



VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

JUNE 8, 2021

FOR THE PROPOSED

SCADDING STREET OVER SNAKE RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project No. 608616

Bridge No. T-01-024 (C5H)

Major Projects

IN THE CITY OF TAUNTON, 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. 608616

A Pre-recorded Virtual Design Public Hearing will be published on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Bridge Replacement project in **Taunton, MA**.

WHEN: **Tuesday, June 8, 2021**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed **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 demolition of the existing bridge structure and replacement of Bridge T-01-024, carrying Scadding Street over the Snake River and realignment/improvement of the profile of Scadding Street. The proposed structure will be a precast concrete superstructure supported by cantilevered abutments. A sidewalk will be provided on the west side of the roadway and bridge 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 **City** 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 Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, via e-mail to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us or via US Mail to Suite 6340, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: **Major Projects**, Project File No. **608616**. 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 is posted to the MassDOT website listed below.

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 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 business days before the hearing.

This Pre-Recorded Virtual Design Public Hearing or a cancellation announcement will be published on the internet at www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings.

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

PUBLIC HEARING FAQ'S

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.

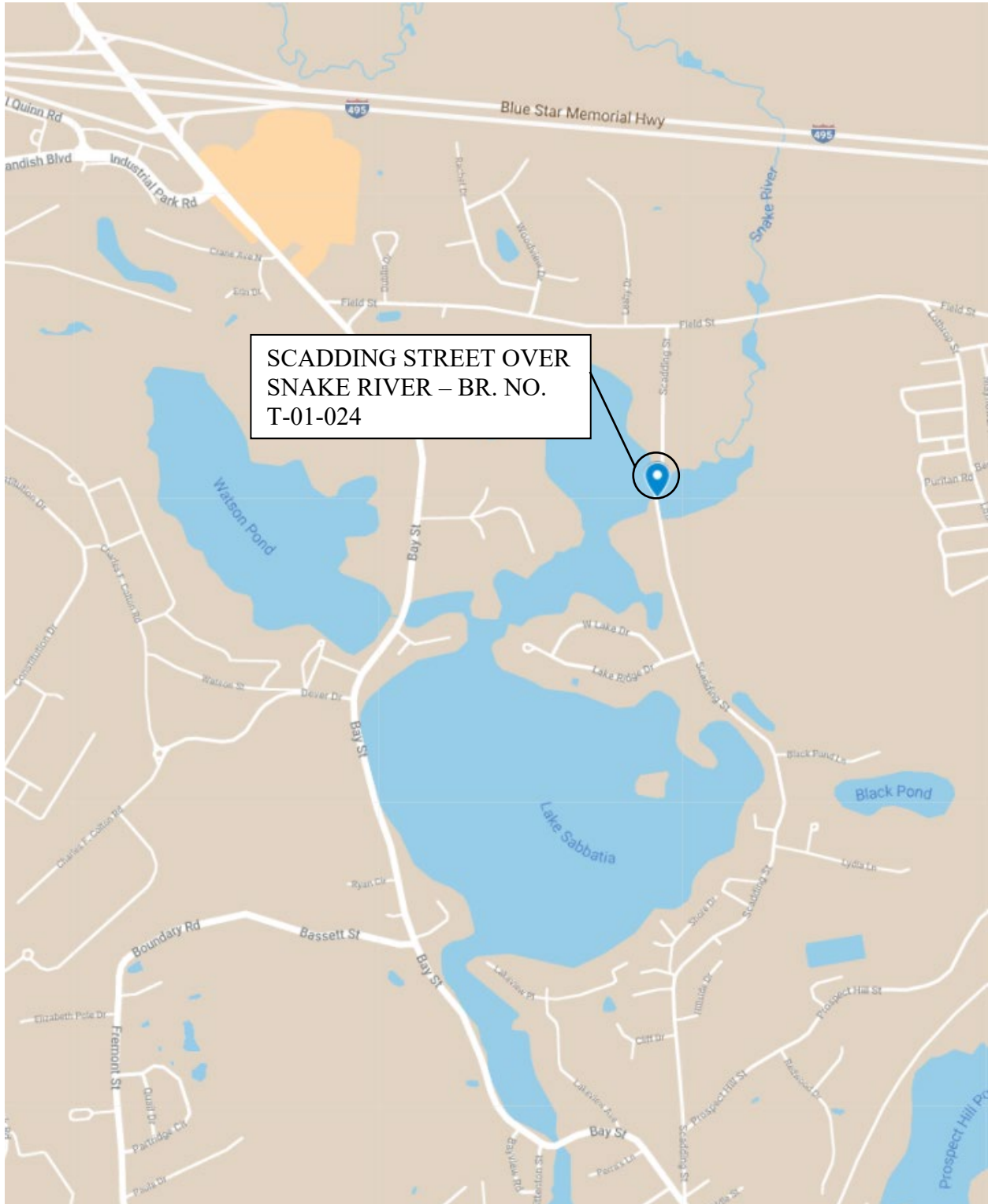
4. WHAT IS A FAIR PRICE FOR THE ACQUIRED PARCELS?

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 MAP



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Location and Limits

The project area extends along Scadding Street from approximately 1,455 feet south of Field Street to 1,500 feet north of Lake Ridge Drive for a total project length of 630 feet.

Project Purpose

The purpose of this project is to replace the existing structurally deficient bridge that carried Scadding Street over Snake River. The proposed project will increase the load carrying capacity of the bridge and improve vehicle and pedestrian safety in the area.

Existing Conditions

Scadding Street is a two-lane roadway with one lane in each direction. The existing bridge is a concrete adjacent box beam structure. Structural and maintenance issues include poor alignment, abutment deficiencies, substandard sidewalks and approach roadways, and non-standard bridge railing.

Proposed Improvements

The work includes demolition of the existing concrete adjacent box beam bridge. The existing bridge will be replaced with new precast concrete NEXT-D beams and deck supported on cantilever concrete abutments supported by piles. A sidewalk will be installed on the west side of the bridge.

Approximately 630 feet of Scadding Street will be reconstructed as part of this project. A 6-foot sidewalk will be constructed along the west side of Scadding Street, which will extend across the bridge. Two 10-foot wide travel lanes, one 2-foot shoulder, and one 4-foot shoulder will be provided across the bridge and on the approaches leading up to the structure. The improvements include establishing a consistent roadway cross-section and roadway profile to improve the roadway alignment.

Traffic Management

The bridge replacement will be done through a full road closure and a detour will need to be in effect while construction is underway.

Utilities

Existing overhead electric lines will be relocated and replaced to underground lines. In addition, proposed future sewer and water lines will also be installed. Drainage will also be updated within the project limits.

Right of Way

The City of Taunton shall obtain the necessary rights to access property that is impacted by the construction of the improvements. Permanent construction easements will be required for this project.

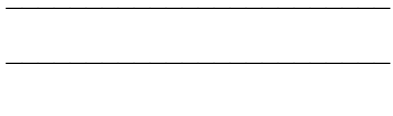
Project Cost

The estimated cost of the proposed project at this design phase is approximately \$8.72 million.

Project Status

The design is currently at the 25% Design Stage. Comments received during the ten (10) day review period will be considered in determining the final design. The design is anticipated to be completed in early 2022. The project is scheduled to be advertised late spring of 2022 and construction is anticipated to take approximately 2 to 3 construction seasons.

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: Virtual Public Hearing
Scadding Street over Snake River Bridge Replacement
TAUNTON
Project File No. 608616
Attn: Major Projects

