



VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Thursday, November 4, 2021

7:00 – 8:00 PM

MASSDOT PUBLIC HEARING WEBSITE

<https://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings>

For the Proposed

Route 1 Resurfacing and Related Work Project

Project No.608480

IN THE TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

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

**JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

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

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No. 608480

A Live Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Route 1 Resurfacing and Related Work project in the Town of Foxborough, MA.

WHEN: 7:00 PM, Thursday, November 4, 2021

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is for MassDOT to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Route 1 Resurfacing and Related Work project. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: MassDOT plans to resurface Route 1 (2.4 miles) in the Town of Foxborough. This Pavement Preservation project will also include safety, bicycle and pedestrian improvements where appropriate including the intersections of Lincoln Road, Pine Street, and North Street. Related improvements include: installing HAWK pedestrian beacon for a new crossing at the Route 1/East/Main St intersection; reconstruct existing sidewalks and curb ramps that are not ADA compliant or in poor condition; construct new sidewalks and curb ramps where none now exist such as in the Route 1/East Street/Main Street intersection area; provide new crosswalks where warranted; and installing pedestrian countdowns. Bicycle accommodations will consist of use of the existing 10 foot outside shoulder that exist along most of the corridor except at intersections.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. MassDOT 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. Lavallee, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer, via e-mail to MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 6340, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: **Project Management**, Project File No. **608480**. 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 and any cancellation announcement will be on the internet at www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings.

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, 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 E. Lavalley, P.E.
Acting 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

The State is responsible for securing the Right of Way for this project. 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.

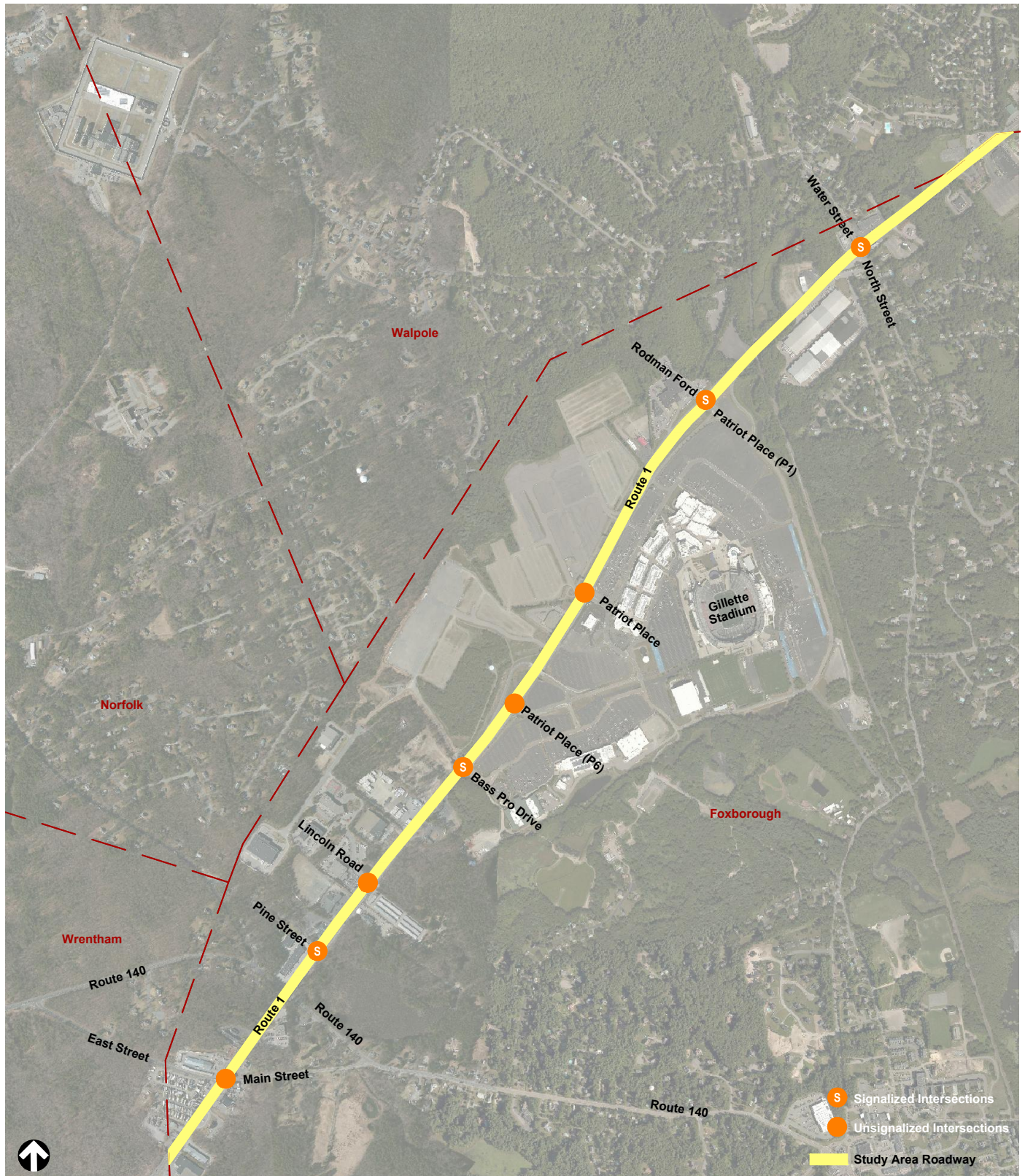


Figure 2.1
Study Area

Route 1 Resurfacing
Foxborough, Massachusetts

PROJECT LOCATION

The project limits are Route 1 (Washington Street) in Foxborough from the Wrentham Town line in the south to the Walpole Town line in the north for approximately 2.4 miles.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Route 1 is an urban principal arterial under MassDOT jurisdiction and runs in a north-south direction, providing access to major highways including Interstate 495 (I-495) and Interstate 95 (I-95). There is a posted speed limit of 50 mph along the corridor. Parking is prohibited along Route 1 because it is a state highway.

Within the project area, the major land uses along Route 1 include Patriot Place, Gillette Stadium, and several small commercial uses. Patriot Place, located along the east side of Route 1 features more than 1.3 million square feet of retail, dining, and entertainment establishments. Gillette Stadium, adjacent to Patriot Place, is home to the New England Patriots and the New England Revolution, where home games are held for both the football and soccer. In addition to the sporting events, Gillette Stadium also serves as a concert venue and hosts other events of various size. Many of the adjacent properties provide parking for the events held at Gillette Stadium.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The proposed purpose of this project is for maintenance and resurfacing of Route 1 within the Foxborough Town limits. Other proposed improvements include the minor modifications of the existing traffic signal systems by replacing broken traffic signal equipment, and equipment upgrades based on ADA requirement. Additional proposed improvements include providing new sidewalks to fill in missing sections where feasible and replacing existing sidewalks and wheelchair ramps that are not ADA compliant or in poor condition.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The proposed purpose of this project is for maintenance and resurfacing of Route 1 within the Foxborough Town limits. Other proposed improvements include the minor modification of the existing traffic signal systems, replacing broken traffic equipment, and equipment upgrades based on ADA requirements at the Pine Street, Bass Pro Drive intersection, Patriot Place Main entrance, the intersection of Patriot Place at Route 1 Southbound, and at the intersection of Route 1 at North Street. In addition to the traffic signal upgrades, installation of a High Intensity Activated Crosswalks (HAWK) at the Main/East Street intersection is proposed. Additional proposed improvements include providing new sidewalks to fill in missing sections where feasible and replacing existing sidewalks and wheelchair ramps that are not ADA compliant or in poor condition.

RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS

Twenty-five temporary easements, one permanent easement and eight takings will be required along the length of the project to accommodate the proposed work. The proposed improvements will require temporary easements for minor grading impacts to lawns, walkways, and driveways to restore impacts to adjacent properties. Takings are required for sidewalks, wheelchair ramps and traffic signal equipment. MassDOT is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private and public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisition will be discussed at this hearing.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

During typical construction operations, all roadways in the project area will remain open to residents and other traffic. Occasional short traffic disruptions and travel lane/shoulder closures may occur, but every effort will be made to minimize inconvenience to the travelling public and abutting residents and businesses. Pedestrian and vehicular access to abutting properties will be maintained throughout construction. All construction activities will be coordinated with Gillette Stadium events.

PROJECT COST

The preliminary construction cost of this project at this design stage is approximately \$6,500,000.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The design plans presented this evening are at the 25% design stage. Design, permitting, and right of way acquisition must be completed by Aug 2023. Construction is anticipated to begin in the Spring 2024.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Foxborough, MA
Route 1 Resurfacing and Related Improvements Project
Project File No. 608480

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

Carrie E. Lavalley, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3973
Attn: Project Management

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.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Please Fold and Tape



Please Place
Appropriate
Postage Here

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

RE: Virtual Public Hearing
ROUTE 1 Project
FOXBOROUGH, MA
Project File No. 608480
Attn: Project Management

