



MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF  
CONSERVATION AND RECREATION



# **Multi-use Pathway Connector Linking the Cape Cod Rail Trail to Cape Cod Bay**



## **DCR – Town of Brewster Public Meeting**

**Wednesday, June 6, 2018 – 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Brewster Town Hall, 2198 Main Street, Brewster, MA 02631**



# **Town of Brewster**

## **Select Board**

Cynthia Bingham, Chair

John Dickson

David Whitney

Benjamin deRuyter

Mary Chaffee

## **Town Administrator**

Michael Embury

## **Director of Natural Resources**

Chris Miller



# Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

**Charles D. Baker**

Lieutenant Governor

**Karyn E. Polito**

Energy and Environmental Secretary

**Matthew A. Beaton**

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

**Leo P. Roy**



## **DCR Mission Statement**

*To protect, promote and enhance our  
common wealth of natural, cultural  
and recreational resources  
for the well-being of all.*



# Purpose of Meeting

- To present revised design concepts for a multi-use pathway connector extending from the Cape Cod Rail Trail to Cape Cod Bay.

# Partnership Project

- The Town of Brewster applied for and received a 2 to 1 matching grant from the DCR to support the design and permitting for this project



# Project Goals

- Create a multi-use, bicycle and pedestrian, off-road, pathway connection between the Cape Cod Rail Trail / Nickerson State Park and Cape Cod Bay.
- Help relieve parking pressures at Linnell Landing and Crosby Landing.
- Work to minimize environmental, leaseholder and neighborhood impacts through the project.



# Project History

- Concept that has been discussed for many years by DCR planning and the Town of Brewster
- Town of Brewster applied for a DCR Partnership Matching Grant - 2016
- Town warrant supporting funding
- DCR's on-call trail design and permitting consultant Stantec engaged - Spring of 2017
- Completed survey, environmental assessment and preliminary design - Summer, 2017
- Initial public input meeting - October, 2017
- Revised design, Spring, 2018
- Final public information meeting – June 6, 2018



# Consultant



- Full-service, multidiscipline design firm
- Recognized regional leader in trail projects
  - Over 500 miles of share use paths in planning, design or already constructed
- Design Team:
  - Stantec – Shared-use path design
  - SMC – Survey & basemapping preparation
  - Woods Hole Group – Resource flagging and permitting







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# Project Overview





# Guiding Principles for Design

- 10-foot wide, multi-use, fully accessible pathway
- Maximum grades of 5% to ensure accessibility
- Safe crossing of Route 6A
- Avoid / minimize impacts to Cape Rep Theater operations and Crosby Mansion
- Avoid wetland impacts

# Originally Proposed Design







# Documenting Public Input (example comments, 3 of 19)

## Brewster Trail Connection Partnership Project *deadline November 2, 2017*

| Topic   | Comment   | Name (First) | Name (Last) | Email Address | Address | City | State |
|---|---|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------|------|-------|
| Brewster Trail Connection Partnership Project - deadline November 2, 2017 | I think the proposed trail is a very positive step toward the kind of sensitive beach access planning that Brewster sorely needs, and the design group's consideration for the environmental and historical features of the area is particularly commendable. My concern is that the road crossing with extensive overhead lights seems very out-of-place in a rural setting, particularly on a narrow road with low-speed traffic. I wonder if pedestrian/biker safety could be accomplished using a more subtle lighted crosswalk (similar to those along the rail trail on Millstone or Underpass Roads)..   |              |             |               |         |      |       |
| Brewster Trail Connection Partnership Project - deadline November 2, 2017 | I am supportive of the plan to create a bike/walking trail from Nickerson to Linnell Landing beach; however, I am strongly opposed to the installation of a HAWK system to enable the crossing of 8A. Such a light system is consistent with a more heavily developed community and totally inconsistent with a historic road such as 8A and out of character with Brewster's semi-rural character. I think an installation such as exists in CCRT crossings in Harwich and soon in Brewster will safely enable bikers and walkers to safely cross 8A. I have travelled Route 124 often in the summer and have found the flashing light s activated when a biker/walker approaches does cause vehicles to stop and enable them to safely cross. The HAWK design is total overkill and inconsistent with the historic character of Route 8A. |              |             |               |         |      |       |
| Brewster Trail Connection Partnership Project - deadline November 2, 2017 | I support the bike trail, but think the bike trail should end in the middle of the beach between Linnell and Crosby landings. The public beach at Linnell is quite narrow and the private section owned by Linger Longer cottages blocks anyone from going to the west.   |              |             |               |         |      |       |

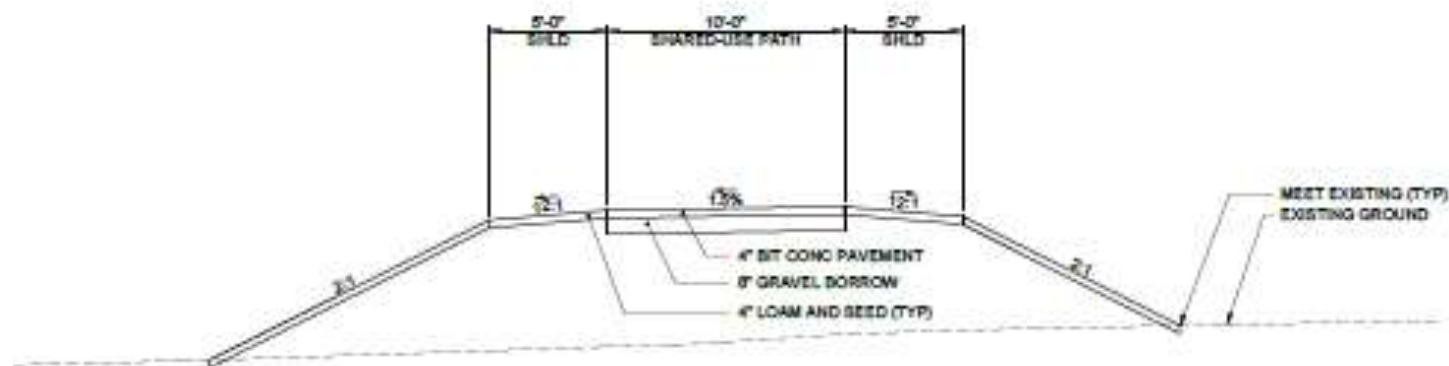


# Summary of Public Input

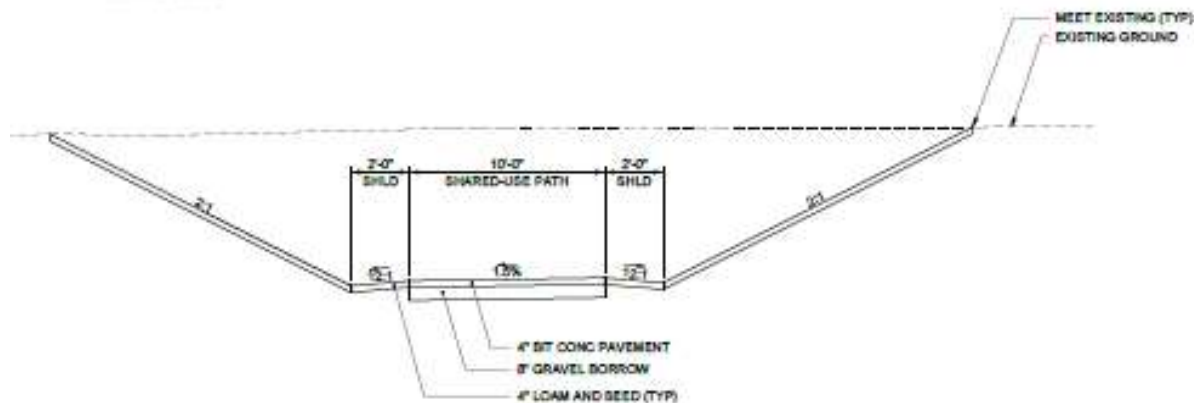
Many positive and helpful comments

- Consider alternatives to the proposed HAWK signal at Route 6A (incorporated)
- Consider developing a boardwalk that will end the path at the state-owned beach in between Linnell and Crosby Landing rather than at Linnell Landing (incorporated)
- Consider a pathway alignment that makes more use of the old roadways on the property (revised slightly)
- Consider a pathway tunnel (or bridge) at Route 6A to avoid an at-grade crossing (not incorporated)

# Revised Design

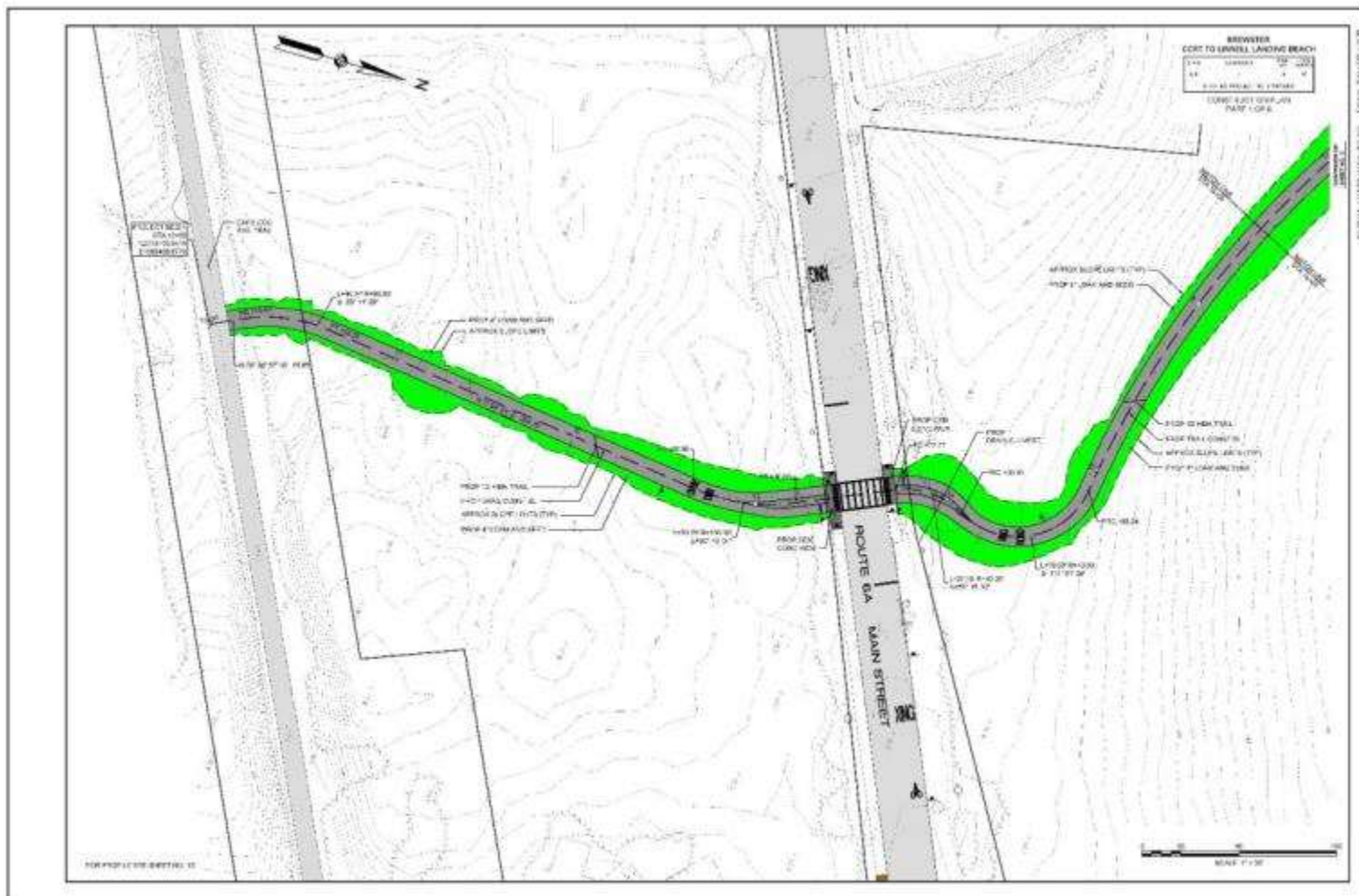


**TRAIL SECTION - FILL**  
NOT TO SCALE



**TRAIL SECTION - CUT**  
NOT TO SCALE

# Revised Design

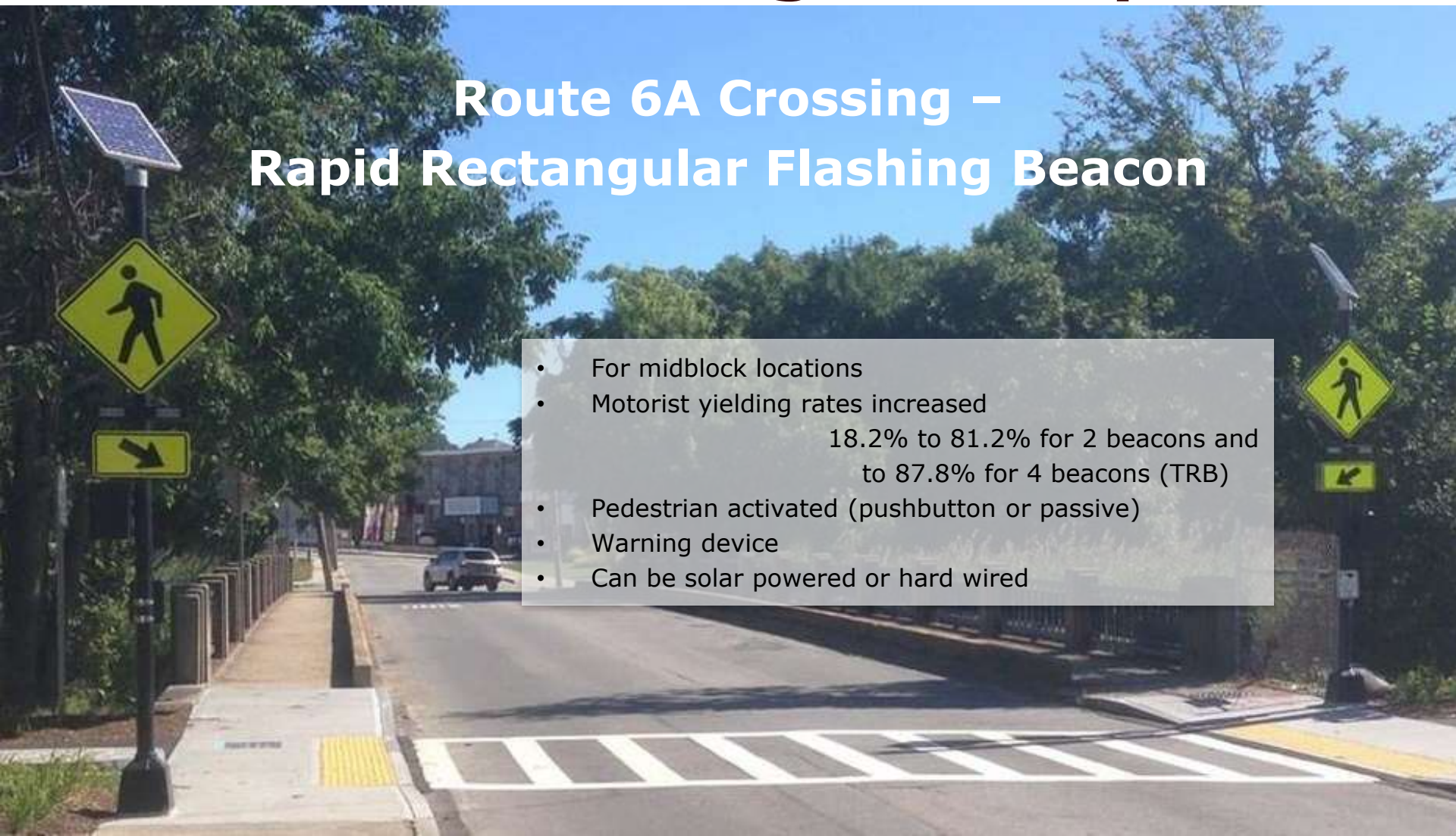




# Revised Design Concept

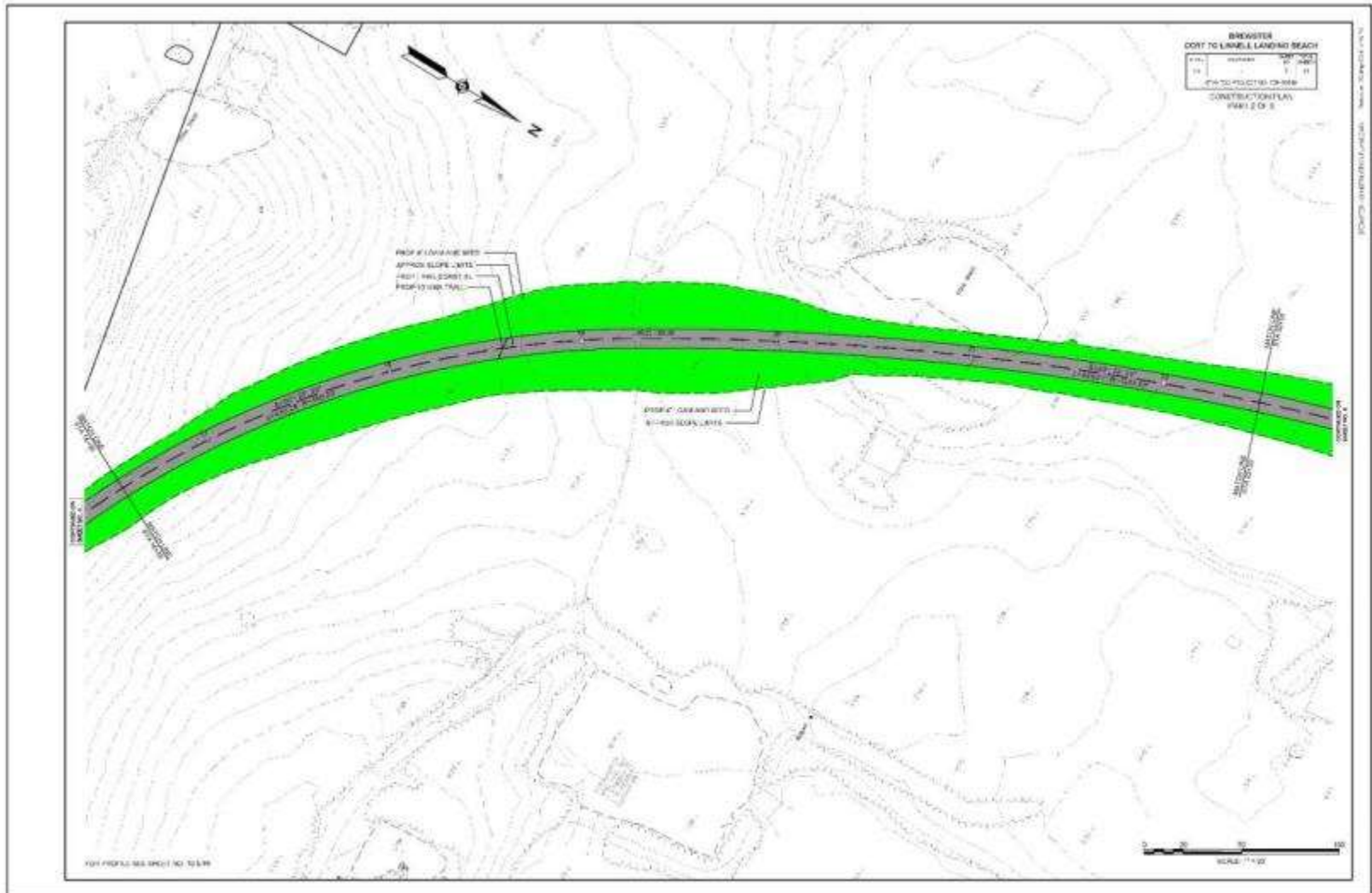
## Route 6A Crossing – Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon

- For midblock locations
- Motorist yielding rates increased  
18.2% to 81.2% for 2 beacons and  
to 87.8% for 4 beacons (TRB)
- Pedestrian activated (pushbutton or passive)
- Warning device
- Can be solar powered or hard wired

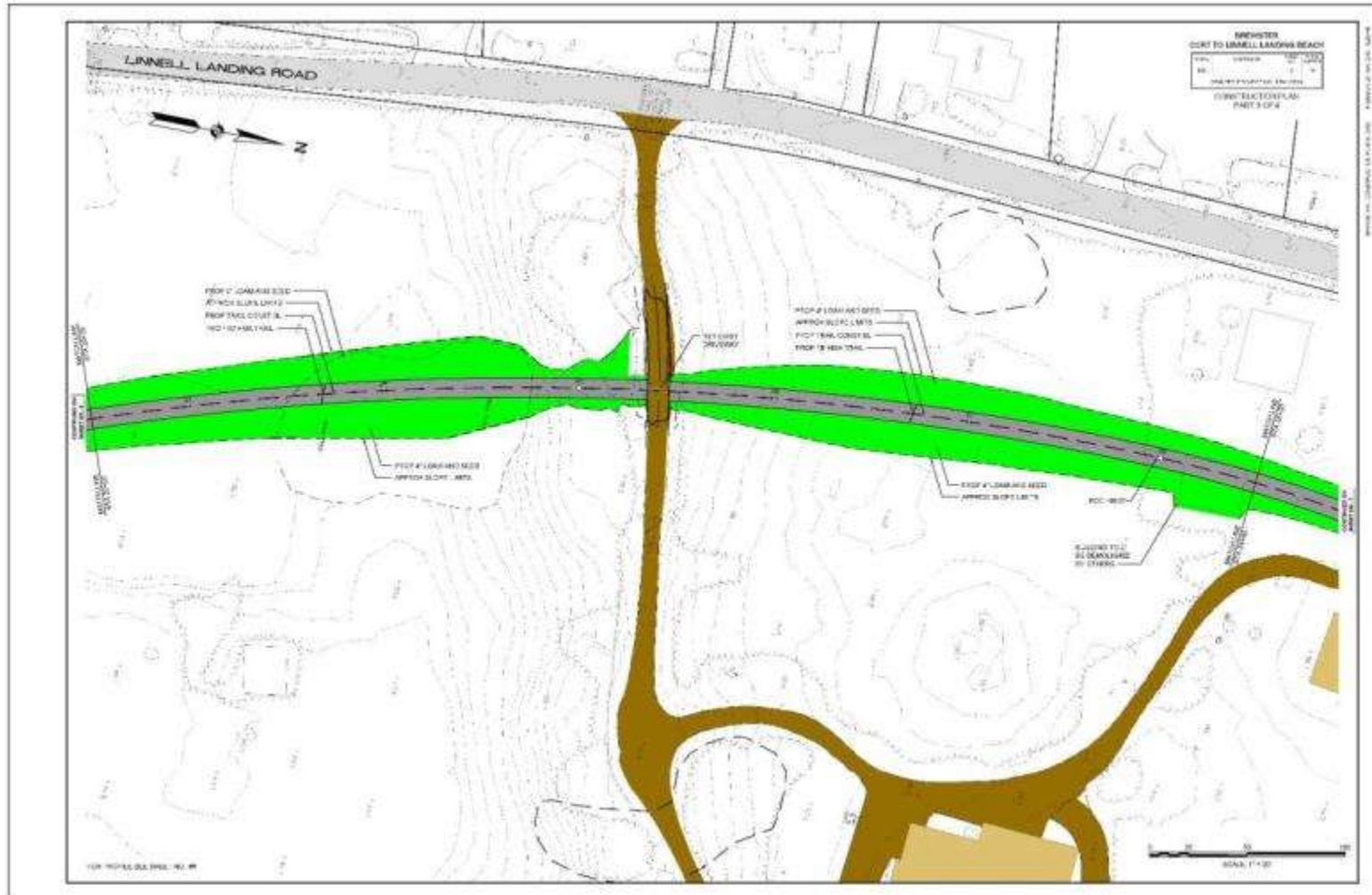


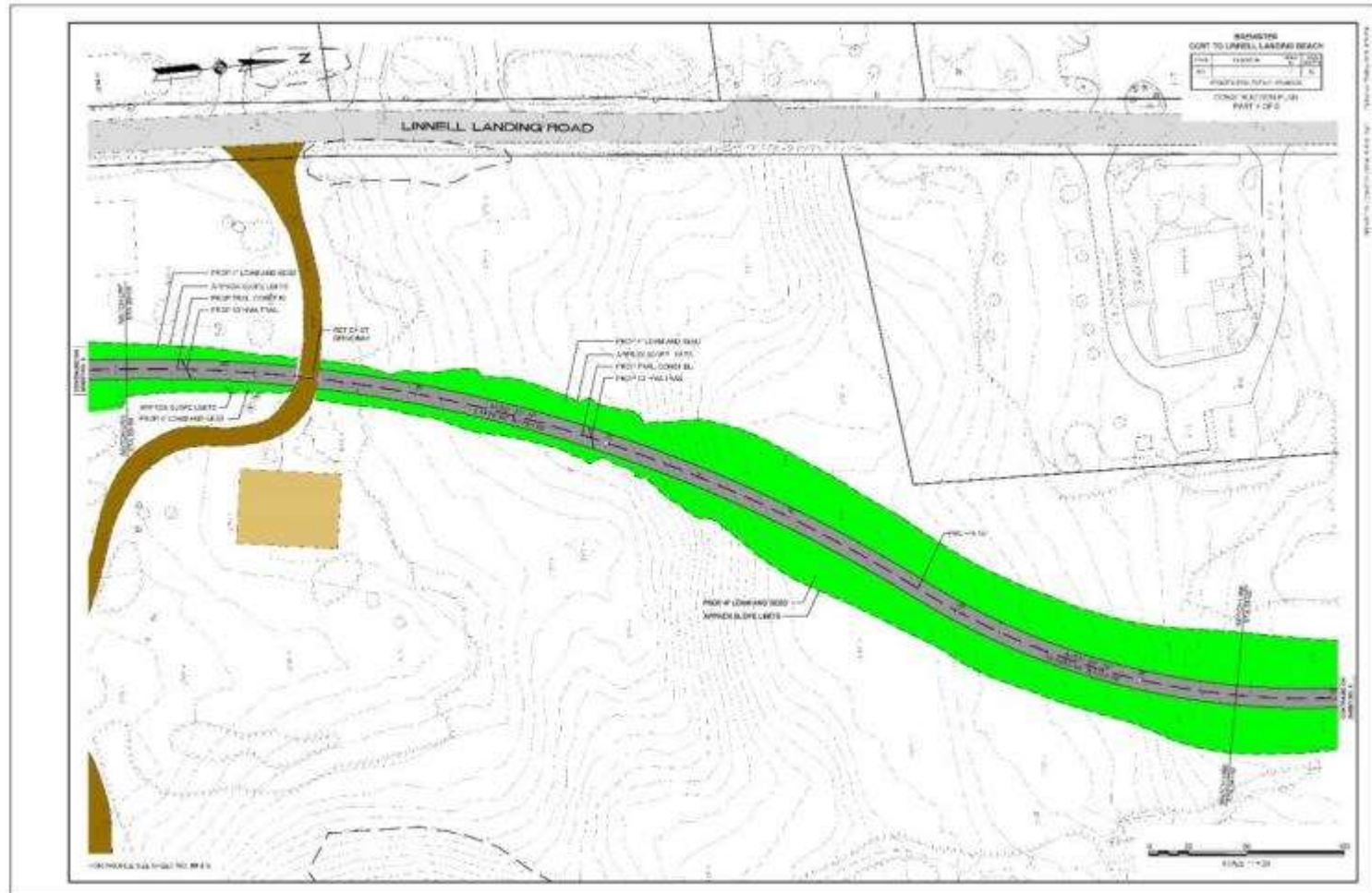


# Revised Design



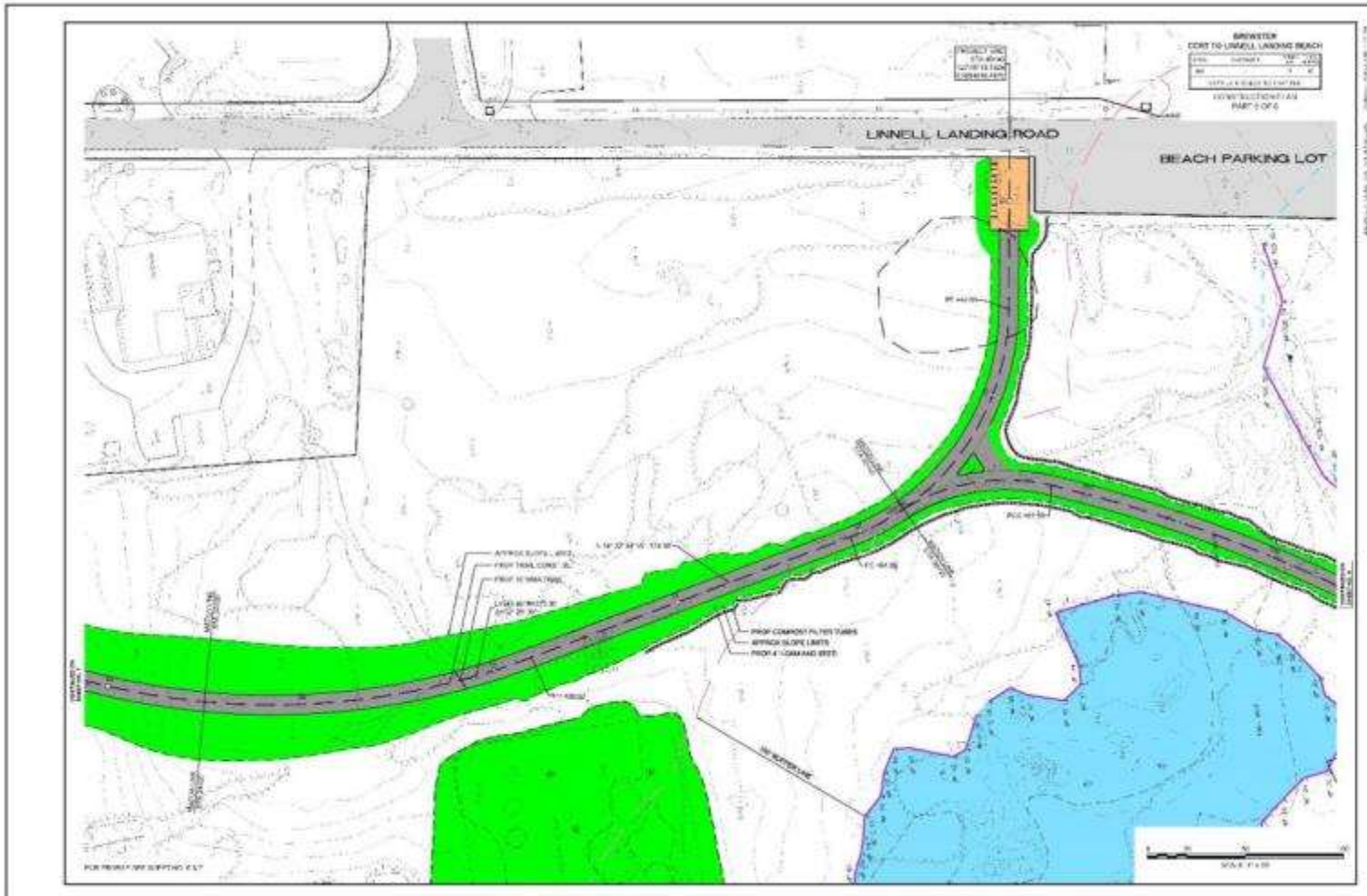
# Revised Design



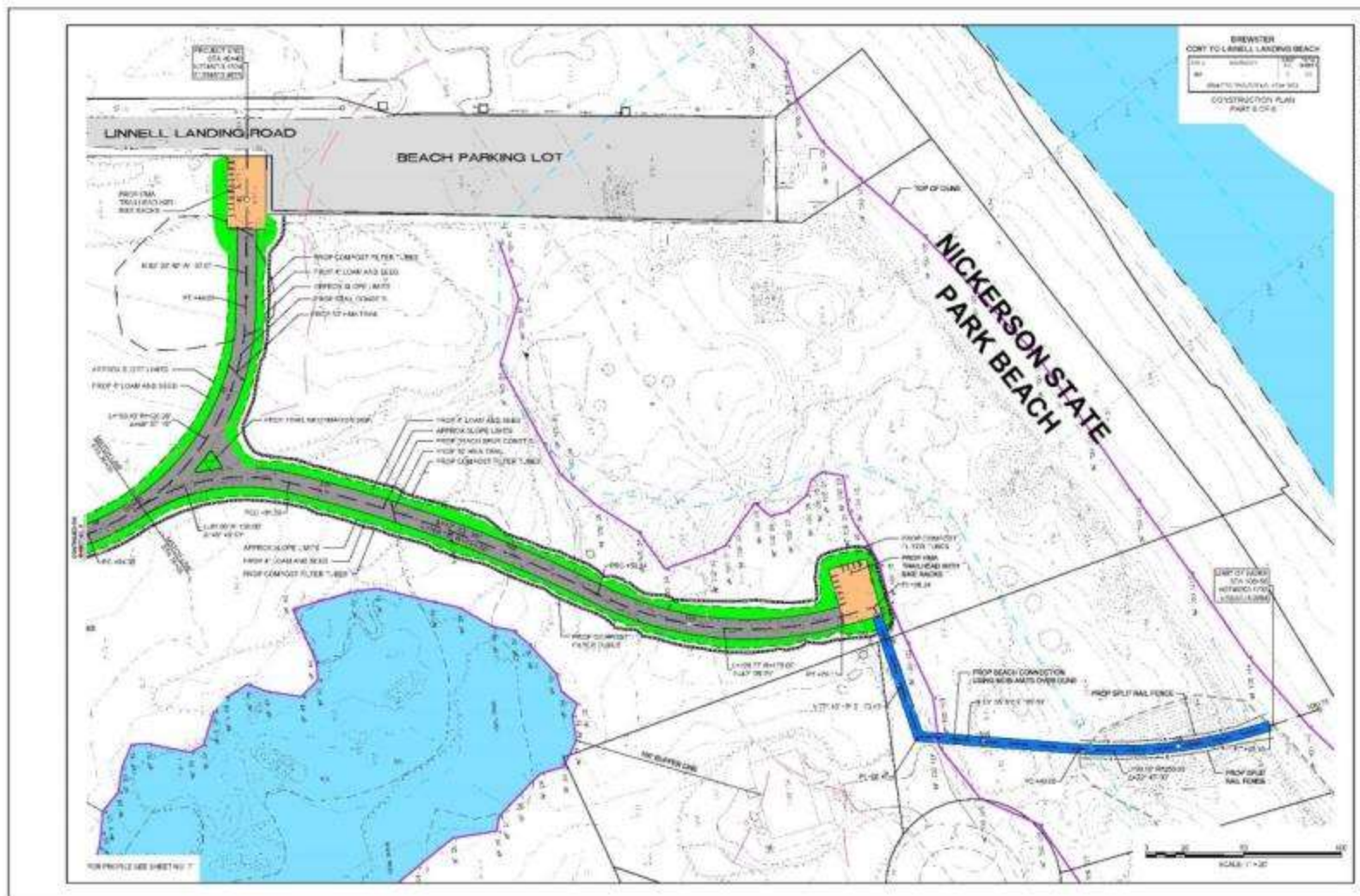




# Revised Design



# Revised Design





# Revised Design Concept

## Installing Mobi Mat



Photo credit © Deschamps SAS & Deschamps Mats Systems Inc.



# Next Steps

- Permitting:
  - Conservation Commission (July)
  - Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program
  - Planning Board
  - Old Kings Highway Historic District
- Construction: Pending approval and identification of funding source



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## Q&A





# Additional Information

**For more information:**

<https://www.mass.gov/dcr-public-meetings-information/events/past/>

**If you have questions or concerns, or wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-related listserv:** contact DCR's Office of Community Relations at 617-626-4973 or [Mass.Parks@state.ma.us](mailto:Mass.Parks@state.ma.us).

