THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING Project File No. 607678

A Live Virtual Design Public Hearing will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Jacksonville Stage Road (SR 8A) over the West Branch Brook project in Heath, MA.

WHEN: 6:30 PM, Tuesday, May 2nd, 2023

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Jacksonville Stage Road (SR 8A) over the West Branch Brook bridge replacement project in Heath, MA. All views and comments submitted in response to the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project will provide a complete bridge replacement of the existing bridge carrying Jacksonville Stage Road (SR 8A) over the West Branch Brook in Heath, MA. The existing bridge was constructed in 1939 and is in poor condition due to its age. The intent of the proposed design is to replace the bridge to improve accessibility for all users. Presently, there are no existing shoulders on the bridge. The proposed improvements include lengthening of the bridge span and widening of the bridge width so that 3.0' shoulders are provided for improved bicycle accommodation and accessibility. There are no sidewalks on the bridge nor off the bridge, both in the existing and proposed conditions.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Town of Heath 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. Lavallee, 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. 607678. Statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the hearing transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days (14 calendar days) after the hearing is hosted.

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.

This hearing will be hosted, or a cancellation announcement posted, on the internet at https://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events.

JONATHAN GULLIVER HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E. CHIEF ENGINEER