



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

September 12, 2019

AT

South Middle School Auditorium

Westfield, MASSACHUSETTS

7:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

**Proposed Improvements & Related Work on Route 20, Court Street & Western Avenue,
Lloyds Hill Road to High Street/Mill Street Intersection**

Project No. 607773

Roadway Project Management

IN THE CITY WESTFIELD, 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. 607773

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed Improvements & Related Work on Route 20, Court Street & Western Avenue, Lloyds Hill Road to High Street/Mill Street Intersection (Phase II) in Westfield, MA.

WHERE: South Middle School Auditorium
30 West Silver Street
Westfield, MA 01085

WHEN: Thursday, September 12, 2019 @ 7:00PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Route 20 Improvements and Related Work 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 reconstructing Court Street and Western Avenue from Broadway(W) to High Street/Mill Street(E) including Lloyds Hill Road, from Russell Rd. to Western Ave and West Silver Street, from Western Avenue to Mill Street. Other improvements include: wider shoulders and added turning lanes; new traffic signal at the intersection of Western Avenue at Lloyds Hill Road; upgrading the traffic signals at the intersections of Court Street at Mill Street and West Silver Street at Mill Street; and constructing a multi-use path along Western Avenue and sidewalk along Lloyds Hill Road. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a 5' shoulder 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 will be required. The City of Westfield are 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. 607773. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of 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.

RIGHT OF WAY ISSUES

A secure right of way is necessary for this project. Temporary construction easements may be required. Your municipality is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in private or public lands. If your property is affected, your rights are fully protected under law.

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.

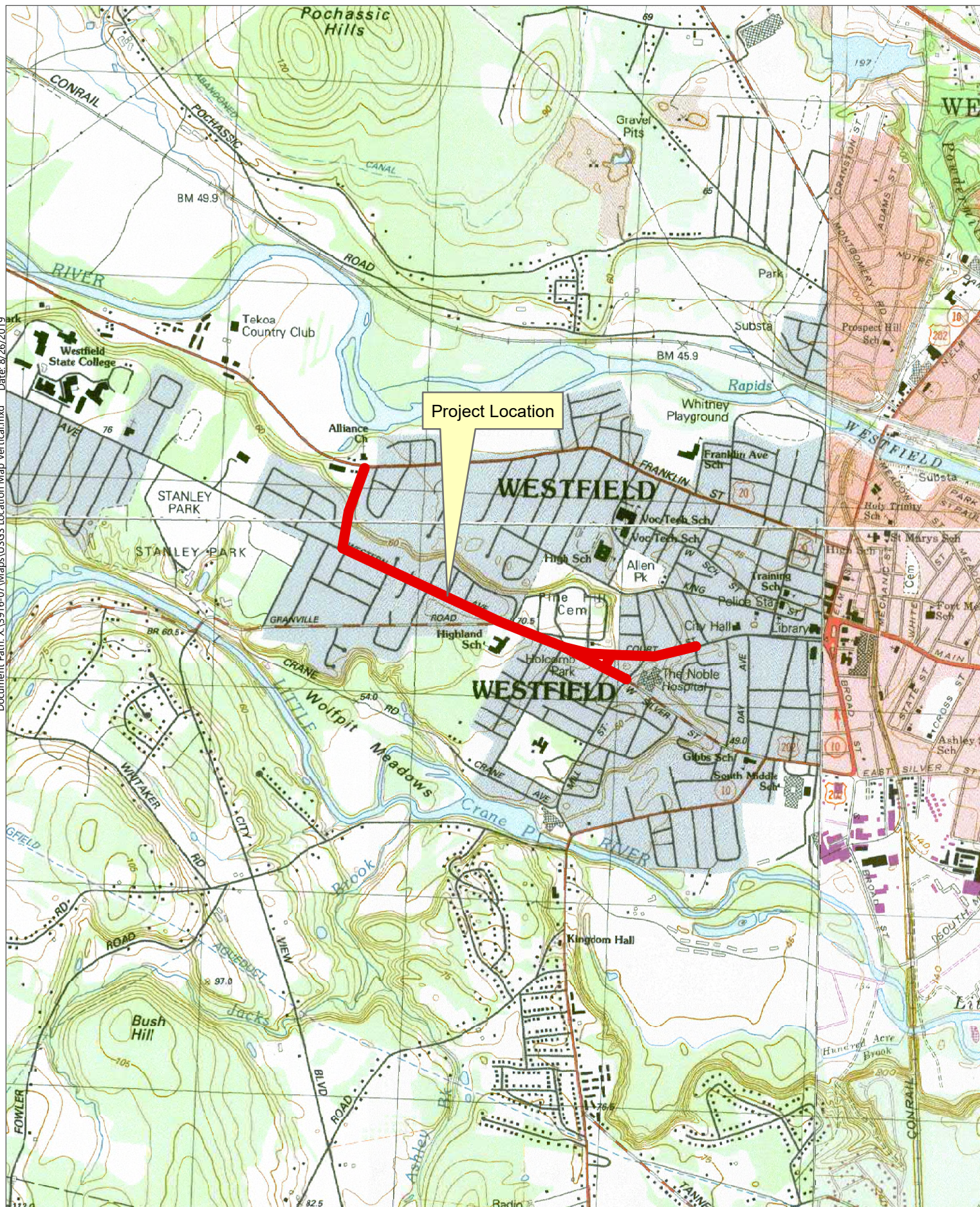
A Right of Entry is a document that is signed by the owner. It allows the Contractor to perform certain types of work on the owner's land. The work is usually minor in nature and frequently consists of loaming/seeding behind sidewalks, new driveway apron work, grading/sloping, and wetland protection,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



USGS Location Map
Access Improvements for Western Ave/Court Street
Westfield, MA

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The project will involve the reconstruction of the Western Avenue and Court Street corridor in Westfield, Massachusetts. The project will commence at the intersection of Western Avenue and Lloyds Hill Road and extend easterly for approximately 1.17 miles before ending at Holcomb Street. The project involves intersection reconstruction and widening, roadway widening for left-turn lanes, sidewalk construction and reconstruction, and drainage system improvements. The roadway improvements will terminate on Court Street 350'± east of Mill and High Streets. The remaining 400'± to Holcomb Street is limited to extension of the multiuse path to connect with the city's existing sidewalk on the south side of Court Street. Additionally, construction on Lloyds Hill Road is limited to milling and overlay and, connecting the existing sidewalk on Western Avenue to existing sidewalk on Russel Road (Route 20) via multi-use path. The key objective of this project is to improve overall efficiency and safety for all modes of transportation in the project study area, especially for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Modified Geometry

- Provide exclusive turning movement lanes at the following locations:
 - Left-turn lane eastbound along Western Avenue at the intersection of Lloyds Hill Road
 - Left-turn lane westbound along Western Avenue at the intersection with Granville Road
 - Left-turn lane westbound along Western Avenue at the Highland Elementary school entrance
 - Left-turn lane eastbound along Court Street at the intersection of Mill Street and High Street
- Provide minor geometric adjustments at the following locations:
 - Intersection of Western Avenue and Granville Road.
 - Intersection of Court Street and Mill Street.
- Provide 5-foot shoulders for the entire length of the project along Western Avenue and Court Street.
- Provide 2-foot shoulders on Lloyds Hill Road between Mountainview Street and Russel Road (Route 20).
- Provide modifications to roadway profile with uniform cross-sectional geometry to improve drainage.
- Provide traffic-calming measures along the Western Avenue corridor such as raised medians and shadowing left-turn lanes where applicable.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations

- Apply colored and texturized treatments to sidewalks.
- Provide new crosswalks at the signalized intersections in addition to upgrading the pedestrian ramps to be Americans with Disabilities Act/Architectural Access Board (ADA/AAB) compliant.
- Widen shoulders for enhanced bicycle accommodation.
- Extension of the multiuse path to connect with the city's existing sidewalk on the south side of Court Street.

- Provide 8-foot multi-use path on the western side of Lloyds Hill Road to connect Russell Road (Route 20).

Traffic Control Modifications

- Install a new signal at the intersection of Lloyds Hill Road and Western Avenue.
- Replace the traffic signal equipment at the following locations:
 - Intersection of Court Street, Mill Street, and High Street.
 - Intersection of Mill Street and West Silver Street.

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
Route 20 Phase II Improvement
MUNICIPALITY
Project File No. 607773
Roadway Project Management

