



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

February 05, 2019

AT

Marlborough High School, Science Lecture Hall

431 Bolton Street

MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

6:30 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

Resurfacing and Related Work on Rte 20 Project

IN THE CITY OF MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION**

**JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

**PATRICIA A. LEAVENWORTH, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No. 608467

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the Resurfacing and Related Work on the Route 20 project in Marlborough, MA.

WHERE: Marlborough High School
Science Lecture Hall
431 Bolton Street
Marlborough, MA 01752

WHEN: Tuesday, February 5, 2019 @ 6:30 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Resurfacing and Related Work on Route 20 project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of the rehabilitation and improvement of Route 20, from Peters Avenue to the Sudbury Town line. The proposed work will include milling and resurfacing of the existing roadway with limited areas of full depth widening. Additional work includes upgrades of the existing drainage systems, traffic signal improvements and installation of new signs and pavement markings. The project will also include improvements to pedestrian and bicycle accommodations throughout the corridor. The project will reconstruct existing sidewalks and install new sidewalk in order to provide a fully connected corridor. Five (5) foot bicycle lanes have been provided throughout the entire length of the project.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassDOT subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout will be made available on the MassDOT website listed below.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Roadway Project Management, Project File No. 608467. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of this Public Hearing. Project inquiries may be emailed to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us

This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten (10) business days before the meeting.

In case of inclement weather, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the internet at <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Highway/>

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

PATRICIA A. LEAVENWORTH, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER



Dear Concerned Citizen:

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is committed to building and maintaining a transportation infrastructure that is both safe and efficient for all who use our roadways, bridges, bicycle facilities and pedestrian paths, while maintaining the integrity of the environment.

As part of the design process for this project, we are conducting this public hearing to explain the proposed improvements, listen to your comments and answer any questions you may have. At the conclusion of the hearing, MassDOT will review all of your comments and, where feasible, incorporate them into the design of the project.

We recognize that road and bridge construction can create inconveniences for the public. MassDOT places a great deal of emphasis on minimizing the temporary disruptive effects of construction.

MassDOT encourages input from local communities and values your opinions. Please be assured that we will undertake no project without addressing the concerns of the community.

Sincerely,

Patricia A Leavenworth, P. E.
Chief Engineer

WHY A PUBLIC HEARING?

To provide an assured method whereby the Commonwealth of Massachusetts can furnish to the public information concerning the State's highway construction proposals, and to afford every interested resident of the area an opportunity to be heard on any proposed project. At the same time, the hearings afford the Commonwealth an additional opportunity to receive information from local sources which would be of value to the State in making its final decisions to what design should be advanced for development.

WHY NOT A VOTE ON HIGHWAY PLANS?

The hearings are not intended to be a popular referendum for the purpose of determining the nature of a proposed improvement by a majority of those present. They do not relieve the duly constituted officials of a State highway department of the necessity for making decisions in State highway matters for which they are charged with full responsibility.

WHAT DOES A PUBLIC HEARING ACCOMPLISH?

It is designed to ensure the opportunity for, or the availability of, a forum to provide factual information which is pertinent to the determination of the final alternative considered by the state to best serve the public interest, and on which improvement projects are proposed to be undertaken.

It is important that the people of the area express their views in regard to the proposal being presented, so that views can be properly recorded in the minutes of the meeting. These minutes will be carefully studied and taken into consideration in the determination of the final design.

TO SAFEGUARD THE PROPERTY OWNER

If your property, or a portion of it, must be acquired by the State for highway purposes in the interest of all people of the Commonwealth, your rights are fully protected under the law. Briefly, here are some of the answers to questions you might ask.

1. WHO CONTACTS ME?

Representatives of the Right of Way Bureau of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Highway Division. They will explain the impacts and your rights as protected under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 79.

2. WHAT IS A FAIR PRICE FOR MY PROPERTY?

Every offer is made to ensure that an equitable value is awarded to you for the property, or to appraise the "damage" to the property as a result of the acquisition. MassDOT appraisers, independent appraisers, MassDOT "Review Appraisers" and a Real Estate Appraisal Review Board may all contribute in arriving at an award of damages. The State also pays a proportionate part of the real estate tax for the current year for fee takings, and interest from the date the property is acquired to the payment date, on all impacts.

3. MUST I ACCEPT THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFER?

No. If, after the figure established as market value has been offered to the owner, the owner feels he or she is not being offered a fair price, he or she has the right, within three years, to appeal to the courts. Pending a court decision, he or she can be paid on a "pro-tanto" basis (or "for the time being") that in no way prejudices the court appeal.

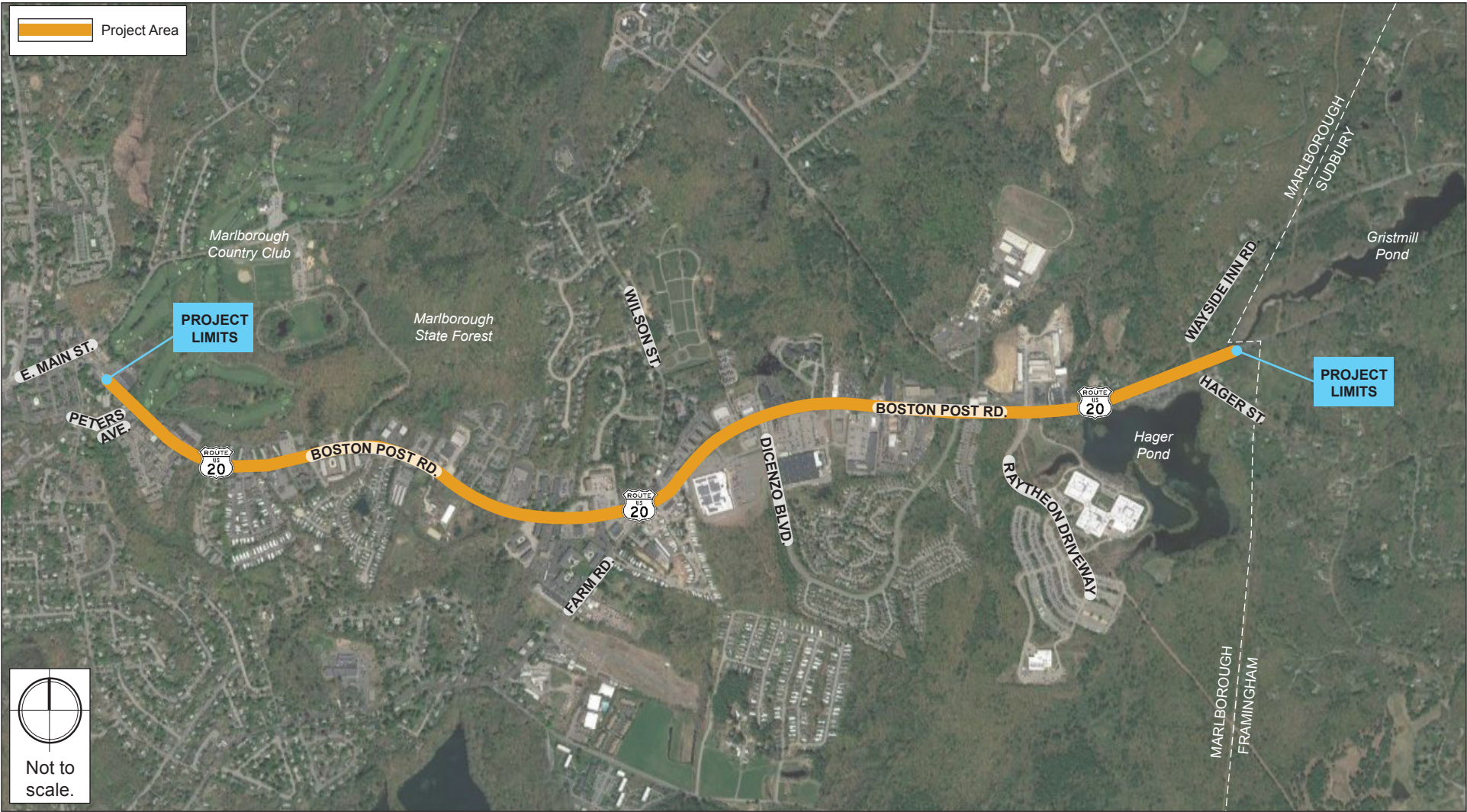
4. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY HOUSE?

The owner will have the opportunity to buy back his or her house, provided he or she has a location to which it can be moved, and the proper permits for its removal. If the owner does not wish to repurchase, the house will be advertised for bids. The highest bidder, who must also have a location and permits for removal, will be awarded the house. Otherwise, the structure will be slated for demolition.

5. WHAT HAPPENS IF I MUST RELOCATE?

In addition to the market value of the property, the Department pays certain relocation benefits for both owners and tenants of acquired residences and businesses who meet eligibility requirements. Assistance in relocation is also provided. Department brochures are available for details on these benefits.

Figure 1. Locus Map



Project Location

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division (MassDOT) is proposing to resurface and perform related work on approximately 2.5 miles of Boston Post Road (Route 20) from just west of Peters Avenue to just east of Wayside Inn Road. Boston Post Road (Route 20) is a two-way major arterial under state jurisdiction running in an east-west direction from the Sudbury town line in the east to the Northborough town line in the west.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to provide safety improvements for all roadway users, provide drainage improvements, and enhance access and traffic flow for vehicles, while reducing the vehicular speed through the corridor. Additional work along the corridor will include reconstruction of existing sidewalks and construction of new sidewalk to provide accessible ADA accommodations, and construction of 5-foot bicycle accommodating shoulders as part of MassDOT's Healthy Transportation Policy directive. These improvements are part of the resurfacing project along the approximately 2.5-mile long corridor.

Existing Conditions

Within the project area, Boston Post Road (Route 20) is split into two configurations. From west of the Sudbury town line to Raytheon Drive and from west of Farm Road to Peters Avenue, Boston Post Road (Route 20) is a two-lane road with storage lanes for turning movements. In between Raytheon Drive and Farm Road, Boston Post Road (Route 20) is a four-lane road. The roadway width varies from about 36 feet to about 75 feet throughout the corridor.

The land usage along Boston Post Road includes both commercial and residential areas. A concrete sidewalk is provided for most of the south side of Boston Post Road (Route 20) within the project area. Presently, no dedicated bicycle accommodations exist, although some sections of the roadway have a wide shoulder suitable for cyclists. The posted speed limit within the project area is 40 mph, while the speed limit is posted as 25 mph just west of Peters Avenue outside of the project area. Parking restrictions are signed sporadically within the project area, and vehicles do not park along Boston Post Road (Route 20) within the project area.

Proposed Project

The proposed design provides accommodations to bicyclists and pedestrians through the construction of wider shoulders and the reconstruction of existing sidewalks and construction of new sidewalks to provide accessible ADA accommodations to comply with MassDOT's Healthy Transportation Policy directive. As part of the resurfacing component of the project, the entire corridor will be resurfaced and restriped to provide a new riding surface and new pavement markings for vehicles and bicyclists along the entire length of the corridor.

The proposed roadway cross section has been generally widened from Peters Avenue to just east of Village Drive to accommodate two 11-foot travel lanes, one 13-foot two-way left turn lane, and 5-foot bicycle accommodating shoulders on both sides of the roadway. Proposed dedicated left turn lanes in lieu of the two-way left turn lane has been provided for Peters Avenue and Phelps Street.

From just east of Village Drive to just east of the intersection of Diconzo Boulevard, Pomphery Drive, and Boston Post Road (Route 20), the proposed lane configuration will generally remain the same as the existing conditions with the addition of consistent 5-foot bicycle accommodating shoulders on both the north and south side of the roadway.

Just east of the intersection of Diconzo Boulevard, Pomphery Drive, and Boston Post Road (Route 20) to just west of Raytheon Driveway, the proposed roadway cross section will consist of two 11-foot travel lanes, one 16-foot two-way left turn lane, and 5-foot bicycle accommodating shoulders on both sides of the roadway. Left turn lanes are proposed at Old Boston Post Road and at Diconzo Boulevard.

From Raytheon Driveway to the eastern project limits, the proposed roadway cross section will generally remain the same as existing conditions with the addition of consistent 5-foot bicycle accommodating shoulders on both sides of the roadway.

Right of Way

A secure right-of-way is necessary for the proposed project. Temporary and permanent easements will be required for the construction of this project. .

Maintenance of Traffic During Construction

A detour plan with proper signage will be provided as part of the Traffic Management Plan to guide throughout the construction phase.

Project Schedule

The project has been programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program as part of MassDOT's pavement preservation program for Federal Fiscal Year 2020. The Plans on display this evening are at the 25% Design Stage (Preliminary Design Stage). Comments from this evening will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

Project Cost

The project construction cost will be funded with a combination of moneys from the Federal Highway Administration and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and is currently estimated at \$14 million.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Marlborough, MA
Resurfacing and Related Work on Rote 20 Project
Project File No. 608467

This sheet is provided for your comments. Your input is solicited and appreciated. Please return your sheet, with comments, to a staff member at the meeting, or mail to:

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3973
Attn: Roadway Project Management Section

The final date for receipt of written statements and exhibits for inclusion into the official hearing transcript will be ten (10) days after the Public Hearing.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Please Fold and Tape



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Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E.
Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116-3973

RE: Public Hearing
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