Design Public Hearing

Route 79/Davol Street Corridor, Fall River

October 27, 2021
Project File No. 608049
Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

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• The meeting will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation.

• Please take time to respond to our survey! Your feedback is important.

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Share Your Questions and Comments

• “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions

• Submit your questions and comments using the Q&A button

• Please state your name before your question

• Please share only 1 question or comment at a time, limited to 2 minutes, to allow others to participate.

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Agenda

01 Project Evolution
02 Goals and Objectives
03 Alternatives Development
04 Preferred Alternative
05 Cyclists and Pedestrians
06 Environmental Permitting
07 Construction Staging
08 Right of Way
09 Design-Build Process
How did we get here?

- **June 2014**: Corridor Planning Study completed. Encompassed eight working group meetings and two public informational meetings.
- **August 2018**: Contract signed to refine alternatives and prepare 25% design and environmental permitting.
- **October 2018**: Working Group Meeting No. 1: General Project Overview.
- **December 2019**: Working Group Meeting No. 2: existing conditions analysis and review of design considerations.
- **April 2020**: Working Group Meeting No. 3: review of shortlisted alternatives.
- **June 2020**: Working Group Meeting No. 4: review of alternatives evaluation matrix.
- **May 2021**: Working Group Meeting No. 5: detailed review of preferred alternative including pedestrian and bicycle accommodations.
- **August 2021**: 25% design plans submitted to MassDOT for review.
- **August 2021**: Two Public Informational Meetings conducted on the same day at the Fall River Heritage State Park.
- **October 2021**: Design Public Hearing.
Why was this project initiated?
Route 79 cuts off access from neighborhoods to the waterfront
Route 79 is a physical and visual barrier blocking views of the Taunton River
High speed limited access highway constrains opportunities to create sense of destination
Roadways occupy large footprint limiting opportunities for waterfront development
What do we want to accomplish?
Project Goals and Objectives

• Promote economic growth by creating new developable parcels along the waterfront
• Reestablish connectivity between neighborhoods and the waterfront
• Transform the corridor into vibrant multi-modal community
What alternatives were considered?
2014 Corridor Planning Study Alternatives (13 Alternatives considered)

Alternatives Group 1: Elevated Highway
Alternatives Group 2: Urban Boulevard
Alternatives Group 3: Boulevard with Frontage Roads
Alternatives Refined through Design Development

ALTERNATIVE 2A

- Two-way Davol Street
- Four lane Route 79 with turning lanes
- Connection at Brightman Street

Total Development Area: 12.4 Acres
Alternatives Refined through Design Development

ALTERNATIVE 7

Total Development Area: 16.9 Acres

- Route 79 as a one-way pair
- Two lanes in each direction
- Connection at Brightman Street
What is the preferred alternative?
Preferred Alternative

Alternative 7

- The Cove
- City Pier
- South Coast Rail Station
- Turner St.
- Hathaway St.
- President Ave.
- Rte. 79/Davol St. SB.
- Rte. 79/Davol St. NB
- Veterans Memorial Bridge
- Brightman St.
Preferred Alternative

Alternative 7

- Shared Use Path
- Sidewalk
Preferred Alternative

Alternative 7

- The Cove
- City Pier
- Turner St.
- South Coast Rail Station
- Hathaway St.
- President Ave.
- Rte. 79/Davol St. SB.
- Rte. 79/Davol St. NB
- Veterans Memorial Bridge
- Brightman St.
Preferred Alternative

Southern Project Limit to Baylies Street
Preferred Alternative

Alternative 7

- The Cove
- City Pier
- Hathaway St.
- Rte. 79/Davol St. SB.
- Veterans Memorial Bridge
- Turner St.
- South Coast Rail Station
- President Ave.
- Rte. 79/Davol St. NB
- Brightman St.
Preferred Alternative

Baylies Street to Ballard Street
Preferred Alternative

Ballard Street to Northern Project Limit

TOTAL DEVELOPMENT PARCELS = 19.60 ACRES
TOTAL BMP AREA = 1.64 ACRES
TOTAL DEVELOPABLE AREA = 18.65 ACRES
Preferred Alternative

Roadway Elevation north of President Avenue

Existing Cross Section

- Davol St. West (Southbound)
- Route 79
- Ramp from Rte. 79 to Davol St.
- Davol St. East (Northbound)
- Lindsey St.
- Approx. 20'

Proposed Cross Section

- Route 79
- Development Parcel
- Lindsey St.
Preferred Alternative

Roadway Elevation north of Turner Street

Davol St. West (Southbound)

Existing Cross Section

Davol St. East (Northbound)

Approx. 8'

Route 79

Development Parcel

Proposed Cross Section

79 South

79 North
Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Separation, Stormwater and Outfalls

Existing Condition

- Rainfall (stormwater runoff) collects into the City of Fall River Sanitary Sewer System
- When inundated with a mix of sanitary sewer and stormwater runoff, the Sewer System overflows into Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) pipes
- CSO outfalls are located at City Pier and Bicentennial Park and discharge directly into the Taunton River
- Within Project Limits, 26 Acres of runoff enter into Sewer System
- No Water Quality Best Management Practices (BMP’s) within the Project Limits treat stormwater runoff
Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Separation, Stormwater and Outfalls

- CSO outfalls are located at City Pier and Bicentennial Park and discharge directly into the Taunton River; outfalls will remain.
- Within Project Limits, 4 Acres of runoff enter into Sewer System (an 85% reduction)
- Stormwater Runoff treated by Infiltration Basins and Underground Infiltration Systems
- Project to accommodate future upstream flow rates from planned upstream CSO separation.
- Two new outfalls; one just south of City Pier and one at the end of Brownell Street.
How will bicyclists and pedestrians be impacted?
Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations

Route 79 with landscaped buffer
Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations

Route 79 with on-street parking
Pedestrian and Bicycle Accommodations

Typical cross street
Perspective View of Southbound Boulevard
What are the environmental, cultural resource, and community impacts?
Environmental Permits

Categorical Exclusion - NEPA
Environmental Notification Form - MEPA
Chapter 91 for activities in jurisdictional tidelands - MassDEP
Notice of Intent - Fall River Conservation Commission
Pre-Construction Notification – US Army Corps of Engineers
Water Quality Certificate - MassDEP
How will the road user be affected?
General Approach to Construction Staging

Existing Conditions
General Approach to Construction Staging

Stage 1 – Demolish Existing Route 79
General Approach to Construction Staging

Stage 2 – Construct temporary roadway
General Approach to Construction Staging

Stage 3 – Construct new Route 79
General Approach to Construction Staging

Stage 4 – Demolish temporary roadway
General Approach to Construction Staging

Stage 5 – Complete sidewalks and landscaping
How will your property be impacted?
Right of Way (ROW) discussion – 25% Design

• Responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of a project.

• Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the ROW Bureau or consultants representing MassDOT.

• Procedures must comply with state and federal regulations governing the acquisition process.
  − Property owners are protected under Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79.
  − If project receives federal funds, property owners are further protected under Title III of the Real Property Act of 1970, as amended.

• Fee takings, permanent easements, and/or temporary construction easements may be required.
Transfer of Corridor Ownership from MassDOT to the City of Fall River

- Existing City Layout
- State Layout to be transferred to the City
What is the construction approach?
Proposed construction approach: Design Build

- Design-Build Best Value procurement
  - Short-List Best Qualified Teams
  - Shorten project duration
  - Promote innovation by teaming the engineer and the general contractor
- MassDOT's contract with the Design Builder will stipulate requirements for traffic management while also providing the DB flexibility to develop their own approach to staging.
- Incentives / Disincentives:
  - Ensures compliance with contract timelines
Our next steps

1. RFQ November 2021
2. RFP Winter 2022
3. D-B Selection Summer 2022
4. D-B Award Fall 2022
5. Construction Mobilization Early 2023
   Construction 2023-2026
   Transfer all rights, oversight and maintenance to City of Fall River

Transfer all rights, oversight and maintenance to City of Fall River
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For more information about this project please contact:


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Thank You

Design Public Hearing

Virtual via Zoom
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