



VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

October 9, 2020

FOR THE PROPOSED

**Cape Cod Rail Trail Greenway Extension
Project No. 607398**

IN THE TOWNS OF Barnstable and Yarmouth, 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. 607398

A Virtual Design Public Hearing will be published on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Barnstable – Yarmouth Cape Cod Rail Trail (Phase III) project in Barnstable and Yarmouth, MA.

WHEN: October 9, 2020

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Barnstable – Yarmouth Cape Cod Rail Trail (Phase III) project. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: This project proposes to extend the CCRT through Yarmouth and into a portion of Barnstable, to a new trail head on Mary Dunn Road in the Town of Barnstable. The route of the CCRT Phase III will follow a combination of an existing shared-use path and a newly constructed shared-use path. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a 12' bicycle lane have been provided in accordance with applicable design guides.

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

Written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Project Management, Project File No. 607398. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing/meeting transcript must be postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after the hearing is posted to the MassDOT website listed below. Project inquiries may be emailed to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us.

This hearing is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), TTD/TTY at (857) 266-0603, fax (857) 368-0602 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 business days before the hearing.

This Virtual Design Public Hearing or a cancellation announcement will be posted on the internet at www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings.

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.

RIGHT OF WAY CONCERNS

Your Municipality is responsible for securing the right of way for this project. If your property, or a portion of it, must be acquired by the Municipality 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. REASON FOR PROJECT

The completion of this project will serve local needs. The proposed enhancement will also be in the interest of others in the greater community, and provide for the public good.

2. WHO CONTACTS ME?

Representatives of the municipality have already contacted or will contact you. They will explain the procedures used in acquiring any necessary rights in land.

3. WHAT ABOUT DONATIONS? WHAT IS A RIGHT OF ENTRY?

Town officials will often seek donations, of parcels, where permanent rights are required. This procedure will minimize the acquisition cost for your community.

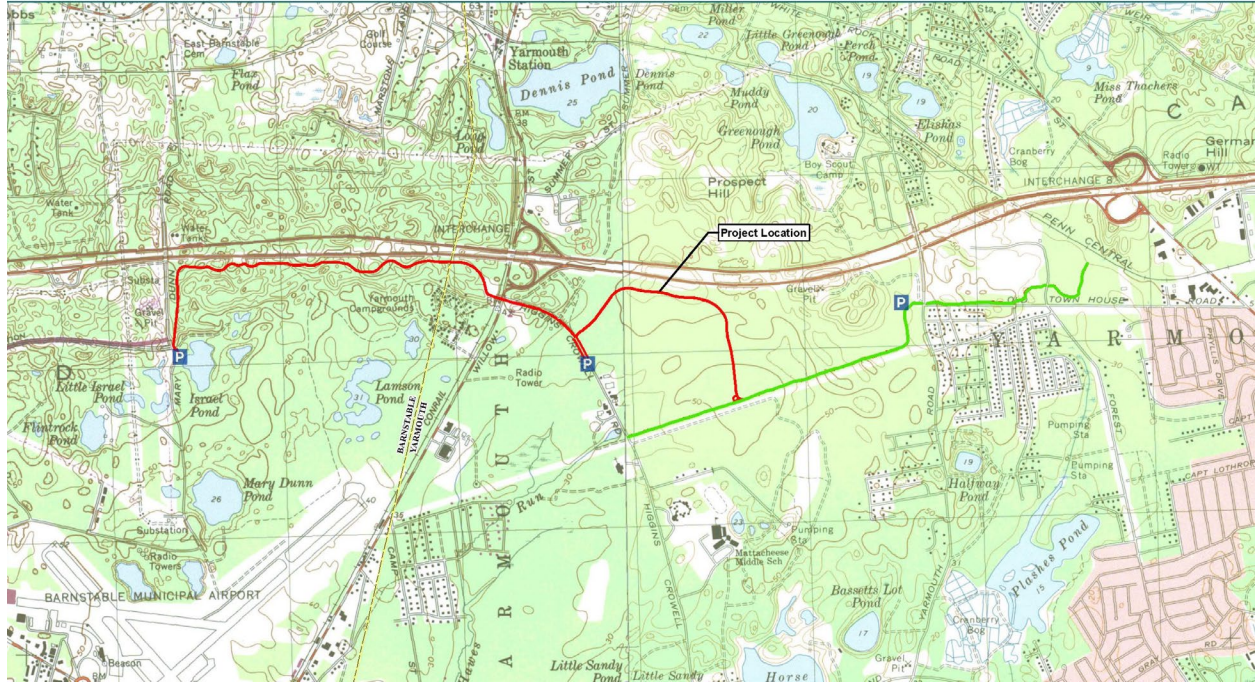
A Right of Entry is a document that is signed by the owner. It allows the Contractor to perform certain types of work on the owner's land. The work is usually minor in nature and frequently consists of loaming/seeding behind sidewalks, new driveway apron work, grading/sloping, and wetland protection, etc. The rights granted are temporary in nature.

4. WHAT IS A FAIR PRICE FOR THE ACQUIRED PARCELS?

In the event that donations are not considered, or completed, every effort will be made to ensure that an equitable value is awarded. Municipal and/or outside appraisers will complete an appraisal. Consideration is given to the type of rights needed, whether in fee, permanent or temporary easements. The appraisal will be the basis for arriving at a fair price (for damages that result).

5. MUST I ACCEPT THE MUNICIPALITY OFFER?

No, if the owner feels that the offer is not fair the owner may petition the courts. This action does not stop or delay the acquisition. The action must occur within 3 years. The owner(s) may be paid pro tanto (for the time being). The pro tanto payment will not prejudice the court's final decision.



PROJECT LOCATION

The project includes the construction of a multi-use path from Peter Homer Park in Yarmouth to Mary Dunn Road in Barnstable for 4.4 miles, and as shown on the attached locus map.

PROJECT PURPOSE

This project proposes to extend the CCRT through Yarmouth and into a portion of Barnstable, to a new trail head on Mary Dunn Road in the Town of Barnstable. The route of the CCRT Phase III will follow a combination of an existing shared-use path and a newly constructed shared-use path. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a 12' bikeway have been provided in accordance with applicable design guides.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The work under this Contract consists of widening an existing shared-use path and construction of a new shared-use path in the Towns of Yarmouth and Barnstable as an extension to the Cape Cod Rail Trail (CCRT). Work on the project includes one bridge carrying the CCRT over Willow Street and active Mass Coastal Railroad tracks in Yarmouth. At grade roadway crossings of Old Town House Road (Bayberry Hills Golf Course driveway), West Yarmouth Road and Forest Road Extension (transfer station driveway), all in Yarmouth are proposed. Speed tables will be installed at at-grade crossings of West Yarmouth Road and Forest Road Extension, with Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB). Parking lots will be constructed or expanded at Mary Dunn Road in Barnstable and Higgins Crowell Road and Bayberry Hills Golf Course driveway in Yarmouth.

Additional work includes unclassified excavation, pavement milling, full depth hot mix asphalt pavement, hot mix asphalt sidewalks, granite curb, pavement markings, signs, landscaping and other incidental work.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

The existing path in Yarmouth will be closed during construction. Police details will be used at roadway crossings during active construction activities. For the construction of the Willow Street bridge, there will be night time roadway closures on Willow Street and a detour set up around the active construction zone.

RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS

Temporary and permanent easements will be required along the length of the project to accommodate the proposed work. All easements that are needed will be on public land. This includes twenty five temporary construction easement and ten permanent easements for utilities. No takings will be required. The proposed improvements will require temporary easements for minor grading impacts and for future operations and maintenance of the bikepath. The Towns of Yarmouth and Barnstable are responsible for acquiring all needed rights in public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisition will be discussed at this hearing.

PROJECT COST

The preliminary construction cost of this project at this design stage is approximately \$9,500,000.00

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The design plans presented are at the 25% design stage. Design, permitting, and right of way acquisition must be completed by December 2022. Construction is anticipated to begin in the Spring/Summer of 2023.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Barnstable and Yarmouth, MA
CCRT Ph 3
Project File No. 607398

This sheet is provided for your comments. Your input is solicited and appreciated. Please mail this sheet with any additional comments to:

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

Attn: Project Management

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

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

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: Virtual Public Hearing
Cape Cod Rail Trail Greenway Extension
Barnstable and Yarmouth, MA
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Insert section: Project Management

