



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING ORAL PRESENTATIONS

TUESDAY, FEB 4TH, 2020

AT

SHEA THEATER ARTS CENTER, 71 AVENUE A

TURNERS FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS

6:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

**General Pierce Bridge Project; Montague City Road over Connecticut River
Bridge Rehabilitation Project
Project No. 601186
Bridge Nos G-12-020=M-28-001
Bridge Project Management**

IN GREENFIELD-MONTAGUE, 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. 601186

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed **Greenfield-Montague - Bridge Rehabilitation, Br. G-12-020=M-28-001, Montague City Road over Connecticut River** project in **Greenfield-Montague, MA.**

WHERE: Shea Theater Arts Center
71 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

WHEN: Tuesday, February 4th, 2020 @ 6:00 PM
(Snow date: Thursday Feb. 6th, 2020 at 6PM at TFHS, 222 Turnpike Rd, Montague, MA 01351)

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed **Greenfield-Montague Br. G-012-020=M-28-001 - General Pierce Bridge Rehabilitation** project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The purpose of this project is to rehabilitate the existing structurally deficient bridge and improve the condition for service and public safety. The proposed project consists of the rehabilitation of the General Pierce Bridge carrying Montague City Road over the Connecticut River between Greenfield and Montague, MA. The project consists primarily of deck replacement, various steel member replacements, isolated steel repairs, and utility additions. The proposed roadway alignment and profile will be similar to the existing conditions. The intersection in Gill of Route 2, Main Road, and Avenue A will be modified to better handle additional traffic when the bridge will be closed during construction and detour will be in place.

No right-of-way is necessary for this project.

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: **Bridge Project Management**, Project File No. **601186**. 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/delay 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.

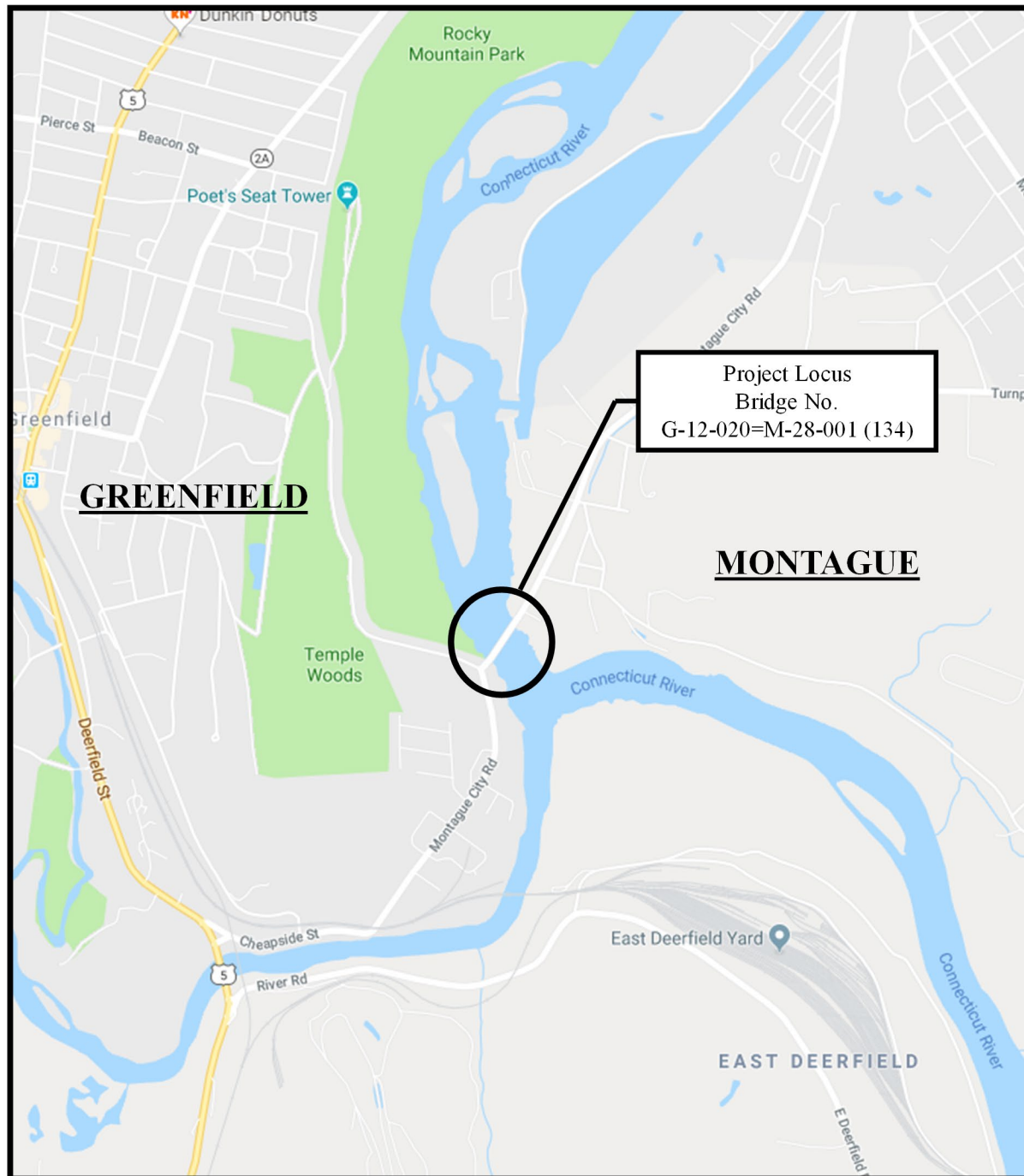
4. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY HOUSE?

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.

Greenfield-Montague – Montague City Road over Connecticut River



LOCATION MAP

Scale: None

The work under this Contract consists of the rehabilitation of the Montague City Road (General Pierce) Bridge (MassDOT Bridge No. G-12-020=M-28-001) over the Connecticut River in the City of Greenfield and Town of Montague, MA.

The bridge is a four-span structure with two riveted steel through truss spans and two rolled steel girder approach spans of total 767 feet length. The existing bridge was constructed in 1947 (73 years old). The bridge was rehabilitated in 2008 (12 years ago) for replacement of modular joint at Pier 2, end bay stringers in the truss spans, strengthening of the web of various stringer members and coring through deck to add shear studs to stringers in Span1 and the sidewalk stringers in Span 2 and 3.

The proposed work includes the alteration of the existing bridge by replacing the existing deck with a new 7" composite deck overlaid with 1½" of SuperPave asphalt, repair of various elements of the existing truss spans, replacement of steel beams on the approach spans with new Grade 50 structural steel; replacement of selected truss stringers with new Grade 50 structural steel, installing a new S3-TL4 bridge railing system, providing new cantilever steel utility assemblies, cleaning and painting the structural steel members below the deck of the truss spans (Spans 2 and 3), paint the steel members of the Spans 1 and 4 and replacement of the approach span and end truss span stringer bearings. The work shall also include the repair and/or rehabilitation of the pier caps, pier pedestals, abutment bridge seats, backwall and approach slabs; rehabilitating the truss bearings, installing a new approach guardrail system, installation of water main for future use and minor approach roadway work. Demolition of a portion of the existing bridge and construction of the proposed bridge alteration will require a closure of Montague City Road at the bridge location. A temporary pedestrian walkway will be provided across the bridge during construction and vehicular traffic will be detoured.

The proposed construction also includes of an upgrade of the existing intersection of State Route 2 (Mohawk Trail) and Main Road in the Town of Gill to provide improved traffic flow for the proposed detour route while the bridge is out of service. Additional roadway and traffic signal construction will be required at this intersection before the bridge is closed to traffic.

Work under this Contract also includes approach roadway work to the limits shown on the Plans including, but is not limited to, profile adjustments, reconstruction of the existing roadway and sidewalks, utility relocation, highway guardrail installation, drainage improvements and additions, and other safety elements.

Address: _____

Please Fold and Tape



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Appropriate
Postage Here

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

RE: Public Hearing Oral Presentations
GENERAL PIERCE BRIDGE REHABILITATION
GREENFIELD-MONTAGUE
Project File No. 601186
Bridge Project Management

