

VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING JUNE 25, 2025

FOR THE PROPOSED

Huntington- Bridge Preservation, State Route 112/East Main Street over CSX and
Westfield River
Project No. 613185
Bridge No. Bridge No. H-27-006 (0DH)
Project Management

IN THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON, 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 VIRTUAL PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

<u>Project Description:</u> Bridge Preservation, Bridge No.H-27-006 (0DH), State Route 112/East Main Street over CSX and Westfield River <u>Project File No. 613185</u>

A Virtual Public Informational Meeting will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed project in **Huntington**, **MA**.

WHEN: 6:00 P.M., Wednesday, June 25, 2025

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting 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 meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The work to be done under this contract consists of furnishing all the necessary labor, materials and equipment required for the preservation of Bridge No. H-27-006 (0DH), which carries Massachusetts State Route 112 (East Main Street) over the Westfield River and as shown on the plans. The project limits start at STA. 104+94.86 and end at STA. 112+81.46.

Included as part of the work is the replacement of the existing concrete deck (except at span 2), concrete sidewalks, and railing in spans 1 and 3 through 7; repair and strengthening of steel beams in approach spans and stringers, floorbeams, hangers, gusset plate and arch rib in span 6; installation of new CM-MTL3 barriers; refurbishment or replacement of existing ornamental rail; substructure concrete repairs; pylon reconstruction; cleaning and re-painting of existing structural steel; installation of new wheel guards; refurbishing existing pedestrian rail; replacing insulation on exposed water main attached to the arch bridge (span 6); reconstruction of approach roadways; furnishing and installing guardrail; furnishing and installing loam and seed; maintaining construction safety controls, and other incidental items required to complete the work as shown on the drawings, as listed in the proposal, as specified herein, and as directed by the Engineer.

As part of the roadway reconstruction, the existing roadway will be restriped for a consistent 12'-0" travel lane and 7'-2" bicycle lane in each direction. The sidewalk on Russell Road, between SR 112 (East Main Street) and Main Street, is 5'-0" wide (increasing from an existing width of approx. 4'-6") and features a grass strip between the sidewalk and Russell Road. Along the bridge on SR 112 (East Main Street), walkable sidewalk is 5'-6" wide for all Spans except Span 6 (5'-4" adjacent to the truss structure).

This meeting 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

(<u>MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us</u>). Requests should be made as soon as possible and 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 business days before the meeting.

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

JONATHAN GULLIVER CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, P.E.

HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR 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. Lavallee, P.E. Chief Engineer

WHAT IS A PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING?

WHY A PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING?

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 meetings 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 INFORMATION MEETING 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 "protanto" 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.





DETAIL OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

Included as part of the work is the replacement of the existing concrete deck (except at span 2), concrete sidewalks, and railing in spans 1 and 3 through 7; repair and strengthening of steel beams in approach spans and stringers, floorbeams, hangers, gusset plate and arch rib in span 6; installation of new CM-MTL3 barriers; refurbishment or replacement of existing ornamental rail; substructure concrete repairs; pylon reconstruction; cleaning and re-painting of existing structural steel; installation of new wheel guards; refurbishing existing pedestrian rail; replacing insulation on exposed water main attached to the arch bridge (span 6); reconstruction of approach roadways; furnishing and installing guardrail; furnishing and installing loam and seed; maintaining construction safety controls, and other incidental items required to complete the work as shown on the drawings, as listed in the proposal, as specified herein, and as directed by the Engineer.

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PROJECT QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- Q1. When does the project start?
- A1. We do not have the exact date of project starting but it is likely to begin in early 2026.
- Q2. What is the project duration?
- A2. We anticipate the project duration to be approximately 3 years and 9 months.
- Q3. What will be the impacts to traffic?
- A3. A single bidirectional lane of traffic will be open throughout the duration of the project. However, Freight Yard Road will be closed to all traffic during Stage II. During the Freight Yard Road closure, access will be provided for emergency vehicles and tanker trucks for sludge removal to reach Water and Sewer Treatment Plant from a temporary roadway under Span 1 and a temporary railroad crossing as shown on the 'Temporary Railroad Crossing slide' in the Public Information Meeting presentation.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Huntington, MA
Bridge Preservation, Bridge No.H-27-006 (0DH), State Route 112/East Main Street over CSX and Westfield River
Project File No. 613185

This sheet is provided for your comments. Your input is solicited and appreciated. You may email 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 meeting transcript must be emailed or postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after the meeting.

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: Virtual Public Information Bridge Preservation, Bridge CSX and Westfield River HUNTINGTON, MA Project File No. 613185 Attn: Project Managemen	ge No.H-27-006 (0DH), State Route 112/East Main	Street over