



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

JANUARY 28, 2020

AT

COUNCIL ON AGING

REHOBOTH, MASSACHUSETTS

7:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

**WINTHROP STREET (ROUTE 44) AND ANAWAN STREET (ROUTE 118)
INTERSECTION PROJECT**

**Project No. 608230
Roadway Project Management**

IN THE REHOBOTH, 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. 608230

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Intersection Improvements & Related Work at Winthrop Street (Route 44) and Anawan Street (Route 118) project in Rehoboth, MA.

**WHERE: Council on Aging
55 Bay State Road
Rehoboth, MA 02769**

WHEN: Tuesday January 28, 2020 @ 7:00 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Winthrop Street (Route 44) and Anawan Street (Route 118) project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The project includes intersection improvements in accordance with Complete Streets practices that will enhance safety for all roadway users. The project involves replacing the existing traffic signal with a single lane roundabout. Pedestrian accommodation improvements will include new ADA accessible sidewalks, crosswalks, and wheelchair ramps. Bicycle accommodations consist of a combination of shared use paths and minimum 5-foot shoulders. The project includes pavement rehabilitation and drainage improvements.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. MassDOT is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands on Route 118 (Anawan Street) and Route 44 (Winthrop Street). 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. **608230**. 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?

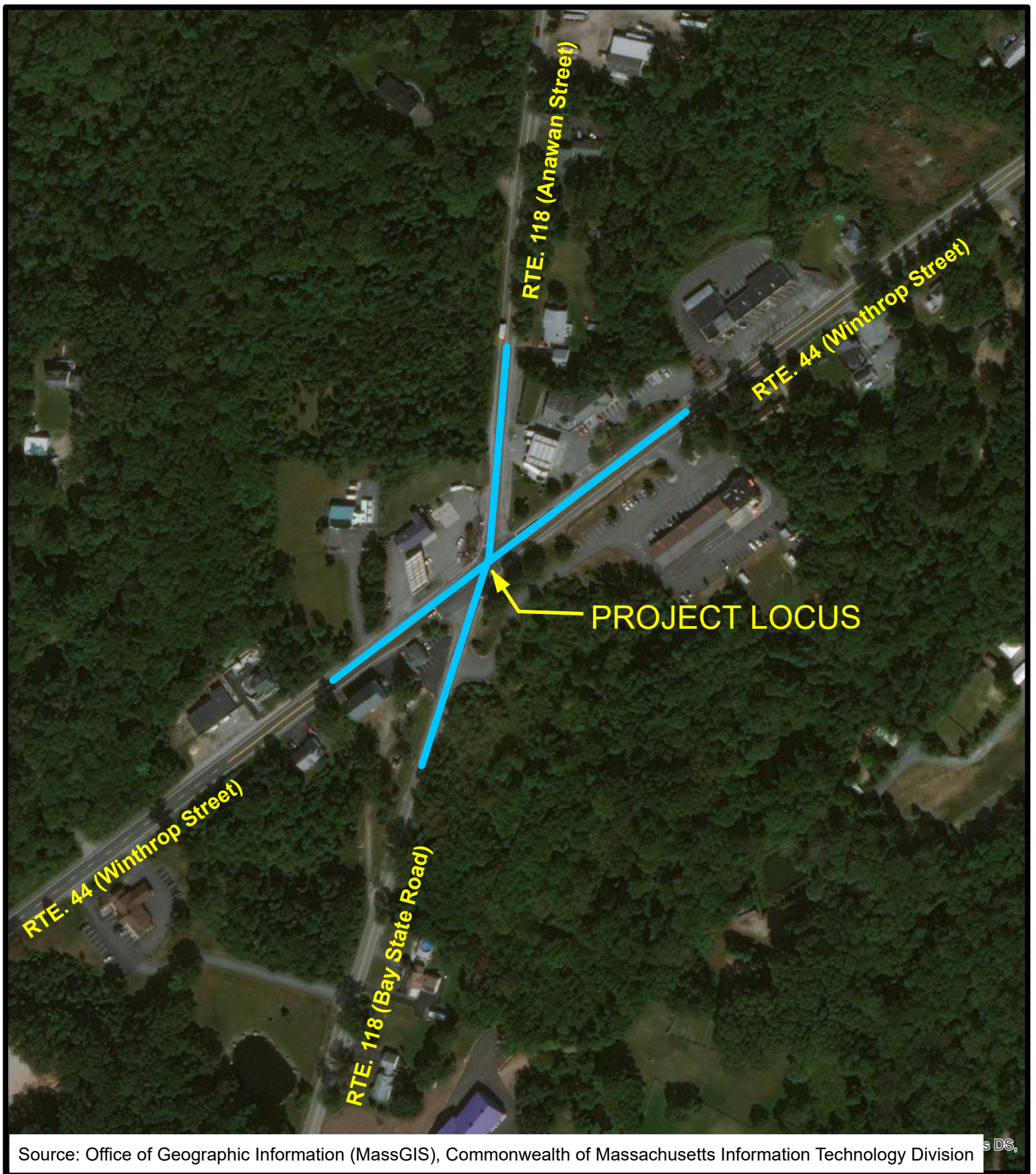
No. If, after the figure established as market value has been offered to the owner, the owner feels he or she is not being offered a fair price, he or she has the right, within three years, to appeal to the courts. Pending a court decision, he or she can be paid on a "pro-tanto" basis (or "for the time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



TOWN OF REHOBOTH, MA

RTE. 44 AT RTE. 118
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT NO:608230

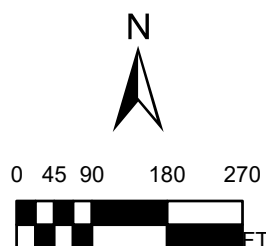


Figure 1. Locus Map



Winthrop Street (Route 44) and Anawan Street (Route 118) Intersection Project
Rehoboth, Massachusetts
Project File No. 608230

The Town of Rehoboth and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division (MassDOT) are proposing to replace the existing intersection with 120-foot diameter roundabout which will require the intersection and approaches to be realigned and reconstructed. Shared pathways, traversable by both bicycles and pedestrians, will be added on each side of the intersection with crosswalks across each approach. Full Depth Reconstruction will be required to accommodate the proposed roundabout and center island.

Proposed Improvements

Safety Improvements

The intent of this project is to develop intersection improvements that will enhance vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle safety, improve pavement conditions, and upgrade the drainage system. Deficiencies that will be addressed include the existing intersection geometry/skew angle, the Route 44 lane configuration, as well the lack of pedestrian and bicycle accommodations.

The project will also include the installation of new signs conforming to the provisions of the MUTCD and MassDOT. These signs will be consistent with the proposed roadway design. New six-inch wide reflectorized pavement markings will be proposed to delineate the travel lanes and shoulders.

Roadway Cross Section

The proposed cross section for the roundabout includes a 22-foot radius median island, 18-foot raised truck apron and 20-foot circular roadway, for a total diameter of 120 feet. The proposed cross section for the approaches consists of one lane in each direction ranging in width from 12 feet to between 17 and 20 feet at the roundabout. Each approach also includes a splitter island of various width, as well as a right turn slip lane in the eastbound direction. The shoulders on the Route 44 approaches are a minimum 5 feet going down to 2 feet at the roundabout. Shoulders on Route 118 are generally 1-foot, widening to 2 feet at the roundabout.

Bicycle & Pedestrian Accommodations

The proposed improvements include constructing 8-foot wide shared pathways at all four quadrants of the roundabout with a crosswalk across all four legs. Curb ramps, compliant with MassDOT and ADA standards, will be installed at each proposed crosswalk location. There are currently no sidewalks on Route 44 and Route 118, so pathways and sidewalks will extend to where deemed practical and safe.

A minimum of 5-foot shoulders will be provided on Route 44 on the approaches of the roundabout. In the area of the roundabout where the shoulder widths are below the minimum 5-foot requirement, curb ramps will be provided for bicyclists to be able to leave the shoulder and utilize an 8-foot wide shared use path around the roundabout.

Drainage Improvements

Drainage structures are proposed to be replaced within the pavement and sidewalk limits. Stormwater runoff along the project corridor is currently managed through a combination of non-point discharge via sheet flow and collection and point discharge via closed drainage systems. Catch basins will collect storm water and discharge to existing outfall locations.

Right of Way Impacts:

A secure right-of-way is necessary for the proposed project. Temporary and permanent easements will be required for the construction of this project.

Maintenance of Traffic during Construction:

A detour plan with proper signage will be provided as part of the Traffic Management Plan to guide traffic throughout the construction phase.

Project Schedule:

The design plans displayed at this meeting are at the 25% design stage. Comments made at this hearing will be incorporated to the maximum extent feasible. The project is expected to be advertised for construction in the Fall of 2020 subject to obtaining necessary environmental permits and Right-Of Way certificate. This project must be programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program in the appropriate Federal Fiscal Year in order for MassDOT to solicit bids for eventual construction.

Project Construction Cost:

The estimated cost of the project is \$2,000,000. This project is funded under the Federal Aid Program whereby 80% of the construction cost will be funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and 20% of the construction cost will be funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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
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