



Design Public Hearing

*Superstructure Replacement Pittsfield
Holmes Road over Housatonic Railroad*

March 9, 2022 | 6:30 PM

Project File No. 611955

Zoom webinar controls



- Drop down menu to check microphone and speakers



- Ask a question and share comments



- Raise your hand



- If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at 833-548-0276, Webinar ID: 864-7198-7715



If you have trouble with the meeting technology during the presentation, please call:

1-888-799-9666

Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom



Unmute



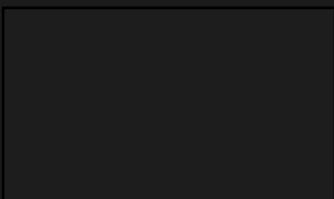
Start Video



Q&A



Raise Hand



Leave

Public meeting notes and procedures

Notification of Public Record

- The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the chat transcript.
- By continuing attendance with this virtual public meeting, you are consenting to participate in a public event.
- All written recordings and chat transcript will be considered a public record.
- Please use the Q&A feature for project related business only

Important notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering the meeting.
- The meeting will be open to questions and answers at the end of the presentation.
- Please take time to respond to our survey at the end of the presentation. Your feedback is important.

All questions and comments are welcome and appreciated, however we do request that you refrain from any disrespectful comments.

Agenda

- 01 Presentation Speakers
- 02 Recent Public Outreach
- 03 Project Location
- 04 Why was this project initiated?
- 05 What do we want to accomplish?
- 06 What alternatives were considered?
- 07 How has our design progressed?
- 08 What is the construction approach?
- 09 How will the road user be affected?
- 10 How will your property be impacted?
- 11 What are the environmental/resource impacts?
- 12 What will we do going forward?
- 13 How will we keep you informed?
- 14 Questions and discussion



Presentation Speakers:

- **MassDOT Project Manager**
 - William F. Brown
- **MassDOT ROW Agent:**
 - Erik Kristensen
- **MassDOT Producer/Facilitator**
 - Michael McNutt
 - Leah Grodstein
- **MassDOT District 1 Highway Director**
 - Francisca R. Heming
- **MassDOT District 1 Bridge Engineer**
 - Mark DeVylder
- **Gill Engineering Associates, Inc.**
 - Preston Huckabee, PE
 - Scott Carpenter, PE
- **Stenographer**
 - Greg Tarbox



Recent Public Outreach

- **Public Information Meeting**
 - August 19, 2021
- **The Berkshire Eagle and Pittsfield Gazette**
 - August 5, 2021
 - August 12, 2021
- **Ongoing MassDOT coordination with City Officials**



The Berkshire Eagle



The Pittsfield Gazette
Committed To Community Journalism

Project Location:





**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Project Need

Bridge Severely Deteriorated

- Beam deterioration requires the bridge to be restricted to 1 lane of traffic with east half closed



Underside of Bridge Overpass Structure

Existing Conditions

Holmes Road Looking South

- Single Lane Alternating Traffic
- Controlled by Temporary Traffic Signals



Holmes Road Looking South

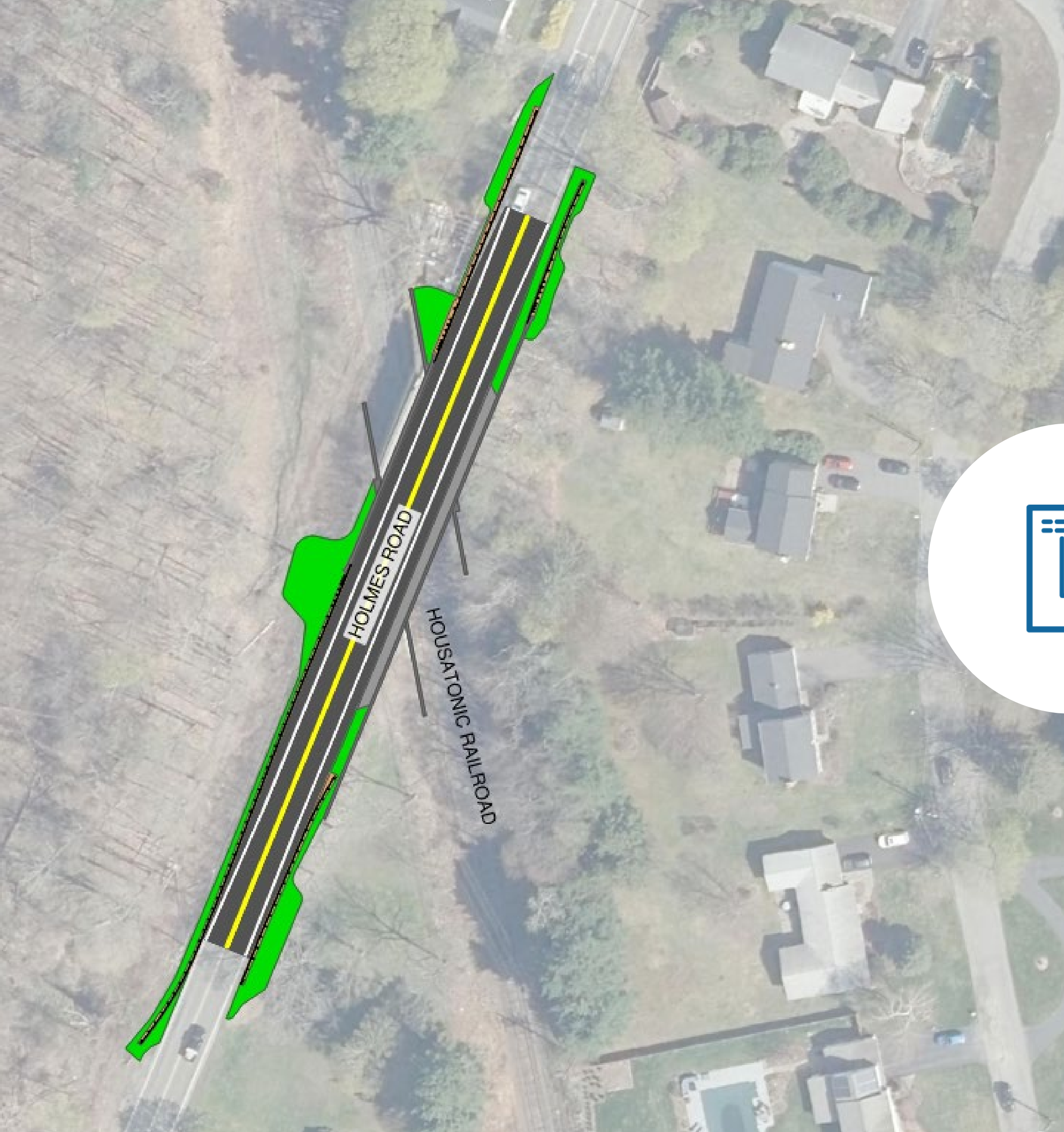
Existing Conditions

Holmes Road Looking North

- Traffic Queuing on Approaches
- Nuisance for abutters
- Extending travel times



Holmes Road Looking North



**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Goals

- Restore bridge to fully serviceable condition
- Restore roadway to two lanes of through traffic
- Improve bike accommodation over the bridge



Similar Bridge Replacement – Somerset MA



**What
alternatives
were
considered?**

Alternatives

Replace Deteriorated Beams

- Cut out existing deteriorated beams and replace them
- Most direct method of addressing the problem
- Rejected because the way the beams are connected in this bridge make this method of repair unworkable



Replace Deteriorated Beams

Alternatives

Replace Entire Bridge

- Very Disruptive
- Would likely require right of way takings
- Would require utility pole relocation
- Cost roughly twice current project
- Timeline much longer than project under consideration
- Additional year of design and 2 to 3 years of construction



Replace Entire Bridge

Alternatives

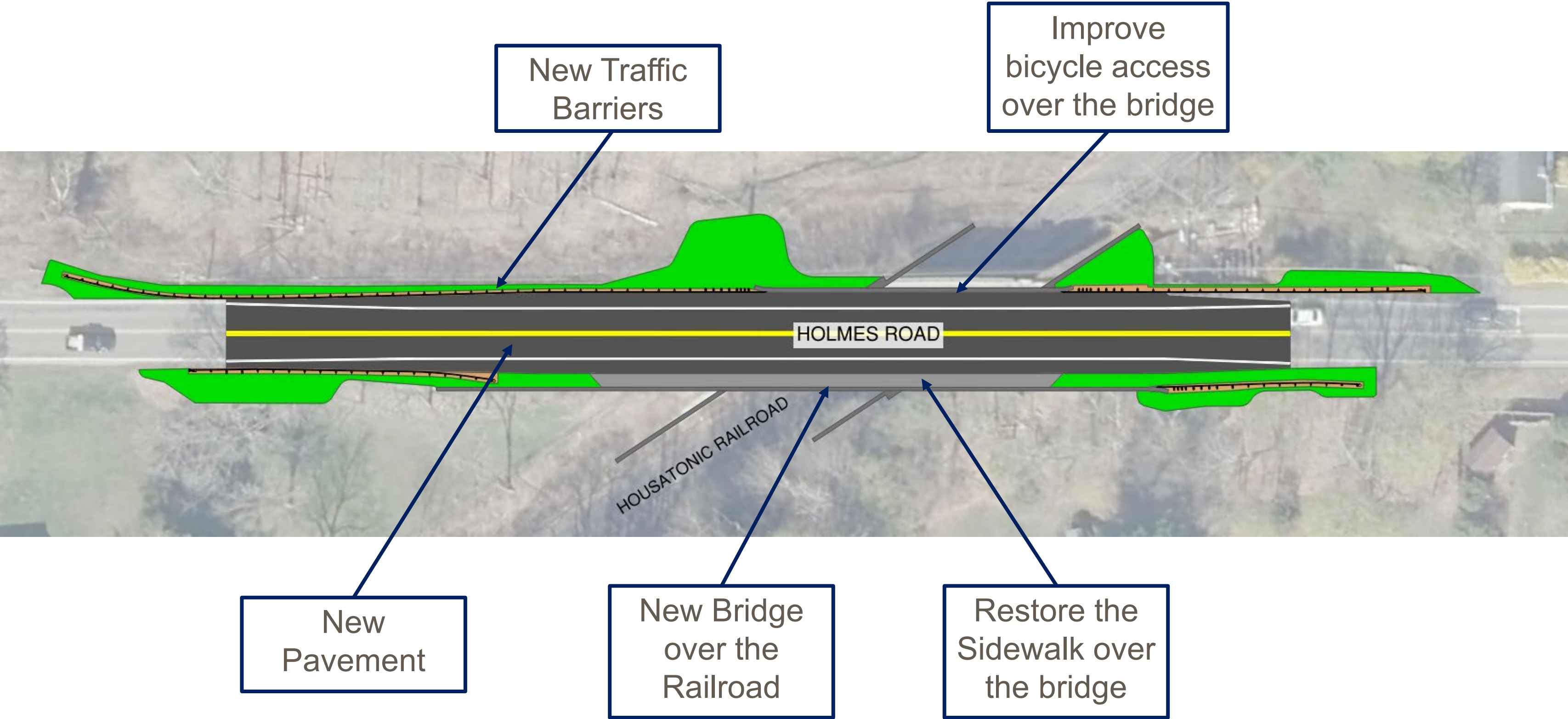
Replace Bridge Overpass Structure

- **Preferred Alternative**
- Midway between replacing deteriorated beams and full bridge replacement
- Replace all beams over the railroad
- Repair and rehabilitate existing bridge abutments and walls
- Can be completed in one construction season – April to November



Replace Bridge Overpass Structure

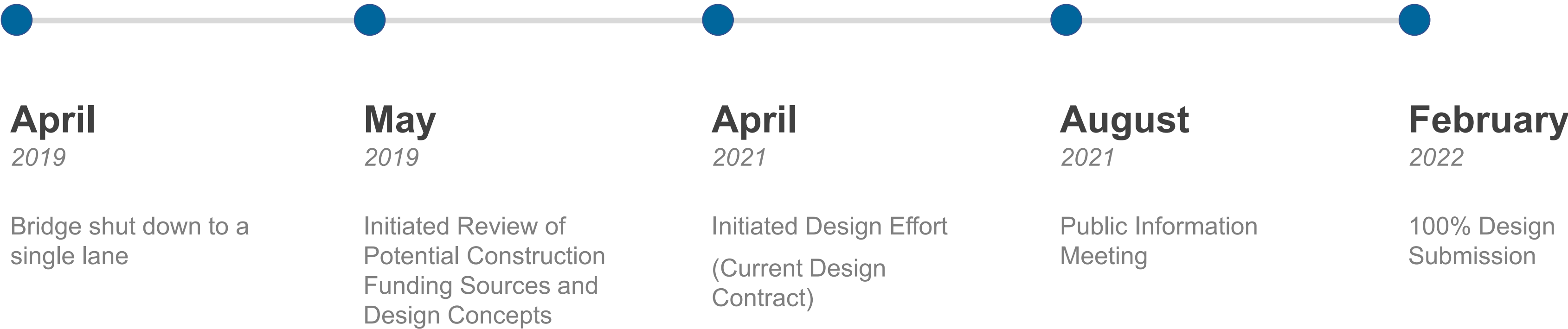
Overall Improvements





How has our
design
progressed?

How did we get here?





**What is the
construction
approach?**

Proposed Construction Approach: Rehabilitate Support Structure

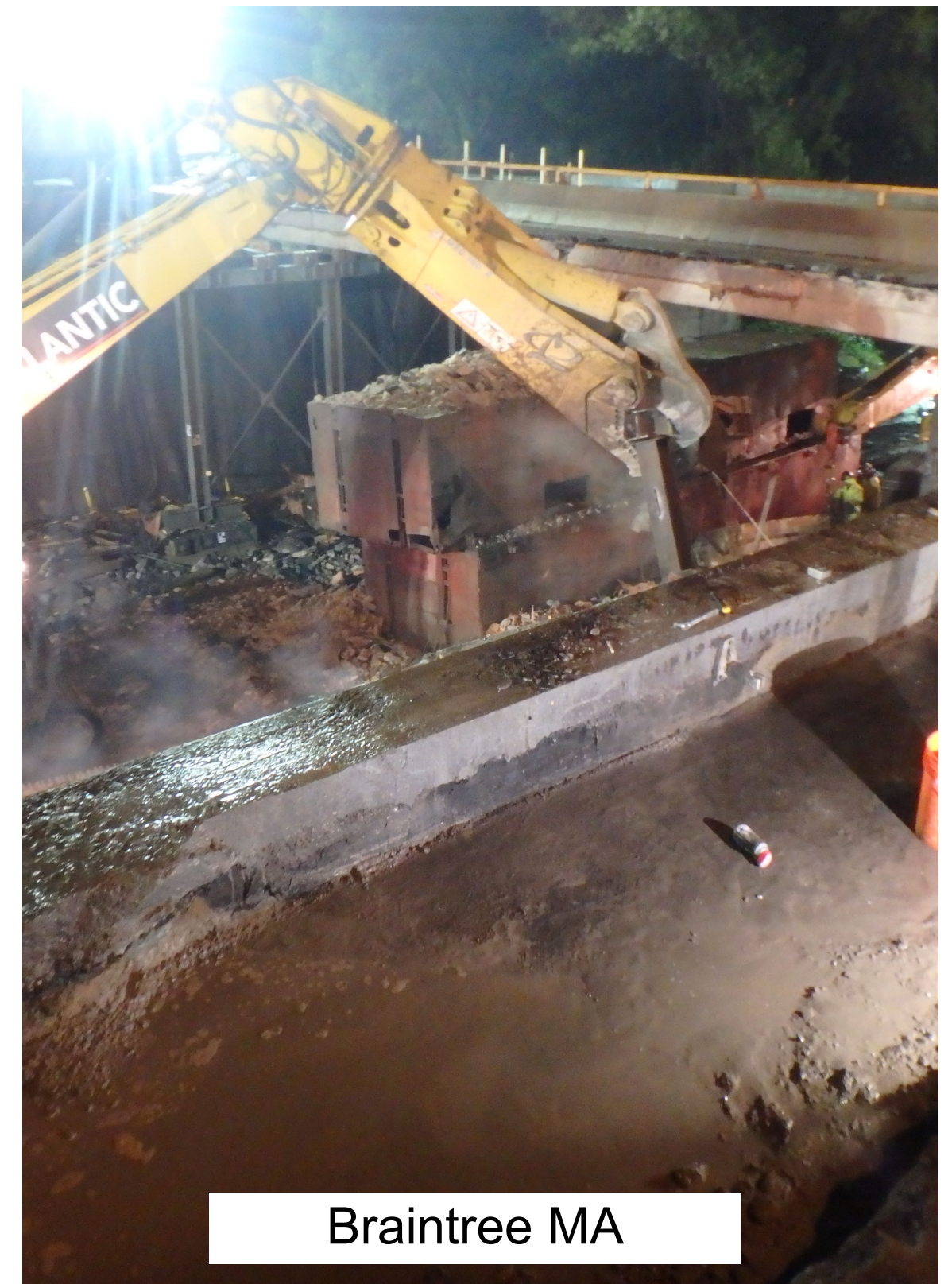
- Design and Review Process nearing completion
- Fall of 2022 Advertise and Award Project to a Contractor
- Winter 2022/2023 Procurement - Contractor obtains construction materials
- Spring 2023 early construction activities
 - Build temporary access to underside of bridge
 - Rehabilitate support structure – abutments and walls



Rehabilitate Support Structure

Proposed Construction Approach: Demolish Overpass Structure

- Accelerated Construction Techniques
- Summer 2023 Commence 63 Day Shutdown of Holmes Road
- From June 23 to August 25 to avoid conflicts with school year
- Abutter access will be maintained
- Coordination between Pittsfield and Lenox Emergency Services
- First weekend demolish bridge overpass structure



Demolish Overpass Structure

Proposed Construction Approach: Replace Overpass Structure

- Work performed during Holmes Road shutdown
 - Replace overpass structure on bridge
 - Complete roadway work
- Construction schedule shows work can be completed during normal workdays Monday through Friday



Replace Overpass Structure

Proposed Construction Approach: Open Bridge to Traffic

- Reopen Roadway Fully to Traffic - End of Summer
- Complete Project Fall 2023
- Contract Incentive/Disincentive
 - MassDOT is reviewing ways of implementing Contract Performance Language
 - Contractor receives financial bonus for meeting contract goals
 - Contractor receives financial penalties if they don't meet those goals



Open Bridge to Traffic

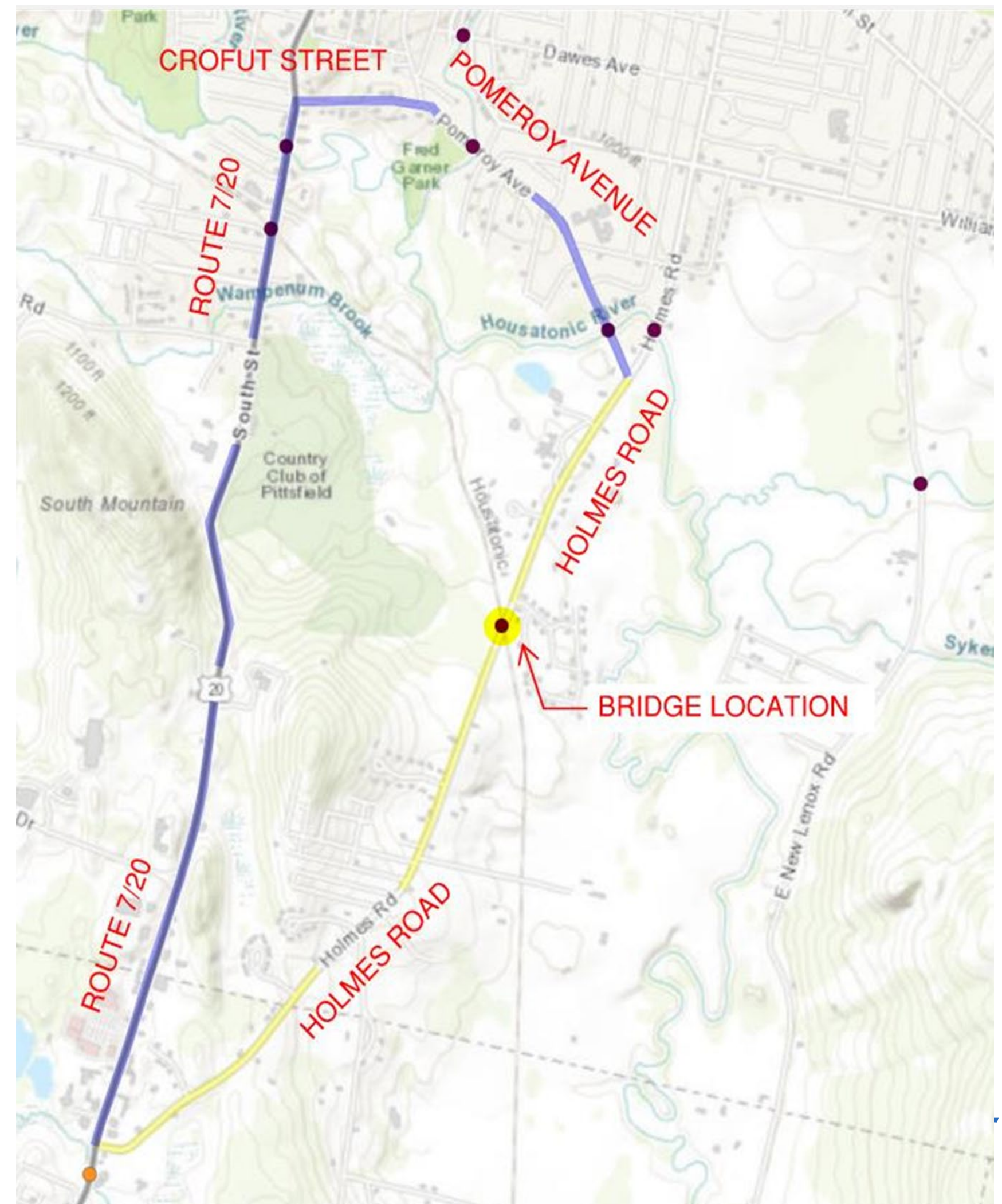


**How will the
road user be
affected?**

Traffic Impacts

Official Detour to be Signed

- Distance Added Due to Detour: 1.4 Miles
- Holmes Road Southbound
 - Right onto Pomeroy Avenue
 - Left onto Crofut Street
 - Left onto Route 7 / 20
 - End detour at Holmes Road intersection
- Signal timing adjustments coordinated between MassDOT and Pittsfield

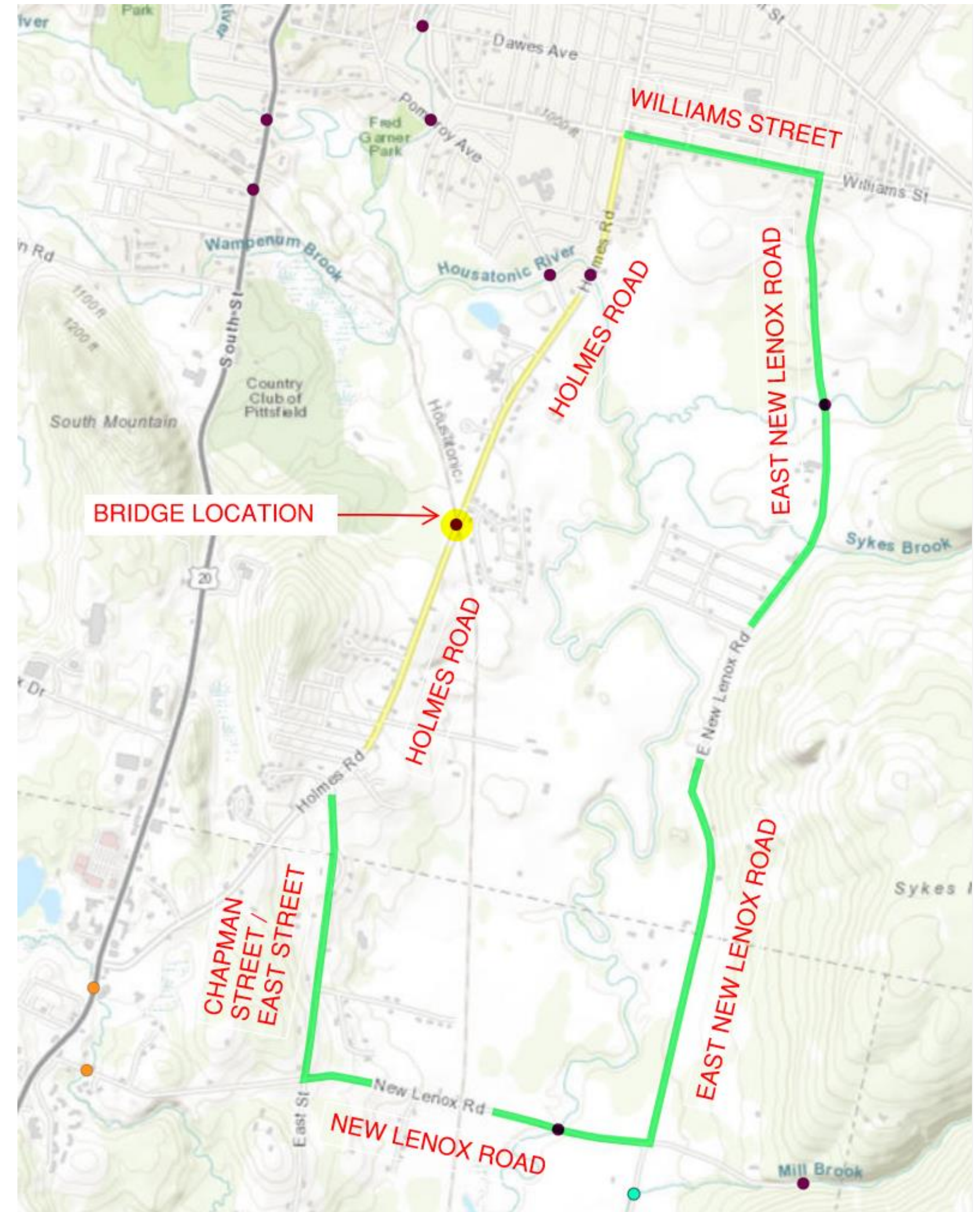


Traffic Impacts

Example Alternative Route

NOT A SIGNED DETOUR

- Distance Added Due to Detour: 3.3 Miles
- Holmes Road Southbound
 - Left onto Williams Street
 - Right onto East New Lenox Road
 - Right onto New Lenox Road
 - Right onto East Street / Chapman Street
 - End detour at Holmes Road





**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) discussion Design Public Hearing

- MassDOT is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of this project.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the MassDOT ROW Bureau or consultants representing the responsible agency.
 - Property owners are protected under Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79.
- Fee takings, permanent easements and/or temporary construction easements are not required for this project.

At this stage of design, the Right of Way process has not been finalized. This meeting is an opportunity for the public to comment on any impacts to properties.



**What are the
environmental
and resource
impacts?**

Environmental and Resource Impacts

No adverse impacts.





**What will we
do going
forward?**

Our next steps



March 9, 2022
Design Public
Hearing



June/July 2022
Contract
Advertisement



Fall 2022
Contract Award



Spring/Summer 2023
Bridge Construction



Fall 2023
Re-open Road
Complete Project



**How will we
keep you
informed?**

How to reach us?

- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Project Management Section Project File No. 611955
- Submit email comments to:
MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Design Public Hearing web site at:
<https://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings> or used the QR Code:





Questions and discussion

Questions and answers



- “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.



- To ask a question via phone, dial *9 and the moderator will call out the last 4-digits of your phone number and unmute your audio when it is your turn.



- Please take a few minutes to complete the survey after the meeting to let us know how your experience was with this virtual meeting.

All questions and comments are subject to disclosure for public records. Please use these functions for project related business only.



Thank You

Design Public Hearing

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Road over Housatonic Railroad*

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