



PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

November 27, 2018

AT

**Walpole Police Station
50 South Street
Walpole, MA 02081**

WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS

6:30 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

**Route 1A (Main Street) Reconstruction, from
Norwood Town-Line to Route 27, including the Bridge over Neponset River**

**Project No. 602261
Roadway Project Management**

IN THE TOWN OF WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS

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

**JONATHAN GULLIVER
ACTING HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

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

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING**

Project File No. 602261

A Public Informational Meeting will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed roadway reconstruction along **Route 1A (Main Street) Walpole, MA.**

WHERE: Walpole Police Department
50 South Street,
Walpole, MA 02081

WHEN: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 @ 6:30PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed roadway and bridge improvements along Route 1A (Main Street), from 300 feet north of Route 27 to just north of the Norwood-Walpole town-line (extending about 50 feet into Norwood). All views and comments made at the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of reconstructing about 2.2 miles of Route 1A, including intersection and approach improvements at Fisher, Gould, North, Bullard/Willet Streets and at the Stop and Shop Plaza and reconstruction of the Route 1A Bridge over Neponset River. New traffic signals, ADA compliant sidewalks, wheelchair ramps, a five-foot wide bike-lane on both sides of the street, and some rehabilitation of Route 1A Bridge over the MBTA Railroad are included.

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 meeting.

Written views received by MassDOT subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting 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 meeting 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 Informational Meeting 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. 602261. Such submissions will also be accepted at the meeting. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public meeting transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of this Informational Meeting. 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, meeting 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

WHAT IS A PUBLIC HEARING?

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.

**ROUTE 1A (MAIN STREET)
RECONSTRUCTION
NORWOOD TOWN-LINE TO ROUTE 27, INCLUDING THE BRIDGE OVER
NEPONSET RIVER WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS
PROJECT FILE NO. 602261**

Project Location

The project includes roadway, intersection and pedestrian along the Route 1A (Main Street) corridor from about 300 feet north of Route 27 to just north of the Norwood town-line in Walpole, Massachusetts. The attached locus map shows the corridor location and identifies the project limits.

Proposed Improvements

The proposed project consists of reconstructing about 2.2 miles of Route 1A, including the Route 1A Bridge over Neponset River (Bridge W-03-024). New traffic signals, ADA compliant sidewalks, wheelchair ramps, a five-foot wide bike-lane on both sides of the street, and some rehabilitation of Route 1A Bridge over the MBTA Railroad [Bridge W-03-013 (413)] are included.

The proposed improvements will include:

- Full Depth Pavement Reconstruction of Route 1A from 300 feet north of Route 27 to the Norwood Town Line
- Installation of ADA Compliant cement concrete sidewalks, wheelchair ramps, and driveway aprons on both sides of Route 1A including an extension of the sidewalk for 50-feet into Norwood on the east side of the street
- Installation of 5-foot wide bicycle lanes on both sides of Route 1A
- Installation of New Granite Curb
- Reconstruction of Route 1A Bridge over the Neponset River
- Some rehabilitation of Route 1A Bridge over the MBTA Railroad
- Removal of the existing concrete base under Route 1A
- Reconstruction and improvements to the existing closed drainage system
- Reconfiguration of the intersection and installation of a new traffic signal at North Street
- Reconfiguration of the intersection and installation of a new traffic signal at Fisher Street
- Reconfiguration of the intersection and installation of a new traffic signal at Bullard/Willett Street
- Reconstruction of the existing signal at the Stop and Shop Plaza
- Replacement of the existing flashing beacon and intersection improvements at Gould/Page Street
- Replacement of the existing flashing beacon and intersection improvements at Kendall Street
- New Pavement Markings and Crosswalks
- Relocation of utility poles as needed.

Traffic Management

In general Main Street as well as the intersecting side streets will remain open to traffic during construction, although there will be occasional short-term detours as construction progresses. A section of North Street at the intersection with Main Street will be closed for a few months to accommodate reconstruction of the Main Street Bridge over the Neponset River. Most of the construction will take place during off-peak hours with traffic under police officer control. There will be occasional work at night to reduce impacts on traffic and extended periods of daytime construction when southbound traffic is detoured in the morning rush hours or northbound traffic is detoured in the afternoon rush hours. Every effort will be made to reduce inconvenience to the public as much as practical. Pedestrian and vehicular access to abutting properties will be maintained at all times, except for limited periods of time prior to which abutters will be given advanced notice. During sidewalk construction, it may be necessary to detour pedestrians to the opposite side of the street or use the parking lane with protection.

Right Of Way Impacts

The proposed improvements will require some acquisitions and temporary easements from adjacent properties along the alignment to allow construction of new and/or re-grading of the existing sidewalks, landscaped areas, driveways and business/residential access. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisition will be discussed at this meeting.

Address: _____

Please Fold and Tape



Please Place
Appropriate
Postage Here

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

RE: Public Information Meeting
TOWN OF WALPOLE, MA
Route 1A Reconstruction – Traffic Safety Improvements
Project No. 602261
Roadway Project Management

