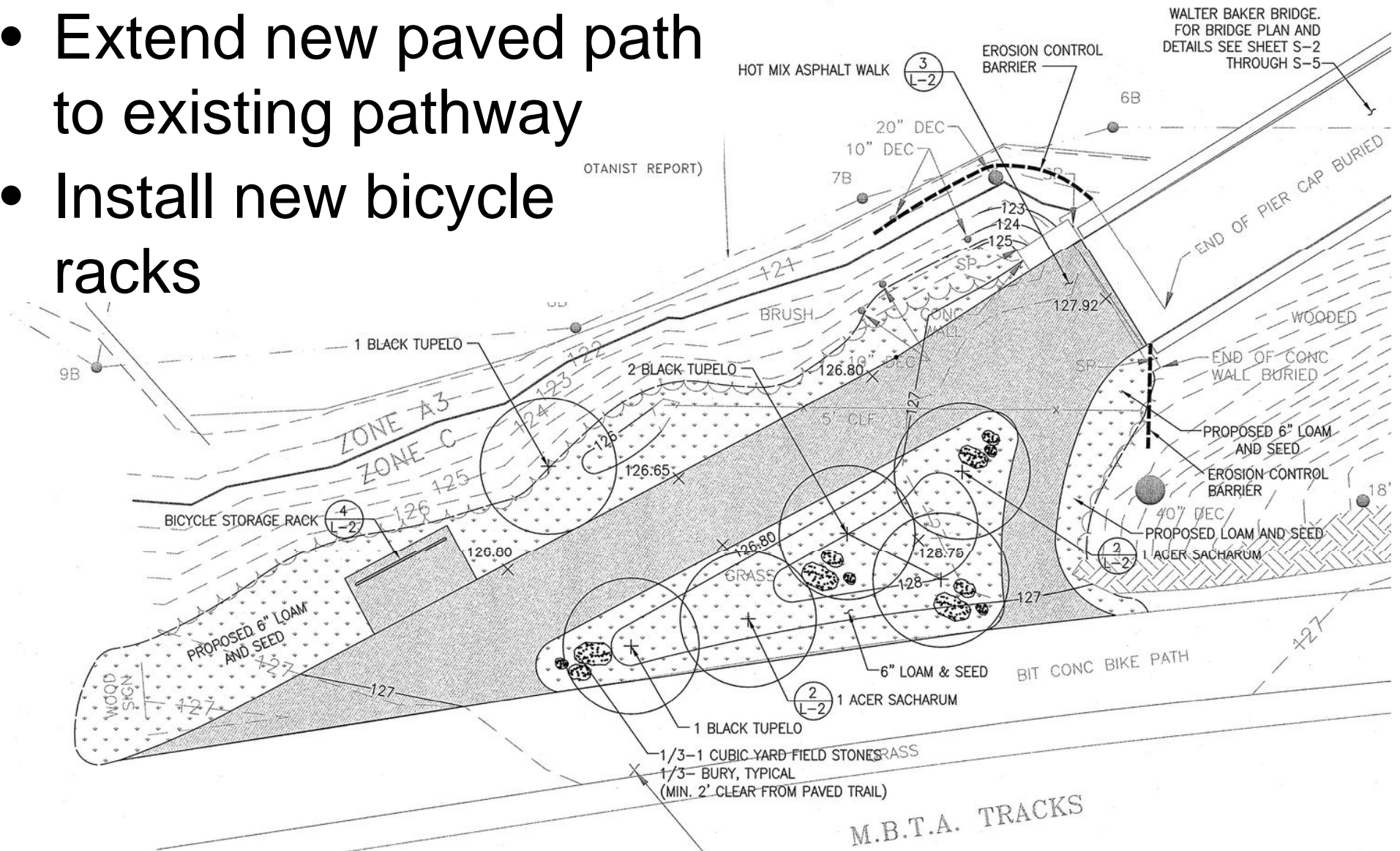
- Clean and paint the structural steel: Dark Green
- Reconstruct eroded bank on south side

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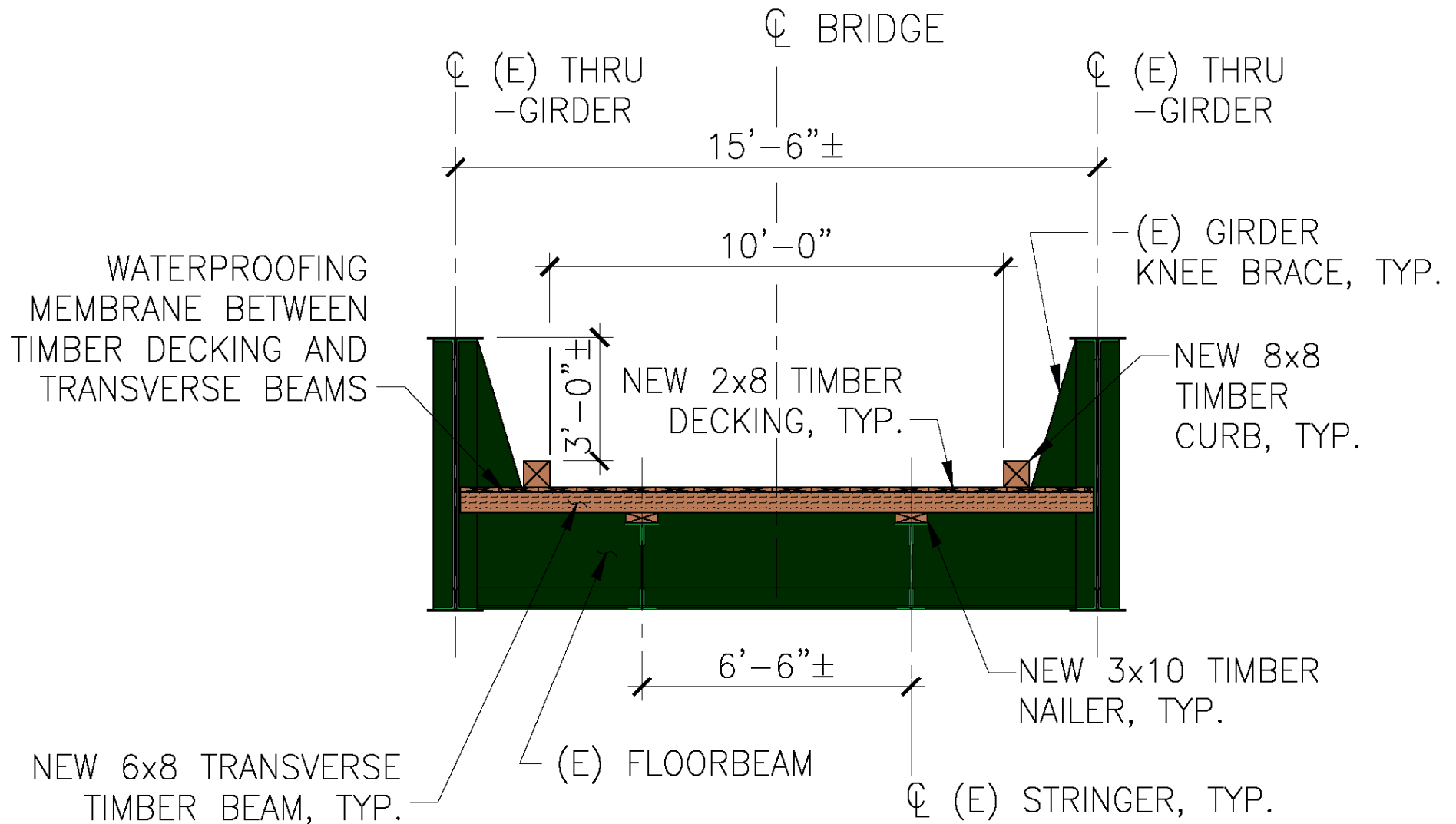


# Project Scope / Elements

- Extend new paved path to existing pathway
- Install new bicycle racks



# Bridge Design



# Anticipated Project Construction Schedule

- Notice to Proceed – November 2010
- Mobilization – Winter 2010
- Demolition – Spring 2011
- Construction – Late spring 2011
- Work completed – Late summer 2011
- Work window – 7 am to 6 pm, Monday through Friday

# Special Considerations / Mitigation During Construction

- Noise abatement
  - No night or weekend work proposed
  - Heavy equipment located on south bank, away from condominium complex
- Lead paint
  - Full containment in compliance with DEP regulations
- Environmental impacts on river banks
  - Erosion control measures

# Special Considerations / Mitigation During Construction

- Condominium Complex Parking Lot Impacts
  - No heavy equipment staged on north side of bridge (larger than pickup truck)
  - Short term parking and material drop-off only
  - No contractor parking unless authorized
  - Construction worker access by foot

# Special Considerations / Mitigation During Construction

- Contractor Access
  - Contractor lay-down and staging area will be located at the end of the bridge
  - Construction vehicles will access the construction site using the existing path



# Special Considerations / Mitigation During Construction

- Pedestrian / Bicycle Access
  - Current pedestrian / bicycle access to bike path will be maintained – one lane closure only at a time
  - Warning signs will be installed



# DCR Management Post-Construction

- DCR has easement on path on north bank
- Open dawn to dusk
- Accessible for emergency and state police vehicles
- DCR assumes maintenance of bridge

# Questions & Answers

## Additional Information

For more information:

– Web:

<http://www.mass.gov/dcr/news/publicmeetings/bridgematerials.htm>

If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions:

– e-mail: [dcr.updates@state.ma.us](mailto:dcr.updates@state.ma.us)

– phone: 617-626-4974