



## **DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING**

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2019**

**AT**

**VILLAGE HALL, SECOND FLOOR  
2 Oak Street**

**FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

**6:30 PM**

**FOR THE PROPOSED  
TRAFFIC SIGNAL INSTALLATION AT EDGELL ROAD AT CENTRAL STREET  
Project No. 608889  
Roadway Project Management**

**IN THE CITY OF 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**  
**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**

**Project File No. 608889**

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Traffic Signal Installation at Edgell Road at Central Street project in Framingham, MA.

WHERE: Village Hall, Second Floor  
2 Oak Street  
Framingham, MA 01702

WHEN: Thursday, December 5, 2019 @ 6:30PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Traffic Signal Installation at Edgell Road at Central Street project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project is centered around improving vehicle operations and safety by relieving congestion issues on Central Street and addressing existing sight distance deficiencies. This includes geometric improvements to the intersection and installation of a traffic signal at the intersection. The project will also improve pedestrian mobility and safety by providing an exclusive pedestrian phase as well as ADA/AAB compliant sidewalks along both sides of all roadways and crosswalks across all approaches. Bicycle accommodation consists of a 5' bicycle lane on both sides of Edgell Road and Central Street.

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

Written views received by MassDOT subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing 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 hearing 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 Hearing 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. 608889. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after this Public Hearing. Project inquiries may be emailed to [dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us](mailto: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](mailto: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, hearing 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.

## RIGHT OF WAY ISSUES

A secure right of way is necessary for this project. Temporary construction easements may be required. Your municipality is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in private or public lands. If your property is affected, your rights are fully protected under law.

### 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.

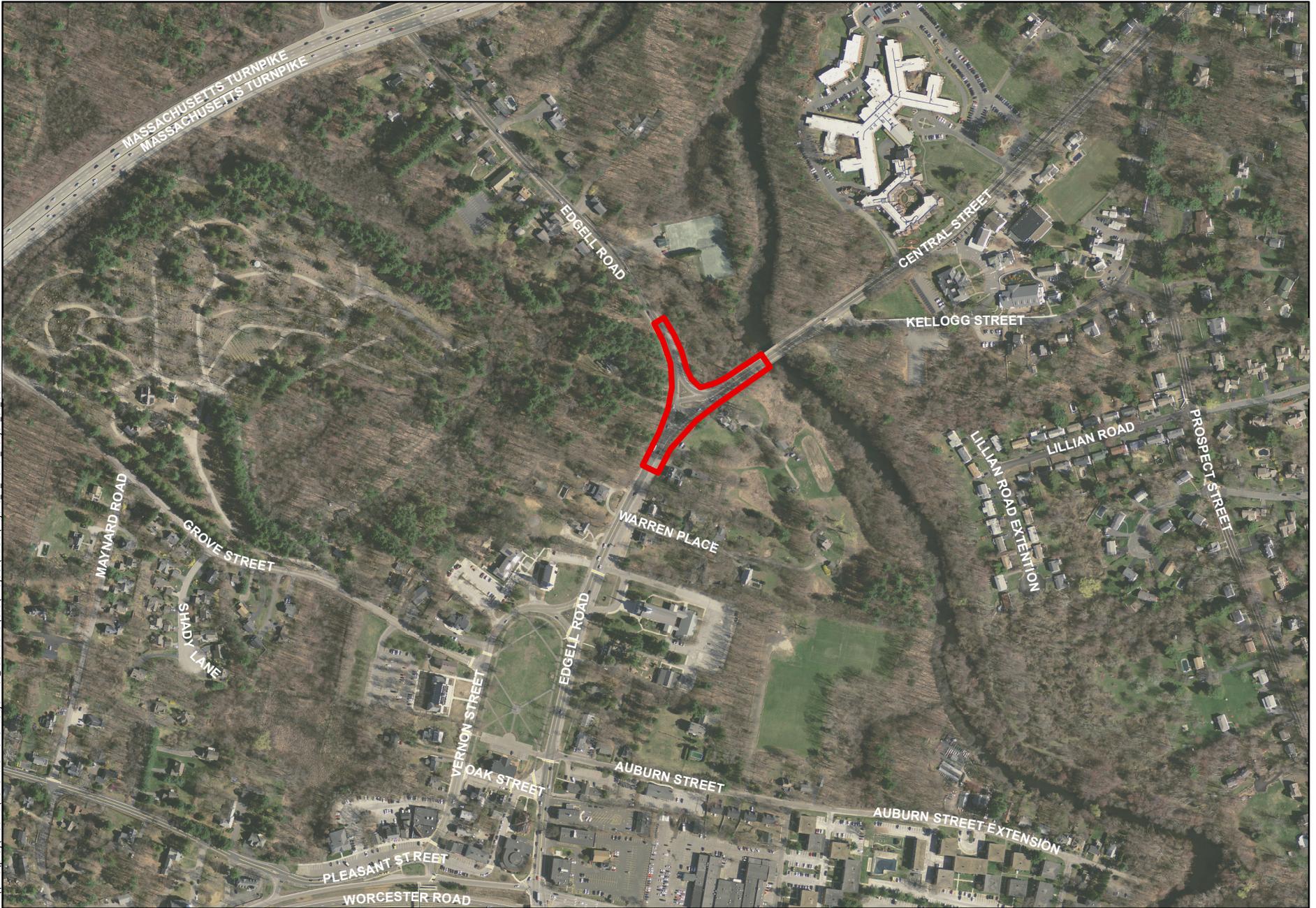
A Right of Entry is a document that is signed by the owner. It allows the Contractor to perform certain types of work on the owner's land. The work is usually minor in nature and frequently consists of loaming/seeding behind sidewalks, new driveway apron work, grading/sloping, and wetland protection,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



\\vhb\proj\Wat-TE\13484.15 TO15-Edgell Rd@Central\S\GIS\Project\EECC\Figure 2 Aerial Edgell at Central.mxd



0 250 500 1,000 Feet

 Project Location

**Edgell Road at Central Street**

Framingham, MA

LOCUS MAP

Source Info: USGS, MassGIS

# **Traffic and Safety Improvements**

## **Traffic Signal Installation at Edgell Road and Central Street**

### **Framingham, MA**

#### **PROJECT PURPOSE**

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve vehicular operations and safety by addressing congestion issues on Central Street and addressing existing sight distance deficiencies. This project will also improve pedestrian mobility and safety by providing ADA/AAB compliant sidewalks along both sides of all roadways, crosswalks across all approaches, and exclusive pedestrian phasing. Bicycle accommodations are provided through bike lanes on all approaches.

#### **PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS**

The proposed traffic signal upgrade and associated geometric improvements include the following features to enhance vehicular traffic flow and pedestrian/ bicyclist accessibility:

- Provide a left-turn-only lane for southbound Edgell Road to turn onto Central Street eastbound;
- Provide a right-turn-only lane for northbound Edgell Road to turn onto Central Street eastbound;
- Remove the three existing islands that currently do not accommodate pedestrian safety, and replace them with one island which will be accessible for pedestrians;
- Provide a five-foot bicycle lane for all approaches;
- Modify the radius of the turns eastbound to Central Street and westbound from Central Street to slow traffic and promote safety of all users, and
- Shift the Edgell Road geometry to the east to improve sight distance in the southbound direction along the curved geometry.
- Optimize traffic signal timings for anticipated traffic volumes
- Provide pedestrian signal heads with countdown timers and APS pedestrian push buttons
- Provide Traffic Signal Detection for vehicles and bicycles

#### **TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT**

Edgell Road and Central Street will remain open to traffic to the extent possible throughout construction. Full depth pavement reconstruction at the intersection will be performed during off-peak hours with one lane alternating traffic under police officer control. During peak commuting hours, two lanes (one lane in each direction) will be provided. Occasional short traffic disruptions may occur, but every effort will be made to minimize inconvenience to the public. Traffic detours are not anticipated for this project. Pedestrian and vehicular access to abutting properties will be maintained at all times, except for brief periods of time of which abutters will be notified in advance. During sidewalk construction, it may be necessary to detour pedestrians to the opposite side of the street or using the shoulder.

## **RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS**

Twenty- two easements will be required along the length of the project to accommodate the proposed work. This includes fourteen temporary construction easements and nine permanent easements for utilities. No takings will be required. The proposed improvements will require temporary easements for minor grading impacts to lawns, walkways, and driveways to restore impacts to adjacent properties. The City of Framingham is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private and public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisition will be discussed at this hearing.

## **PROJECT COST**

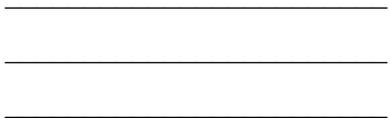
The project construction cost will be funded with a combination of money from the Federal Highway Administration and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The total participating cost is currently estimated at \$2.2 million.

## **PROJECT SCHEDULE**

The project has been programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2022. The Plans on display this evening are at the 25% Design Stage (Preliminary Design Stage). Comments from this evening will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.



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 Hearing  
Traffic Signal Installation at Edgell Road at Central Street  
**Framingham**  
Project File No. 608889  
Roadway Project Management Section

