



November 4, 2010

Dear Interested Citizen or Stakeholder:

This letter is to notify you that the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is postponing the public meeting that was scheduled for November 8 to discuss construction at the intersection of the Jamaicaaway and Eliot Street. Due to procurement issues that have arisen in connection with the construction contract, DCR must postpone the meeting until January 2011, when we anticipate having a contractor on board and construction plans in hand. We will announce the exact date for the January meeting as soon as possible.

As you know, DCR and the Emerald Necklace Conservancy (ENC) have been engaged in hosting a public process to solicit input from the community for enhancing pedestrian and bicyclist access to Jamaica Pond. This process identified preferred alternatives for crossings at three locations: the Jamaicaaway at Eliot Street, Parkman Drive at Kelley Circle, and Parkman Drive at the Parkman Memorial.

DCR has completed the permitting and design process with our design consultant and received approvals from the Massachusetts Historic Commission, Boston Conservation Commission, and Boston Landmark Commission for the three crossings. With funds for the Eliot Street Crossing construction project committed in DCR's fiscal year 2010 capital budget, the agency solicited and received contract bids last month.

As part of our public process, we also announced with the Emerald Necklace Conservancy that we would be co-hosting a public meeting the evening of November 8 to discuss the construction schedule and traffic impacts. However, as noted above, that meeting must now be rescheduled in January.

DCR remains fully committed to the Eliot Street Crossing construction project. We expect to resolve any issues and be in a position to complete the project in spring 2011, as originally planned.

We regret any inconvenience that our postponement of the public meeting may cause and appreciate your continued interest and support.

Sincerely,

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.
Commissioner

