

Boston – CANA Tunnel and Vent Building Rehabilitation

September 23, 2026

Michael O'Dowd, Director of Major Projects



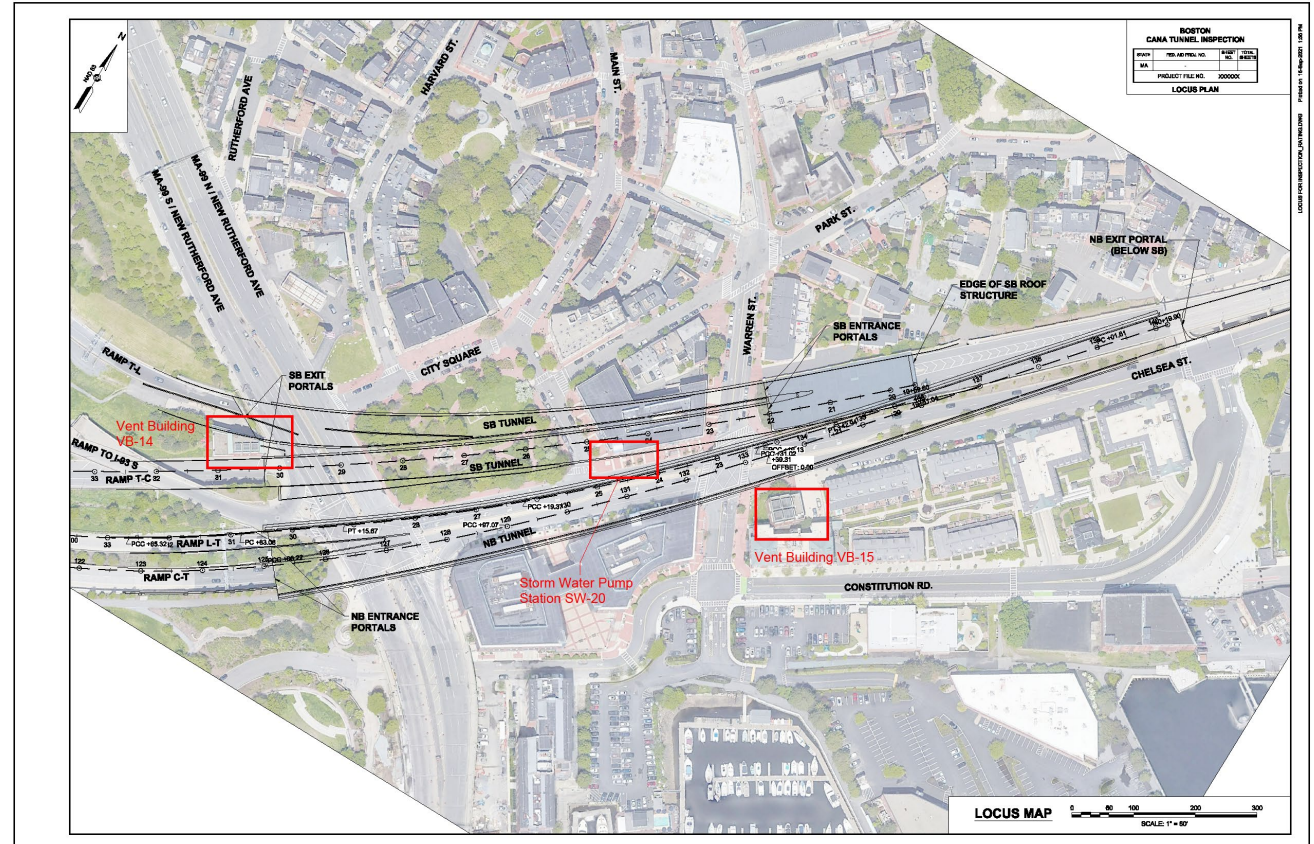
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Overview

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- Investment in Boston's Central Artery North Area (CANA) tunnel system.
- This project will address long-term betterment and keep our 37-year-old infrastructure in good condition and keep it reliable for the public to travel.
- This work aims to restore critical civil, structural, electrical, and mechanical systems to extend the service life of the facility and ensure continued safe tunnel operations.
- Project Investment meets Beyond Mobility priorities for **Reliability**, **Travel experience**, **Safety** and **Destination Connectivity**.



Project Location

Project Scope

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The project will rehabilitate the NB & SB CANA Tunnels, associated ramp approaches, two Vent Buildings VB 14 & VB 15 and Stormwater Pumphouse.

This includes:

- Restore tunnel drainage system
- Life safety and VMS messaging systems in the tunnels
- New lighting with LED fixtures in tunnels
- Replacing the pumps and upgrading life safety systems (ventilation and electrical) in the Pumphouse
- Roof replacement of both Vent Buildings
- Upgraded entire electric system (generator/switchboard) and new emergency generators for the Vent Buildings



Map showing locations of vent buildings and the pumphouse

Public Review and Construction

Outreach, Permitting and Duration

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- Public Informational Meeting was held on April 13, 2026 at Bunker Hill Community College
- Project information were presented in Charlestown Neighborhood Council on April 7, 2026
- Legislative Briefing was given on April 7, 2026.
- The Construction Contract Duration is approximately 3.75 years from the Notice to Proceed, with an additional 1.75 years of monitoring
- Work hours in CANA Tunnel will be 10:30pm – 5:00am (Nighttime), For Vent & Pump Building will be 7:00am – 6:00pm (Daytime) & follow ordinance from City of Boston.



Procurement and Budget

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Advertisement: April 25, 2026
Engineers Estimate: \$76,265,555.00
Bid Opening: August 11, 2026
2 bids were received:

Barletta Heavy Division Inc \$103,174,700.00
JF White Commodore JV \$135,340,315.55

Line Item	Budget
Bid Amount	\$103,174,700.00
Contingencies	\$15,476,205.00
Construction Engineering (5%)	\$5,381,235.00
Specialty Services	\$3,500,000.00
Traffic Police	\$950,000.00
Total	\$128,482,140.00

Project is funded using Non-Federal Aid-
Metropolitan Highway System Funds (MHS)

Questions from Capital Programs Committee

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Q1. What was the cause of the bid discrepancies?

A2. One of the reasons is due to the market volatility of materials, with this project especially with electrical parts needed. This project also is more complex in that the tunnel and vent buildings need to remain active throughout the project. This project included 8 specialty subs whose bids came in over the estimates and had to be taken into account by the other contractors.

Q2. Are there any anticipated access issues to the tunnel and vent buildings?

A2. Access will be determined by the District Highway Director and the traffic in the tunnel

Q3. Was this project a recommendation from the last Triennial Inspection of the Metropolitan Highway System?

A3. Yes and this project is funded with MHS funds

Q4. Any anticipated issues with the City of Boston Noise Ordinances?

A4. MassDOT is coordinating with the City of Boston to ensure compliance with the Noise Ordinances and determining what work hours will be.

Request of the MassDOT Board of Directors

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The Price Proposals were reviewed by engineers in Construction, Construction Contracts, Project Management, and the Design Consultant; costs were found to be reasonable and recommended to be awarded to the apparent low bidder.

This contract was presented and unanimously approved by the Capital Programs Committee at their September 9th meeting.

Request of the MassDOT Board

Staff request that the MassDOT Board of Directors to authorize the Secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or their designee, to award and execute MassDOT Construction Contract 134231 – CANA TUNNEL AND VENT BUILDING REHABILITATION in Boston, MA, with Barletta Heavy Division, Inc., for the amount of **\$103,174,700.00**.

Thank You

