

VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING PRESENTATION

FEBRUARY 2, 2021

FOR THE PROPOSED

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 9 AT ROUTE 126 INTERCHANGE AND SALT SHED RELOCATION Project No. 608836 Environmental Services

IN THE FRAMINGHAM, 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 <u>NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING MEETING</u> <u>Project File No. 608836</u>

A Virtual Design Public Hearing will be published on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 9 AT ROUTE 126 INTERCHANGE AND SALT SHED RELOCATION project in **Framingham**, MA.

WHEN: Tuesday, February 2, 2021

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 9 AT ROUTE 126 INTERCHANGE AND SALT SHED RELOCATION 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 drainage improvement on Route 9 at Route 126 since there has been consistent flooding within the area. The project is a drainage project and will not include bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.

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. However, the project will not require any Right-of-Way.

Written statements and other exhibits regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, via e-mail to <u>MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us</u> or via US Mail to Suite 6340, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Hung Pham, Stormwater Program Coordinator, Environmental, Project File No. 608836. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing 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 <u>dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us</u>.

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

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?

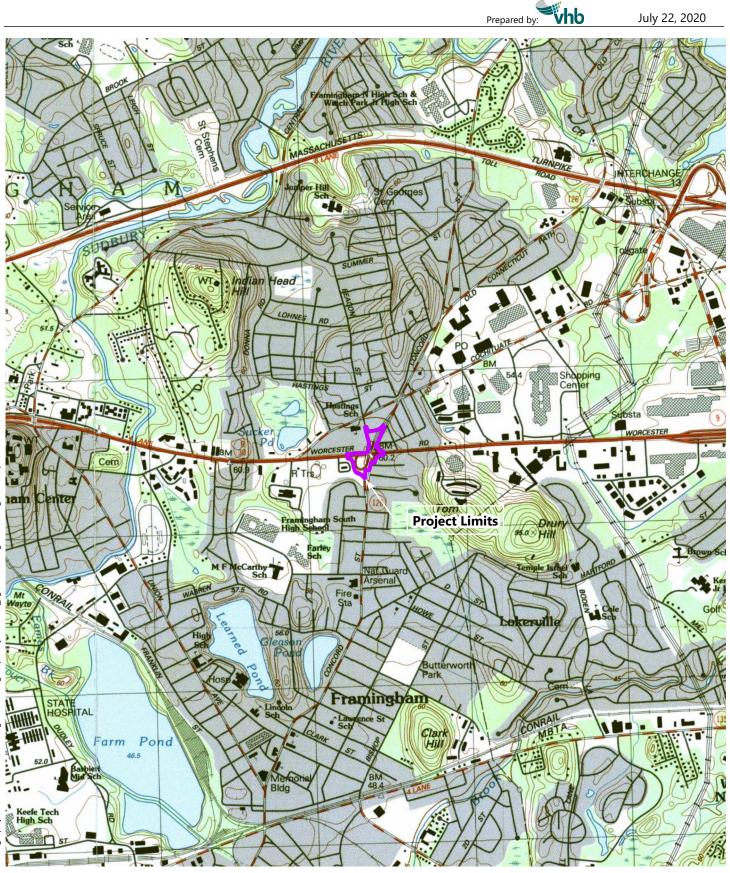
No. If, after the figure established as market value has been offered to the owner, the owner feels he or she is not being offered a fair price, he or she has the right, within three years, to appeal to the courts. Pending a court decision, he or she can be paid on a "pro-tanto" basis (or "for the time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



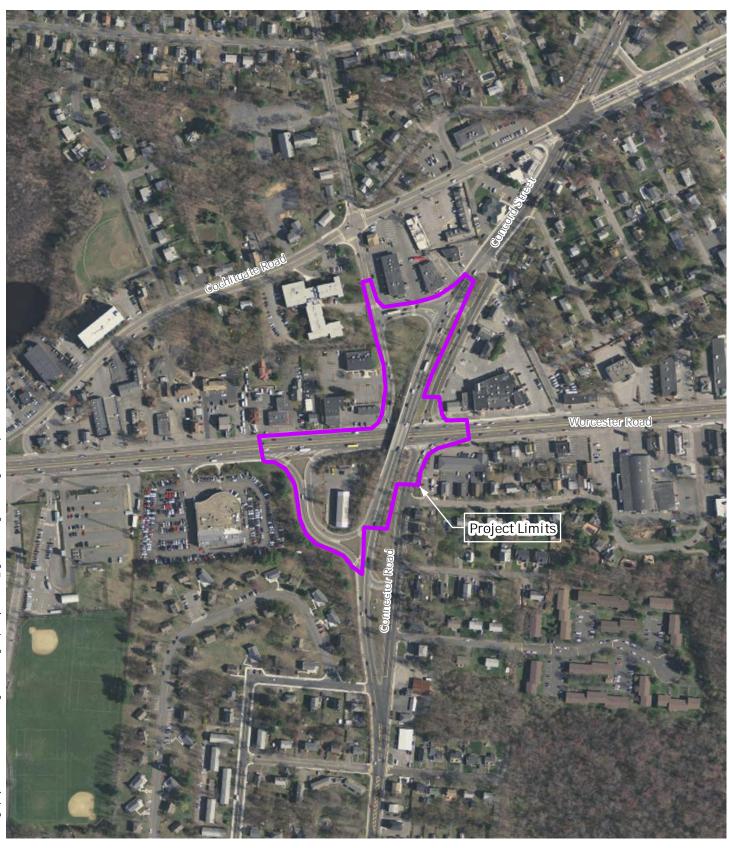


MassDOT Project # 608836 Stormwater Management and Drainage Improvements Framingham, MA

Legend Approximate Project Area

Figure 1: USGS Locus EECC July 2020 Source: MassGIS







MassDOT Project # 608836 Stormwater Management and Drainage Improvements Framingham, MA

Legend Approximate Project Area

Figure 2: Aerial Locus EECC July 2020 Source: MassGIS

Drainage Improvements On Route 9 At Route 126 Interchange And Salt Shed Relocation FRAMINGHAM, MA

PROJECT LOCATION

The project is located along Route 9 at the overpass of Concord Street (Route 126) in Framingham, Massachusetts.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is proposing to address and reduce the frequency and severity of the flooding at Route 9 and Concord Street (Route 126) overpass in Framingham and improve public safety and traffic management during heavy precipitation events by constructing and installing two infiltration basins between Fairbanks Street, Beacon Street and Concord Street as well as the location of the existing maintenance yard. This will also provide a secondary benefit by improving water quality in the area.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The project includes the following improvements:

- Installation of two detention basins to retain and treat stormwater and alleviate flooding in the area. The first basin is proposed at the intersection of Fairbanks Street and Beacon Street. The second basin is proposed at the existing MassDOT salt shed at the on-ramp to Route 9 eastbound from Route 126.
- Installation of drainage structures and piping within Route 9 and Route 126.
- Installation of landscaping
- Installation and improving pedestrian sidewalks.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

During construction operation, work hours shall consist of the following:

- Off-Roadway 7AM 5PM
- Route 126 9AM-3PM, 9PM-5AM (next day)
- Route 9 Daytime Upon Approval Only, 9PM-5AM (next day)
- Ramp Closure -9PM-5AM (next day)

The project will result in temporary lane closures of Route 9 and 126 and the following:

- Route 9 eastbound off-ramp to Route 126
- Route 9 eastbound on-ramp from Route 126
- Concord Street between Corregidor Road and Route 9
- Route 9 westbound off-ramp to Beacon Street
- Right lane turn lane on Fairbanks Street to Route 126

RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS

Currently, there will be no anticipated Right-of-Ways required for the project. All of the work is within the public right of way.

PROJECT COST

The current estimate of the total construction cost of this project is approximately \$3,700,000.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY DIVISION

NON FEDERAL AID AND FEDERAL AID PROJECT

FRAMINGHAM, MA DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 9 AT ROUTE 126 INTERCHANGE AND SALT SHED RELOCATION Project File No. 608836

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: Environmental Services, Hung Pham

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.

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| | Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E. Chief Engineer MassDOT – Highway Division | |

10 Park Plaza

 RE: Virtual Public Hearing /Public Information Meeting/Oral Presentation PROJECT NAME MUNICIPALITY Project File No. XXXXXX Insert section: Project Management, Major Projects, Environmental Services, Design/Build

Boston, MA 02116-3973