



VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING PRESENTATION

March 10, 2022

FOR THE PROPOSED

Bridge Replacement, C-10-002, Sand Mill Road Over Dry Brook

Project No.: 608857

Bridge Nos : C-10-002

Major Projects

IN THE CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS

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

**JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

**CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING MEETING
Project File No. 608857

A Live Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Bridge Replacement, C-10-002, Sand Mill Road Over Dry Brook project in Cheshire, MA.

WHEN: 7:00 PM, Thursday, March 10, 2022

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Bridge Replacement, C-10-002, Sand Mill Road Over Dry Brook project. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of the replacement of the Sand Mill Road Bridge over Dry Brook. The proposed bridge will be widened to include travel lanes and shoulders on both sides of the bridge. Currently there are no bicycle facilities within close proximity of the bridge and none are proposed. Proposed concrete abutments and wingwalls will support the new bridge span over Dry Brook. Improvements are also proposed to the roadway approaches and protective guardrail on both ends of the bridge. Overhead wires will be temporarily relocated upstream and services will be maintained during construction. Some tree clearing and trimming will be required and stone riprap will be placed in front of the concrete wingwalls to stabilize the slopes. The bridge will be closed to traffic and a full detour will be provided.

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

Project inquiries, written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking may be submitted to Carrie E. Lavalley, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer, via e-mail to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 6340, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: **Major Projects**, Project File No. **608857**. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after the hearing is posted to the MassDOT website listed below.

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

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEY, P.E.
ACTING 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,

Carrie Lavalee, P. E.
Acting 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.

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.

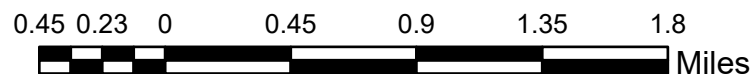
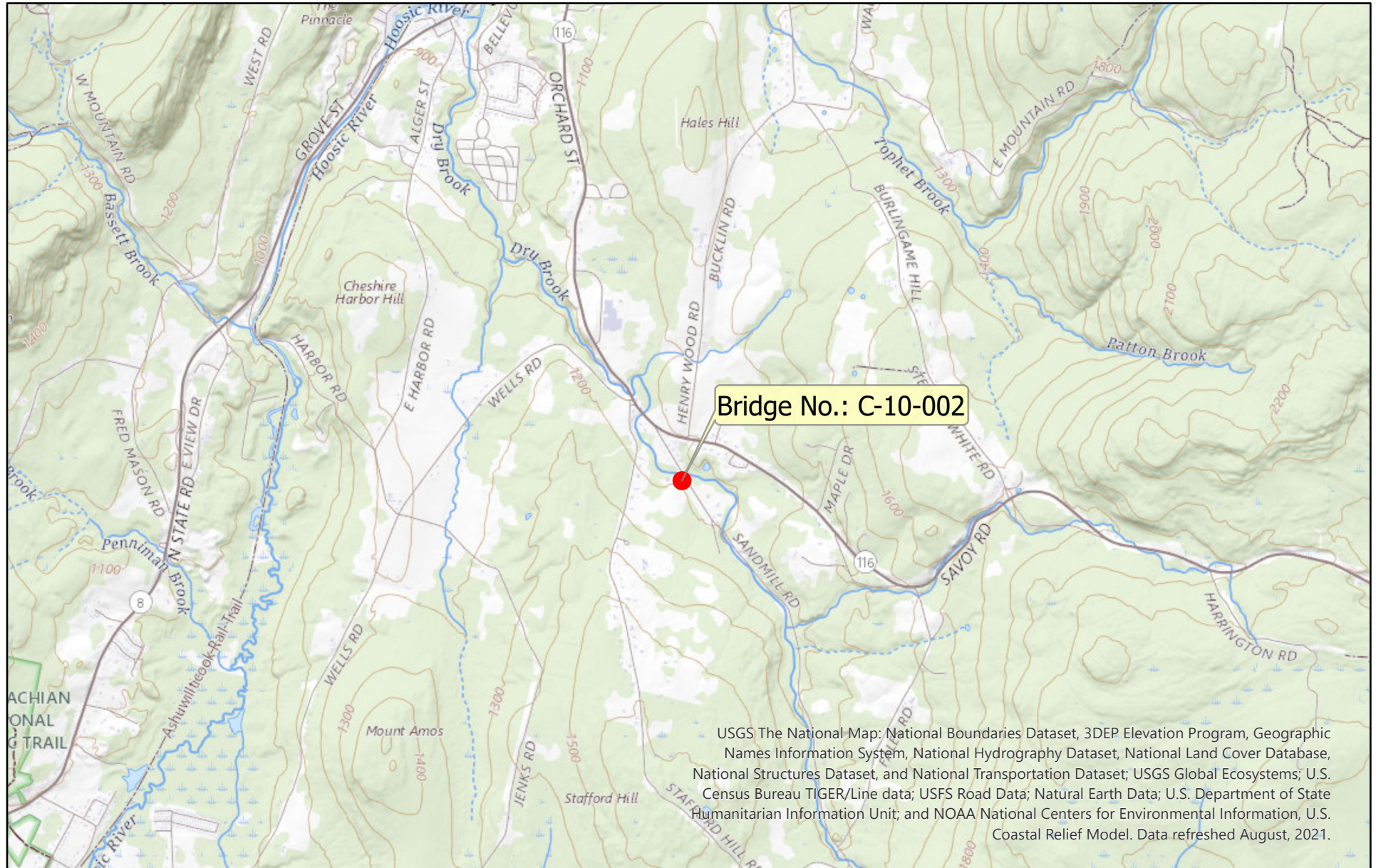
4. WHAT IS A FAIR PRICE FOR THE ACQUIRED PARCELS?

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 #: 608857
Cheshire - Bridge Replacement C-10-002
Sand Mill Road over Dry Brook



Project Location:

Bridge No. C-10-002 is located on Sand Mill Road Over Dry Brook in the Town of Cheshire

Project Purpose:

The purpose of this project is to replace the structurally deficient bridge with a new structure. The bridge is currently open to traffic. It was closed on 3/27/15 due to steel girder deterioration. The bridge was reopened in 2016. The bridge has a curb-to-curb width of 20'-0" with 18" wide curbs on both the east and west sides. The bridge carries two (2) 10'-0" travel lanes, no defined shoulders and no sidewalks.

Existing Conditions:

Sand Mill Road is a two-lane road with a Functional Classification of "Rural Local Road." Sand Mill Road services a combination of residential and commercial uses. The corridor is a low-speed local road connecting with Windsor Road to the south and Savoy Road (Route 116) to the north.

The north approach roadway varies in width and has an approximate overall width of 20'-0". The roadway narrows just before the bridge by approximately 1ft. There are no defined shoulders and no sidewalks. The north approach roadway varies in width and has an approximate overall width of 20'-0". The south approach roadway also varies with an approximate overall width of 20'-8", has no defined shoulders and no sidewalks. The horizontal alignment at the bridge is tangent. The vertical profile through the bridge site is essentially flat with a minor sag at the north approach just before the bridge. The bridge profile has only 0.25% slope from north to south ends of the bridge. There is a bituminous drive entrance approximately 85 ft. north of the bridge on the east side of the roadway. Also, there is a concrete drive approximately 60ft. south of the bridge on the west side of the roadway.

Proposed Improvements:

The proposed improvements include complete superstructure and substructure replacement to support a widened superstructure. It is proposed that the existing abutments be demolished and founded on spread footings. Construction of new roadway approaches, wingwall and retaining walls, guardrails and drainage improvements are also proposed.

The proposed roadway section consisting of 2-10 ft lanes and 2'-2 1/2" ft shoulders, the existing bridge width consists of 2-10 ft lanes and 2-7" wide shoulders. The horizontal alignment will remain basically the same as the existing. The vertical profile of the bridge will be raised slightly to improve drainage and create a smooth transition to existing conditions. Sand Mill Road is not part of the National Highway System and has a design speed of 35 mph.

The proposed out to out bridge dimension is 28'-0" and with 2'-4 1/2" shoulders and 1'-7 1/2" ft wide parapets on both sides. The existing approximate out to out width of the existing bridge is 23'-0" ft wide.

Maintenance of Traffic during Construction:

The proposed bridge will be constructed in one stage, and Sand Mill Road Over Dry Brook will be closed to traffic during construction.

During construction, the bridge will be closed for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Traffic from Savory Road coming from the South and Sand Mill Road from the south toward the bridge on Sand Mill Road will be detoured to Savory Road.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Cheshire, MA
Bridge Replacement, C-10-002, Sand Mill Road Over Dry Brook
Project File No. 608857

This sheet is provided for your comments. Your input is solicited and appreciated. You may e-mail comments directly to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us or you may mail this sheet with any additional comments to:

Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3973
Attn: Major Projects

Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after the hearing/presentation.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Please Fold and Tape



Please Place
Appropriate
Postage Here

Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E.
Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116-3973

RE: Virtual Public Hearing
Bridge Replacement, C-10-002, Sand Mill Road Over Dry Brook
Cheshire
Project File No. 608857
Attn: Major Projects