



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

FEBRUARY 13, 2020

AT

MAYNARD TOWN BUILDING

MAYNARD, MASSACHUSETTS

6:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

Florida Road over the Assabet River Bridge Replacement Project

Project No. 608637

Bridge M-10-006

Bridge Project Management

IN THE TOWN OF MAYNARD, 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. 608637

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed bridge replacement project for the Florida Road Bridge over the Assabet River in Maynard, Massachusetts.

WHERE: Maynard Town Building
Michael J. Gianotis Meeting Room; Room 201
195 Main Street
Maynard, MA 01754

WHEN: Thursday, February 13th, 2020 at 6:00 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to inform the public of the proposed bridge replacement project and to provide an opportunity for public question and comment. All questions and comments raised at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent practicable.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of the replacement of the Florida Road Bridge over the Assabet River in the Town of Maynard. The bridge will be constructed in the same footprint as the existing span with slight deviations to allow for improvements to the roadway horizontal and vertical alignment. The width of the bridge will be increased for the new alignment, to provide wider shoulders, and to maintain two sidewalks. There will be a full road closure with a detour for traffic, bicyclists, and pedestrians during construction.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Town of Maynard is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands.

Written comments 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: Bridge Project Management Section, Project File No. **608637**. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of this Public Hearing. Project inquiries may be emailed to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us

This location is accessible to persons 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). 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 online 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.

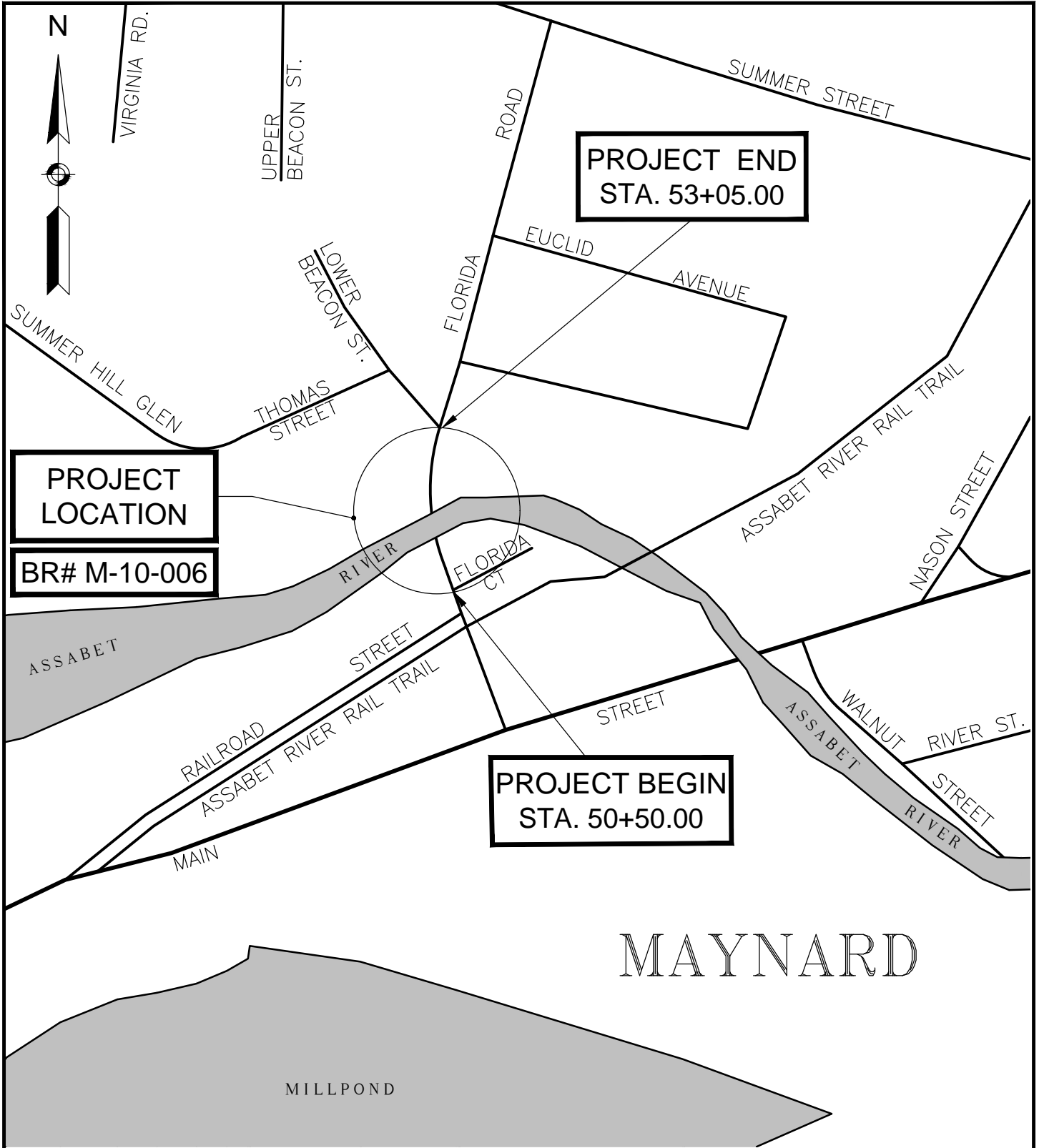
A Right of Entry is a document that is signed by the owner. It allows the Contractor to perform certain types of work on the owner's land. The work is usually minor in nature and frequently consists of loaming/seeding behind sidewalks, new driveway apron work, grading/sloping, and wetland protection,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



LOCUS MAP

PROJECT FILE NO. 608637

MAYNARD, MA



BRIDGE REPLACEMENT
BRIDGE NO. M-10-006
FLORIDA ROAD
OVER ASSABET RIVER

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

PROJECT PURPOSE:

MassDOT has retained CME Associates, Inc. (CME) to provide professional engineering services required for the bridge replacement design of existing Bridge No. M-10-006, which carries Florida Road over the Assabet River in Maynard, Massachusetts.

The purpose of the project is to replace a structurally deficient concrete arch with new steel beams, a concrete bridge deck, and concrete foundations. The existing horizontal alignment and vertical profile will be adjusted to improve conditions. Construction is anticipated to begin in the Summer of 2021 and a full road closure with a detour is anticipated for the 2022 construction season.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:

Florida Road is a two-lane urban local road running south to north at the project location and is not part of the National Highway System (NHS). The entire road is approximately 0.2 miles long and provides a connection between Main Street and Summer Street. The bridge crosses the Assabet River which flows from west to east.

The bridge was originally built in 1915 and is a single span reinforced concrete arch with concrete spandrel walls. The existing structure has an approximate maximum clear span of 68'-0". The out-to-out width of the arch is 30'-0"±, which consists of a bi-directional roadway with a curb-to-curb width of approximately 18'-0" and two (2) 5'-5" wide sidewalks (6'-0" with concrete bridge rails).

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:

Proposed improvements for this project are linked to the safety of all individuals who utilize Florida Road. This will include motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

The service life of a new structure built to standard design codes is a minimum of 75 years after the conclusion of construction. The entire existing structure will be removed and replaced with new concrete foundations and a superstructure comprised of steel beams supporting a concrete deck. Replacing all of the structural components at the site reduces the cost of future maintenance and allows for the use of more standard design details, which have been used in previous bridge projects.

One of the biggest safety concerns is the deteriorated and inadequate bridge barriers currently in place. Bridge inspections have rated the condition of the thin concrete barriers as poor. The proposed bridge will have new standard concrete bridge barriers, which meet current design requirements.

Proposed barriers connect to new concrete sidewalks which will be similar in width to the existing sidewalks, but they will have standard curb reveals. The curb reveals keep the sidewalks elevated above the roadway to allow more protection for pedestrians. Current sidewalks have

little to no reveal and are rated to be in fair condition with cracking, pavement patches, and unevenness.

The most noticeable change proposed is the wider roadway. The existing curb-to-curb width is approximately 18'-0". The new curb-to-curb width will be 28'-0" in order to provide two 10'-0" travel lanes as well as 4'-0" shoulders on both sides. The wider roadway will help improve sight distance. The proposed roadway layout includes adjustments to the horizontal alignment and vertical profile.

PROJECT LOCATION AND LIMITS:

The bridge is located on Florida Road between Main Street and Summer Street just north of the post office. The attached locus map shows the location of the project. The project limits are the roadway approaches approximately 100 feet south of the bridge and 70 feet north of the bridge.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT:

Florida Road will be closed at the bridge during construction. The site conditions make it too difficult to provide access for vehicles or pedestrians over the Assabet River on Florida Road, so detours are required. For vehicular traffic, Main Street and Summer Street will be utilized. Nason Street can provide a shorter detour for traffic traveling from Summer Street to Main Street. Bicyclists and pedestrians may use the Assabet River Rail Trail and Summer Street as a temporary detour. Existing property owner access within the project limits will be maintained.

UTILITIES:

The existing bridge carries a sewer pipe and a water main. Overhead wires run along the east side of the bridge. These utilities will be adjusted for temporary conditions during construction and then permanently relocated prior to the completion of the project. Gas pipes are located near the bridge but do not cross the Assabet River.

ENVIRONMENTAL:

Environmental permits will be required for the construction of the bridge.

RIGHT OF WAY:

The proposed design requires right of way, which will be acquired by the Town of Maynard. Temporary and permanent easements are proposed and presented in the design plans.

PROJECT STATUS:

The plans on display tonight are at the preliminary 25% design stage. Comments received this evening will be considered in determining the final design. Construction is anticipated to begin in the year 2021 and continue through 2022.

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: Public Hearing
Florida Rd over the Assabet River Bridge Replacement Project
Maynard
Project File No. 608637
Bridge Project Management

