



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

AT

**ORLEANS TOWN HALL
19 School Road, Nauset Room**

ORLEANS, MASSACHUSETTS

7:00 PM

**FOR THE PROPOSED
Intersection Improvements at Route 28 (South Orleans Rd), Route 39 (Harwich Rd)
and Quanset Rd**

**Project No. 608666
Roadway Project Management**

IN THE TOWN OF ORLEANS, 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. 608666

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Intersection Improvements at Route 28 (South Orleans Road), Route 39 (Harwich Road) and Quanset Road project in Orleans, MA.

WHERE: Orleans Town Hall
19 School Road, Nauset Room
Orleans, MA 02653

WHEN: Wednesday, December 11, 2019 @ 7:00PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Intersection Improvements at Route 28 (South Orleans Road), Route 39 (Harwich Road) and Quanset Road project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of the installation of a roundabout along with associated geometric improvements. ADA-compliant sidewalks are proposed within the project limits. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a 5' bicycle lane on Route 28 and a wide travel lane with shared lane markings on Route 39 and Quanset Road have been provided in accordance with applicable design guides.

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. 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. 608666. 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

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). 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.

TO SAFEGUARD THE PROPERTY OWNER

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?

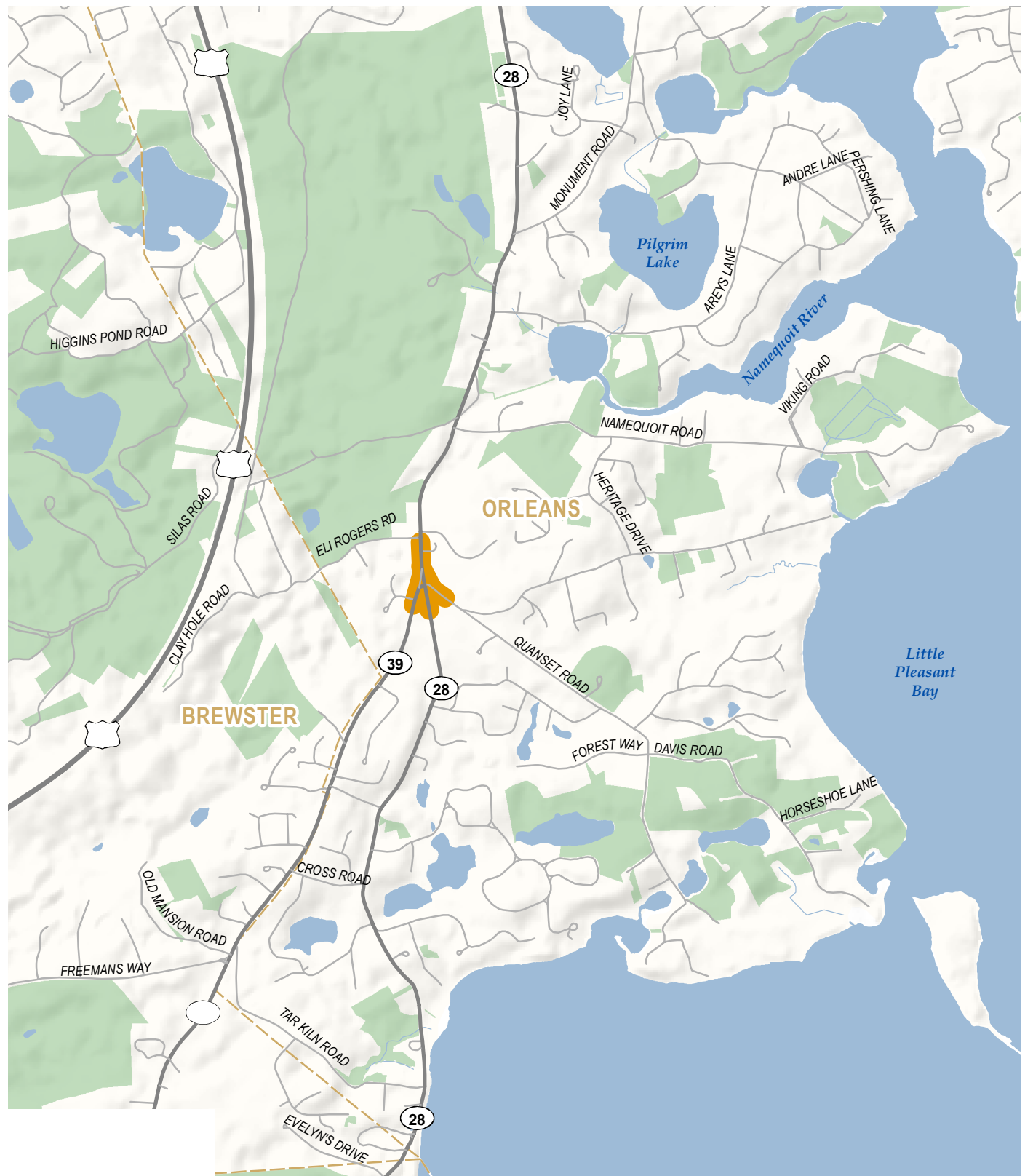
No. If, after the figure established as market value has been offered to the owner, the owner feels he or she is not being offered a fair price, he or she has the right, within three years, to appeal to the courts. Pending a court decision, he or she can be paid on a "pro-tanto" basis (or "for the time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



 Study Area



Figure 1

Locus Map
Orleans, Massachusetts

Intersection Improvement Project

Route 28 (South Orleans Rd), Route 39 (Harwich Rd) and Quanset Rd

PROJECT LOCATION

The project includes the construction of a single lane roundabout at the intersection of Route 28 (South Orleans Rd), Route 39 (Harwich Rd) and Quanset Rd. The attached Locus Map shows the intersection location.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed project is to improve roadway conditions, provide bicycle accommodations and improve pedestrian infrastructure and connectivity, to increase driver and pedestrian safety and accessibility to the roadway corridor and the surrounding businesses and residences.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The intersection of Orleans Road, Harwich Road and Quanset Road is located in the southwest portion of Orleans, Massachusetts. This 4-way unsignalized intersection serves as one of the primary access points from the south on Route 28 to Orleans Center. Orleans Road is classified as a rural principal arterial roadway that begins just south of Orleans Center at Main Street to the north and extends approximately 5.5 miles to the south, passing through the neighboring town of Harwich and ends at the town line of Chatham. Harwich Road is classified as a rural minor arterial that begins at the project location and extends approximately 3000 feet to the southwest. Quanset Road is classified as a local roadway that also begins at the project location and extends approximately 1.3 miles to the southeast where it ends in a small coastline neighborhood.

A single lane roundabout is proposed at the project location. The proposed cross section for Orleans Road will consist of two 11-foot travel lanes, 5-foot shoulders (to allow for bicycle accommodations), and 5.5-foot sidewalks. The proposed cross sections for both Harwich Road and Quanset Road will consist of two 11-foot travel lanes, 5-foot shoulders, and 10 foot shared use path around the roundabout and 5.5-foot sidewalks outside the roundabout. Work associated with the final build layout will consist of milling and overlay within the layout of the existing roadways, removing the existing traffic islands and landscape features, installing granite curbing, grubbing and clearing adjacent to the roadway, loam and seeding and installing ADA compliant features at crosswalks throughout the project limits.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Given the volumes of traffic along the corridor, it is important to maintain at least one lane of traffic in each direction during the majority of the workday. Therefore, the Traffic Management Plan (TMP) for this project has been generally developed with the goal of maintaining one lane of traffic in each direction with an 11' minimum lane width. Maintaining traffic flow shall also be closely coordinated with maintaining access to abutting businesses and residents. Lane closures and lane shifts are expected to occur through the duration of construction for the project.

Occasional short traffic disruptions may occur, but every effort will be made to minimize inconvenience to the public.

There was no observed pedestrian activity through the study area when the traffic data was collected and during subsequent field visits. There are currently no formal sidewalks within the project area. During construction, no pedestrian accommodations will be provided.

Bicycles currently share the road and do not have a separate facility for their use. Therefore, bicycles will be accommodated as that of normal vehicular traffic.

RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS

Orleans-Chatham Road is owned and maintained by MassDOT. Harwich Road and Quanset Road within the project limits are owned and maintained by the Town of Orleans. The intersection is under MassDOT jurisdiction.

A secure right of way is necessary for this project. There are seven (7) takings, nine (9) permanent easements and fourteen (14) temporary easements required for this project. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be responsible for securing all necessary land necessary for construction. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at the hearing.

PROJECT COST

The preliminary construction cost of this project at this design stage is approximately \$3,800,000.

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 February 2021. Construction is anticipated to begin in the Fall 2021.

FEDERAL AID PROJECT
Orleans, MA
Intersection Improvements at Route 28 (South Orleans Rd), Route 39 (Harwich Rd) and
Quanset Rd
Project File No. 608666

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3973
Attn: Roadway Project Management

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Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E.
Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116-3973

RE: Public Hearing
Route 28 (South Orleans Rd), Route 39 (Harwich Rd) and Quanset Rd
ORLEANS
Project File No. 608666
Roadway Project Management