



VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

AUGUST 29, 2023

FOR THE PROPOSED

**Winnetuxet Road over Winnetuxet River
Project No.609435
Bridge Nos P-14-001
Project Management**

IN THE TOWN OF PLYMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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

**JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

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

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No.609435

A Live Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Winnetuxet Road over Winnetuxet River bridge replacement project in Plympton, MA.

WHEN: 6:30 PM, August 29, 2023

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Winnetuxet Road over Winnetuxet River bridge replacement 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 a single span with concrete caps, that cantilever over the existing abutments on drilled shafts and 12” deep prestressed concrete deck beams. As a rural local roadway this project is exempt from the pedestrian facilities criteria. Although no specific sidewalks will be provided on the bridge, pedestrian height bridge rail with attached handrails will be provided.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Town 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., Chief Engineer, via e-mail to MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 7550, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Project Management, Project File No.609435. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days (14 calendar days) after the hearing is hosted.

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 and prior to the hearing, 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 hearing will be hosted, or a cancellation announcement posted, on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, 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,

Carrie E. Lavalley, 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

Your Municipality is responsible for securing the right of way for this project. If your property, or a portion of it, must be acquired by the Municipality 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. 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.

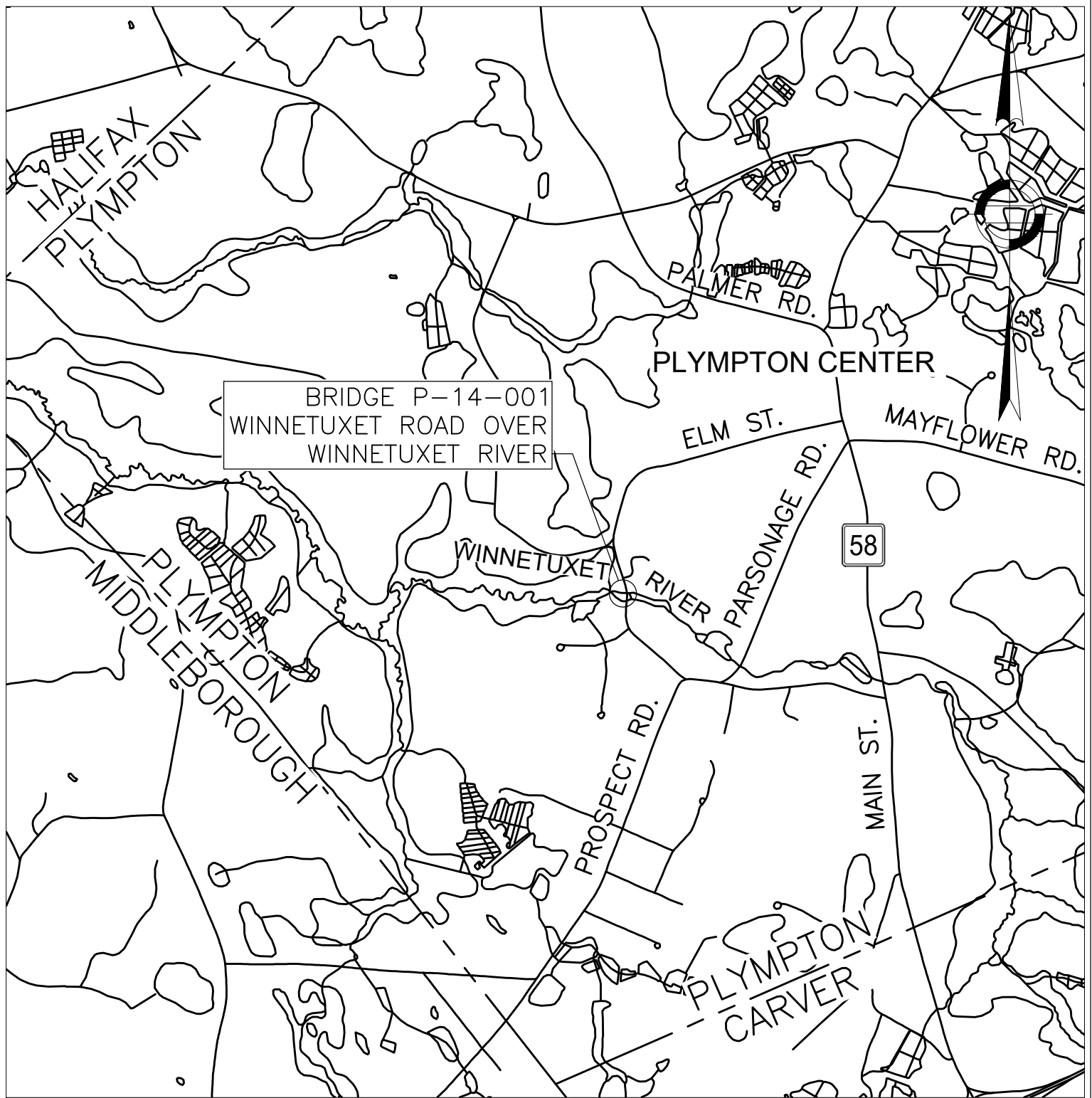
A Right of Entry is a document that is signed by the owner. It allows the Contractor to perform certain types of work on the owner's land. The work is usually minor in nature and frequently consists of loaming/seeding behind sidewalks, new driveway apron work, grading/sloping, and wetland protection,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

SCALE: 1" = 2000'

 <p>250 APOLLO DRIVE CHELMSFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01824</p>	PROJECT LOCUS PLAN			60652642	
	WINNETUXET ROAD OVER WINNETUXET RIVER				
	MassDOT - TOWN OF PLYMPTON	609435	1" = 2000'	MVF	KMH

PROJECT LOCATION AND LIMITS:

The project is located at the crossing of Winnetuxet Road over the Winnetuxet River in Plympton, MA, Plymouth County. The bridge spans over the dam spillway that is immediately to the east. Operationally, most of the flow travels westward through a culvert approximately three hundred feet north of the spillway, with only overflow passing over the spillway's weir. The spillway is controlled and maintained by the Town.

The proposed construction limits span two-hundred-fifteen feet along and abutting Winnetuxet Road, with the bridge approximately at the center of the work.

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Calculations show that the carrying capacity of the bridge is below statutory loading and the bridge is posted for truck limitations.

The existing bridge carrying Winnetuxet Road over the Winnetuxet River is a timber bridge originally constructed prior to 1923. There are records of the superstructure being replaced in 1945 and 2002. The bridge was inspected in August 2022 and the condition of the deck was determined to be satisfactory, the condition of the timber beams was listed as good and the condition of the substructure was determined to be satisfactory. There is not enough information about the existing stacked granite abutments to determine their long-term stability and there are concerns with scour beneath them. The project will replace the bridge structure and make safety improvements to the approach roadways.

EXISTING CONDITIONS:

The existing bridge carrying Winnetuxet Road over the Winnetuxet River is a two-span timber bridge supported by stone abutments. The abutments date back to the early 1900s while the timber superstructure was reconstructed around 2002. In 2019, strengthening was performed to the center timber pier structure and timber bridge rails were added to the bridge.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS:

This project will replace the 2-span timber superstructure with a single span comprised of prestressed concrete beams. The center pier will be removed. The beams will be topped with concrete and an asphalt wearing surface will be placed on the concrete topping slab. The bridge rails will be updated, and new handrails will be added to comply with current pedestrian standards. The bridge will not have dedicated sidewalks.

The bridge width will remain unchanged and will provide for 2-9' lanes across the bridge. The approach roadways will be slightly wider than the structure and provide up to 2-11' lanes. There will be minor geometric improvements to the roadway and steel backed timber guardrails will be added along the approaches to the bridge.

Aerial utilities will be relocated to allow construction to proceed.

The bridge will be supported on new abutment caps on drilled shafts placed behind the existing abutments. The existing abutments will be left in place. Rip Rap will be placed beneath the bridge to prevent water scour from impacting the structure.

There will be no modifications to the existing spillway and no impacts to existing driveways.

RIGHT OF WAY:

The proposed work is proximate to private properties abutting Winnetuxet Road. Two permanent public utility easements are proposed for aerial utility relocations. A new, relocated utility pole is proposed to be located within each easement. The easements will also contain overhead utility wires.

These two permanent easements are both located at the address of 1 Pope's Farm. The proposed easement areas are fifty-six square feet and one-hundred-fifty-six square feet.

PROJECT COST:

The total construction cost estimate of this project as proposed at the 25% design level is approximately \$1,387,000. The method used for cost estimating is item unit prices with MassDOT weighted average bids.

Major cost items include demolition of the existing bridge, reinforced concrete excavation, drilled shafts, and the new bridge structure. Additional items include gravel, new drainage structures, asphalt pavement, new guardrail, and traffic controls.

PROJECT STATUS:

The plans on display tonight are in the preliminary design stage. Comments received this evening will be considered in determining the final design.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Plympton, MA
Winnetuxet Road over Winnetuxet River
Project File No. 609435

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

RE: Virtual Public Hearing
WINNETUXET ROAD OVER WINNETUXET RIVER
TOWN OF PLYMPTON
Project File No. 609435
Attn: Project Management

