



**For immediate release  
December 30, 2008**

**Contact: Wendy Fox  
617-626-1453**

## **DCR SETS PUBLIC MEETING ON THE PATRICK ADMINISTRATION'S BRIDGE REPAIR PROGRAM**

The Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has scheduled a public meeting on January 14 to discuss projects the agency will undertake as part of Governor Patrick's \$3 billion Accelerated Bridge Program.

DCR projects in the Accelerated Bridge Program include the repair or replacement of 29 bridges and preservation work on an additional 50 bridges. At the meeting, DCR officials will provide an overview of the projects, outline the community process, and highlight the schedule of upcoming public meetings.

"It is extremely important that the public understand the scope and anticipated schedule of these projects, and have an opportunity to make their comments known," said DCR Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr. "This agency takes very seriously its commitment to civic engagement as its work in the Accelerated Bridge Program moves forward."

Sullivan said DCR officials are dedicated to informing the community about the design, repair, and rehabilitation work as these important transportation projects get underway.

**Next month's initial public meeting is on Wednesday, January 14, from 6-8 p.m., in the Boston Public Library's Rabb Auditorium.**

Upholding his pledge to quickly repair the Commonwealth's most neglected bridges, Governor Patrick last August signed an accelerated bridge bond bill that committed \$3 billion to repair and replace 250 Massachusetts bridges identified as structurally deficient. Over the next several years, the program will ensure public safety by funding repair work for bridges in most urgent need of repair, and will create thousands of engineering and construction jobs. The project will save the state an estimated \$1.5 billion in avoided inflation and deferred-maintenance costs.

DCR held public meetings earlier this year to discuss the repairs and rehabilitation work planned in 2009 on the BU Bridge and Craigie Dam and Drawbridges, both of which cross

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Department of Conservation and Recreation  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600  
Boston MA 02114-2119  
617-626-1250 617-626-1351 Fax  
[www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr)



Deval L. Patrick  
Governor

Timothy P. Murray  
Lt. Governor

Ian A. Bowles, Secretary, Executive  
Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Richard K. Sullivan, Jr., Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation

over the Charles River between Boston and Cambridge. Other Charles River Basin projects planned for 2009 include the Magazine Beach pedestrian bridge in Cambridge and the Mystic Valley Parkway over Alewife Brook in Somerville.

To learn more about the Accelerated Bridge Program, visit [www.mass.gov/acceleratedbridges](http://www.mass.gov/acceleratedbridges). To learn more about DCR projects, visit [www.mass.gov/dcr/projects](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/projects).

###

*The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), an agency of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, oversees 450,000 acres of parks and forests, beaches, bike trails, watersheds, and dams, in addition to 278 bridges and miles of roadways. Led by Commissioner Richard K. Sullivan Jr., the agency's mission is to protect, promote, and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit [www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr). Contact us at [mass.parks@state.ma.us](mailto:mass.parks@state.ma.us).*