

Charlton-Oxford Route 20 Reconstruction Project (#602659)

Project Fact Sheet



Project Purpose and Need

The purpose of the project is to improve safety, geometry and traffic operations in the project corridor.

Existing Conditions

- Route 20 between Richardson Corner Road in Charlton and Route 12 in Oxford is currently an undivided four lane arterial carrying approximately 26,000 vehicles per day.
- The existing horizontal and vertical alignment does not meet current design standards.
- Safety improvement measures implemented at the curve near Oxbow Road/ Oak Drive include minor roadway widening, stanchions, median guardrail, and signage.
- The intersection of Route 20 and Route 56 has a high crash rate.
- The number and severity of crashes along the project corridor is significant due to the traffic speed and nature of accidents (head on and fix object collisions).

Proposed Project Improvements

The Project includes the following main construction elements;

- Improvements include roadway resurfacing and widening to accommodate two 11-foot wide lanes with two-foot median shoulders and four-foot outside shoulders in each direction of travel.
- Median barrier separating opposing directions of travel is proposed from Richardson's Corner to Route 56. Raised median separating opposing directions of travel is proposed from Route 56 to Route 12.
- Median breaks with left-turn lanes will be provided at the following signalized intersections which will allow u-turns from both directions: Richardson Corner Road, Oxbow Road, Route 56, Route 12/20
- Left turns onto Route 20 and U-turns will be restricted by a median at each of the following locations where current conditions do not warrant a signalized intersection: Bay Path and Glenmere Road Pioneer Drive, Thayer Pond Village (Emergency vehicle access only)
- Provide emergency 'pull-off' areas to provide shoulder width for emergency responders, traffic enforcement, vehicle breakdowns, and roadway maintenance crews.
- Project to include a Shared Use Path (SUP) for bicycles and pedestrians on the Westbound side of Route 20 from Route 12 to Oxbow Road and a pedestrian sidewalk on the Eastbound side of Route 20 from Route 56 to Route 12.
- Bridges over the Little River in Charlton and the French River in Oxford will each be replaced.
- Additional proposed improvements include signage, pavement markings, guardrail, retaining walls, storm drainage and stormwater management infrastructure.

Anticipated Project Milestones

- Fall 2021 – Environmental Permitting
- Spring 2022 – Right-of-Way Procurement
- Spring 2022 – Advertisement/ Request for Proposals (RFP)
- Summer 2022 – Contract Awarded to Design-Build Proposer
- Winter 2025 - Roadway and Bridges Full Beneficial Use (FBU)