



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

OCTOBER 14, 2025

FOR THE PROPOSED

**Intersection Improvements on Route 1A at North and Winter Street
Project No. 610676
Project Management**

IN THE TOWN OF WRENTHAM, 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 DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING**

**Project Description: Wrentham – Intersection Improvements on Route 1A at North and Winter Street
Project File No. 610676**

A 25% Design Public Hearing will be held to present the design for the proposed project in Wrentham, MA.

WHERE: Wrentham Town Hall, Select Board Meeting Room
79 South Street
Wrentham, MA 02093

WHEN: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 @ 6:00pm

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed 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 improving safety at the project location with the installation of a new traffic control signal. Along Route 1A, pedestrians will be accommodated with 5-foot sidewalks and bicyclists will have 5-foot on-street bicycle lanes with 3-foot buffers. Along North Street and Winter Street, a 6-foot one-way shared-use path will be provided in each direction.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts 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. Lavalley, 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. 610676. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days (14 calendar days) after the hearing is hosted on 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 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.

In case of inclement weather, a cancellation announcement will be posted on the internet at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events>.

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEY, 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

The State is responsible for securing the Right of Way for this project. 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.

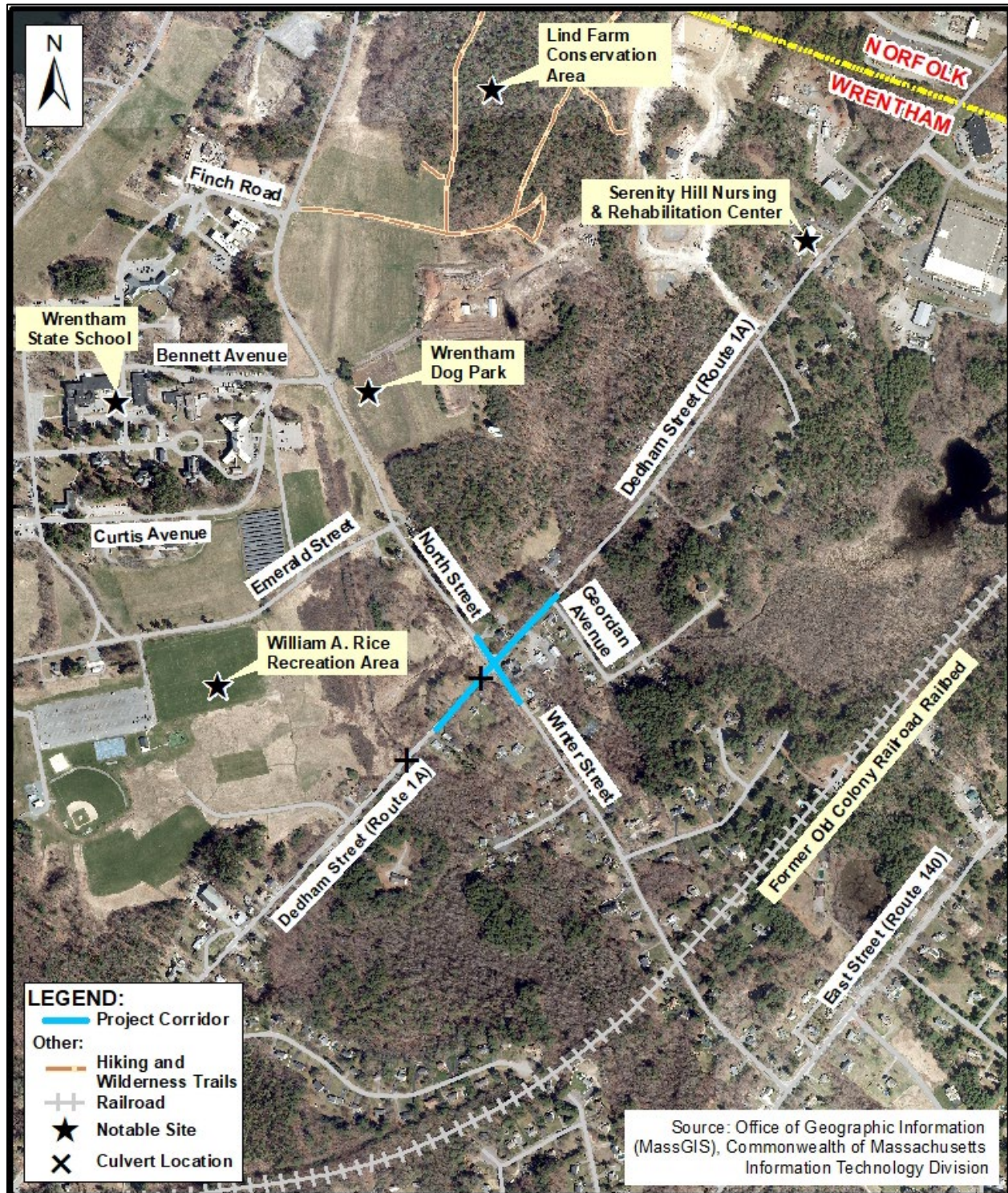
4. WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY HOUSE?

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.

PROJECT LOCATION



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Project Description

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division (MassDOT) is proposing the reconstruction of approximately 1,200 feet of Route 1A (Dedham Street) and 900 feet on North Street and Winter Street in Wrentham Massachusetts.

Proposed Improvements

The project includes roadway reconstruction, sidewalk and shared use path construction, buffered bicycle lanes, traffic signal installation, pavement and drainage improvements, curb upgrades, signage, and pavement markings.

Existing Conditions

The proposed project is located entirely within the Town of Wrentham, MA. Route 1A is functionally classified as an Urban Minor Arterial. Wetlands exist to the southeast and southwest of the intersection. Historic properties abut the project area, including the property containing the Wrentham Developmental Center that spans the western side of Route 1A corridor.

Right of Way Impacts

There are properties that require permanent acquisitions or easements by MassDOT and the Town of Wrentham for sidewalks, utility pole and overhead wire relocations, fire hydrants, signage, guardrail, signage, and drainage. Temporary construction easements will be required to complete the roadway and sidewalk grading, driveway reconstruction, tree protection measures, erosion controls, loam and seeding, clearing and grubbing, tree trimming, and retaining wall construction. MassDOT's policy regarding land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Project Status – Project Schedule

The project has been programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2028. The Plans presented this evening are at the 25% Design Stage (Preliminary Design Stage). Comments from this evening will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

Project Construction Cost

The project construction costs will be funded with a combination of moneys from the Federal Highway Administration and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and is currently estimated at approximately \$6.3 million.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: When is construction expected to begin and finish?

A: Construction is expected to begin in the Summer of 2028 and finish in the Summer of 2030.

Q: What if the Federal Funding falls through?

A: At this point, we are trusting the funding will be in place for the project. If funding falls through MassDOT would then evaluate potential strategies to fund the project, such as moving the project to another Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) year with available funding.

Q: Will there be a detour route during construction?

A: A detour route is not anticipated to be required during construction. The construction will be phased to maintain two lanes of travel most of the time. There may be short periods when one-way alternating travel is required.

Q: Why is there only a sidewalk on one side of Route 1A?

A: There are several constraints surrounding the intersection, including historic properties, wetlands, a wall lining the layout line of the historic property on the northwest corner, and a house on a historic property less than 15-ft off the layout line at the southeast corner. Note there are no existing pedestrian facilities within 1500-ft of the intersection on Route 1A. Furthermore, the north side of Route 1A has fewer driveways and connection points than the south side. In order to reduce right-of-way and environmental impacts and avoid potentially dangerous crossing points at the project limits, it was decided to propose the sidewalk on the south side of Route 1A.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Wrentham, MA
Intersection Improvements on Route 1A at North and Winter Street
Project File No. 610676

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

RE: Public Hearing
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WRENTHAM
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