



Montague: South Street over Sawmill River

Proposed Bridge Replacement

Virtual Design Public Hearing

January 24, 2023

Project File No. 609427



Zoom Hearing Controls



- Ask a question and share comments



- Raise your hand - *9 for users dialing in and Alt + Y to raise your hand



- If you are unable to access the internet or are having technical problems, please call into the meeting at +1 646 876 9923, Webinar ID: 837 3998 5250



Live Transcript

- Closed captioning automatically generated by Zoom



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Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

Notification of Recording

- This virtual public hearing will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, still images, audio, and/or transcript. All parts of this hearing are considered public record.
- By continuing attendance with this virtual public hearing, you consent to participate in a recorded event.
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please turn off your camera, and keep your microphone muted, or you may choose to excuse yourself from the hearing.
- **Other Important Notes**
- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering this hearing.
- The hearing will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation.
- Please take time to respond to our survey! Your feedback is important.

Notice of MassDOT's policy on diversity and civil rights:

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- We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program> to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

Thank you for joining our meeting. We appreciate your participation!

Design Public Hearing – Outreach

1. Newspaper Advertisement

- The Greenfield Recorder
- The Montague Reporter



2. Social Media:

- MassDOT Facebook and Twitter



3. Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG)



4. Local Organizations that Helped with Outreach:

- Center for New Americans

Agenda

- 01 Public Hearing Panelists
- 02 Project Area
- 03 History of the Project
- 04 Existing Conditions
- 05 Goals of the Project
- 06 Design Alternatives
- 07 Proposed Improvements
- 08 Right-of-way Impacts
- 09 Environmental Permitting
- 10 Construction/ Traffic Impacts
- 11 Project Schedule
- 12 Next Steps
- 13 Contact Information
- 14 Question & Answers



Project Panelists

MassDOT

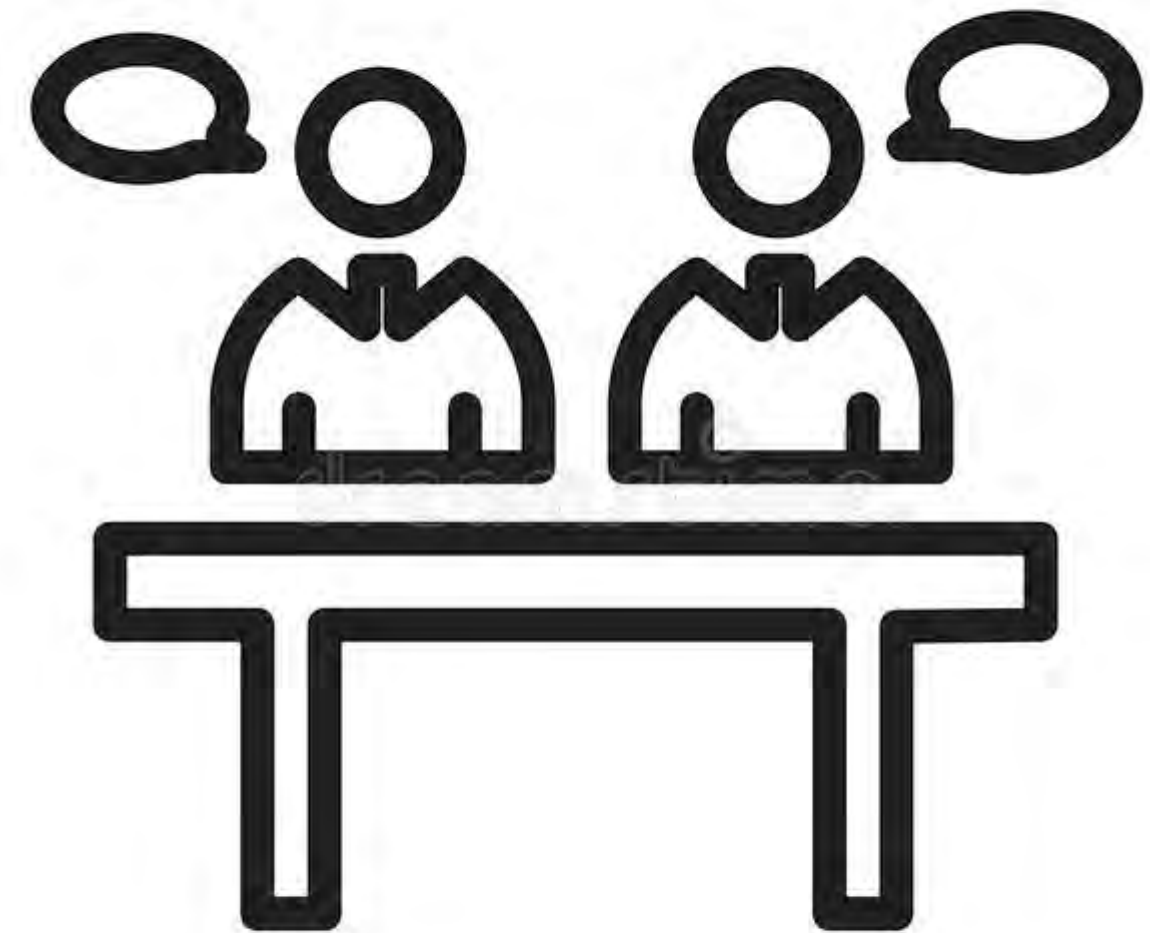
- Christopher Cameron, Project Manager
- Zach Feury, ROW Liaison
- Laura Hanson, District 2 Projects Engineer
- Roy Kirwa, DPH Producer

Town of Montague

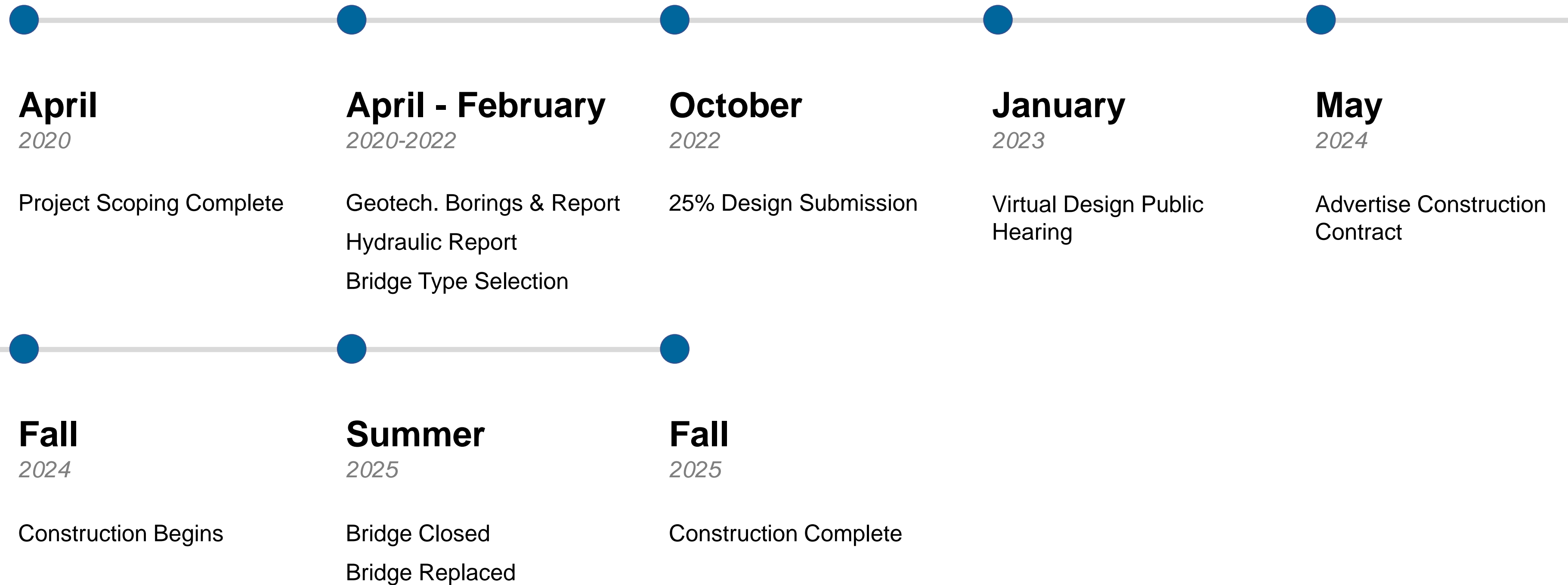
- Walter Ramsey, Assistant Town Administrator

Design Consultant, WSP

- Andy Benkert, Project Manager



How did we get here?



Project Location





**Why was this
project
initiated?**

Existing Conditions

- Structurally Deficient Bridge
 - Superstructure condition inspection coding: “4” – poor condition
- Bridge is not properly aligned with the channel
 - West Abutment impedes river flow
- Existing bridge too low for design storm flood levels



Existing Conditions Continued

Deteriorated Superstructure



Existing Conditions Continued

Traffic Restricted to Single Lane





**What do we
want to
accomplish?**

Project Goals

- Adjust abutment locations in accordance with Massachusetts Stream Crossing Standards
- Raise the bridge profile to the extent feasible to improve clearance to design storm
- Mitigate scour potential of the structure.
- Restore two lanes of traffic
- Limit impacts to private properties and environmentally sensitive areas.





**What
alternatives
were
considered?**

Alternatives Considered

- Rehabilitate Existing
 - Location of existing abutments impede river flow and therefore must be removed
- Steel Superstructure (similar to existing)
 - not appropriate due to proximity of steel to water level
- Prestressed Box Beams
 - Requires more superstructure depth
- Precast Next D Beams
 - Requires wider superstructure





What is the preferred alternative?

Preferred Alternative – Satisfies Project Goals

- Span Length increased to 58'-6"
- Highest low chord of all alternatives
- Integral abutment bridge is additional scour protection
- Two 10' lanes provided
- Narrow overall width limits impacts





**How will your
property be
impacted?**

Preliminary Right of Way (ROW) discussion – 25% Design

- The Town of Montague is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public land for design, construction, and implementation of a project.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by municipal officials from the Town of Montague
- Procedures must comply with state and federal regulations governing the acquisition process.
 - Property owners are protected under Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79.
 - If project receives federal funds, property owners are further protected under Title III of the Real Property Act of 1970, as amended.
- Fee takings, permanent easements, and/or temporary construction easements may be required.
- Preliminary ROW Plans can be viewed at the Planning Office within the Montague Town Hall: 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Private Property Impacts

- Removal of the build up of sediment within the river
- Regrade portion of the river to align with the new bridge
- Temporary water control will be installed in the river to control flow during construction
- Construction access will be provided to allow the contractor to perform work in the river





How will bicyclists and pedestrians be impacted?

Bicyclists and Pedestrians

- Maintain access prior to bridge closure
- Bridge closed to all traffic during construction (Approximately 100 days)
- Limit closure to summer months to extent possible
- Reopen bridge to bicycles and pedestrians at end of bridge construction period





What are the environmental, cultural resource, and community impacts?

Environmental Permitting

- Limited impacts to resource areas
 - Dredging to remove build up of sediment in the river
- NEPA Categorical Exclusion
- Water Quality Certification required
- Pre-Construction Notification (PCN) required





**What is the
construction
approach?**

Proposed construction approach:

- Bridge Closed During Reconstruction:
 - Standard MassDOT workday (No night work)
 - Precast Concrete
 - Use accelerated construction techniques
- Construct bridge during summer months
 - Closure anticipated Summer 2025
 - Approximate 100 day +/- closure period
 - Bridge reopens shortly after school resumes in the Fall
 - Total construction duration approx. 1yr





How will the road user be affected?

Traffic Management:

- Single lane of traffic to remain in effect until bridge closed for reconstruction
- Traffic will be detoured during bridge construction
 - Main Street
 - North Leverett Road (ST 47)
 - Federal Street (ST 63)
 - Traffic will be detoured during bridge construction
- 2.4 mile detour length





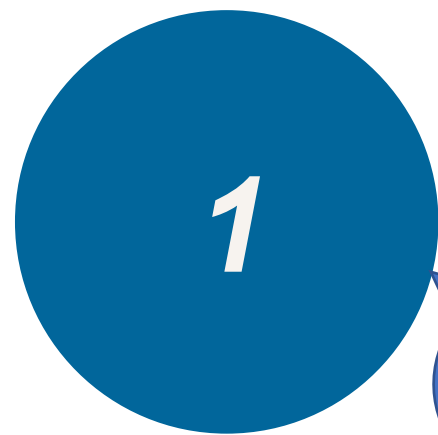
**How will we
keep you
informed?**

HOW TO REACH US?

- Submit written comments to: **Carrie Lavallee, P.E. Chief Engineer MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza Boston, MA 02116**
Attention: Major Projects, PROJECT FILE NO. 609427
- Submit email comments to:
dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Design Public Hearing web site at:
<https://www.mass.gov/event/montague-south-street-over-sawmill-river-bridge-replacement> or use the QR Code:



Our next steps



25% Design Public Hearing (Jan 2023)



75% Design (Spring 2023)



File Environmental Permits (Summer 2023)



Complete Final Design and Secure ROW (Winter 2023/2024)



Advertise for Construction (Spring 2024)



Construction Beginning Late 2024 through 2025



Questions and discussion

Questions and Answers



- “Raise your hand” to be unmuted for verbal questions (Alt + Y if using a phone)



- Submit your questions and comments using the Q&A button



- Please state your name before your question



- Please share only 1 question or comment at a time, limited to 2 minutes, to allow others to participate



- To ask a question via phone, dial *9 and the moderator will call out the last 4-digits of your phone number and unmute your audio when it is your turn



- Please take a few minutes to complete the survey after the meeting to let us know how your experience was with this virtual meeting

All questions and comments are subject to disclosure for public records. Please use these functions for project related business only.



Thank You

Montague: South Street over Sawmill River

Virtual Design Public Hearing January 24, 2023 6:30PM

Project File No. 609427

Project Manager: Christopher Cameron

