



VIRTUAL DESIGN PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

FOR THE PROPOSED

BRIDGE REPLACEMENT - BOYLSTON STREET OVER GREEN LINE D

Project No. 612182

Bridge No N-12-040

Highway Design

IN THE CITY OF NEWTON, 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 PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING
Project File No. 612182**

A Live Virtual Public Informational Meeting will be hosted on the MassDOT website below to present the design for the proposed Bridge Replacement of N-12-040 on Boylston Street over Green Line D project in **Newton, MA**.

WHEN: 6 PM – 7 PM, Wednesday, February 7, 2024

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Bridge Replacement of N-12-040 on Boylston Street over Green Line D project. All views and comments submitted in response to the meeting will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of replacing the bridge on Boylston Street over the Green Line D. The preliminary design indicates that the overall bridge width will remain approximately the same as the existing bridge. Pedestrian accommodations of 8 feet sidewalks are provided in each direction of travel. The project will relocate the existing utilities located on the sidewalks of the existing bridge to provide more space for pedestrians.

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 (MassDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). 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
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

CARRIE E. LAVALLEE, 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 INFORMATIONAL MEETING?

WHY A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL 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 INFORMATIONAL 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?

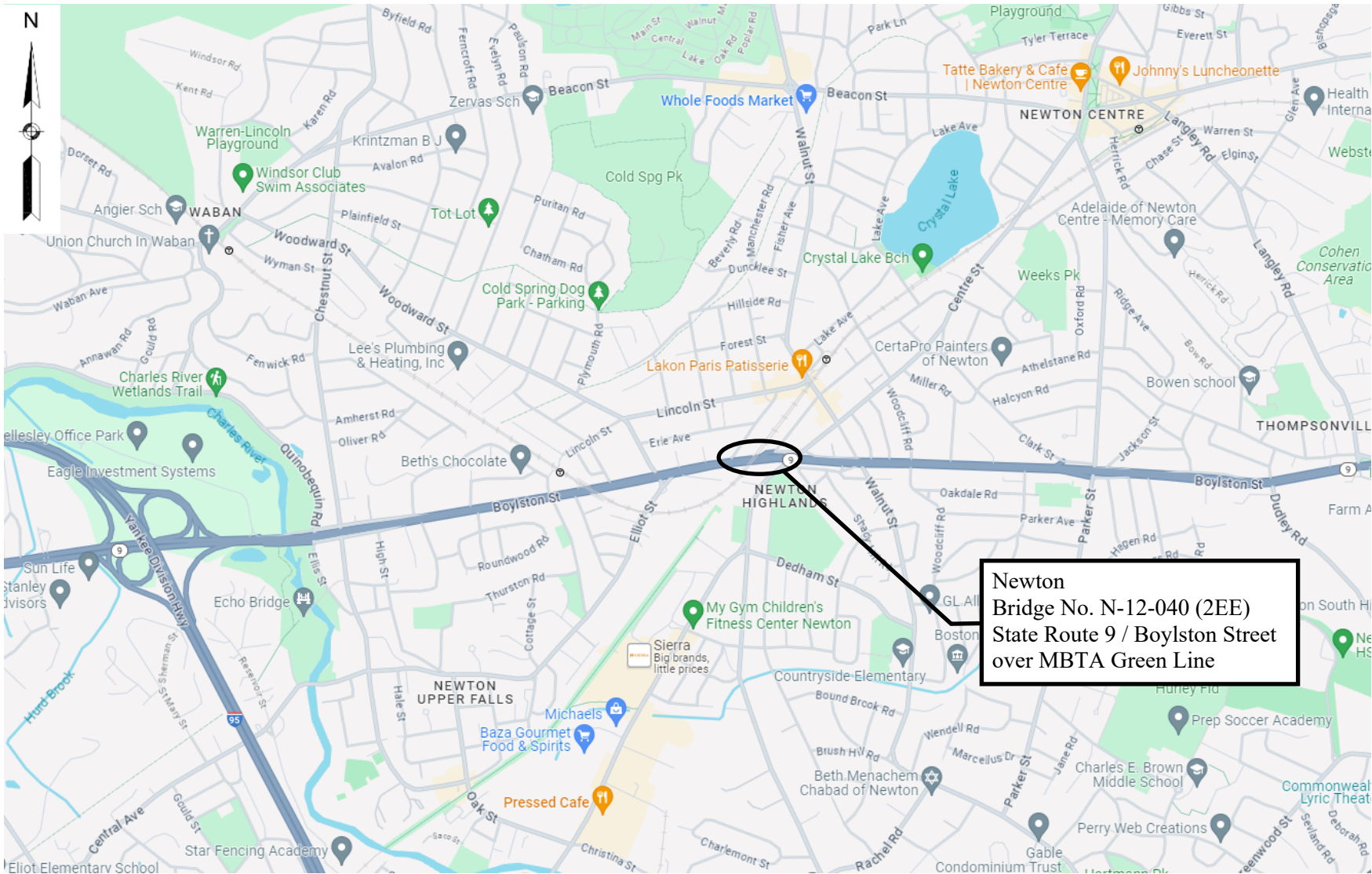
No. If, after the figure established as market value has been offered to the owner, the owner feels he or she is not being offered a fair price, he or she has the right, within three years, to appeal to the courts. Pending a court decision, he or she can be paid on a "pro-tanto" basis (or "for the time 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.



Brief Description of Proposed Improvements:

The existing bridge, which is approximately 120 years old and in poor condition, will be replaced with a modern bridge structure meeting current MassDOT design and safety standards. The water and gas mains which are currently located on the top of the bridge sidewalks will be relocated below the sidewalk in accordance with current standards. Reconstruction of adjacent sidewalk facilities will tie the project into the existing sidewalk network.

Why is MassDOT completing this project?

The existing bridge is in poor condition and requires replacement to keep the roadway in a state of good repair.

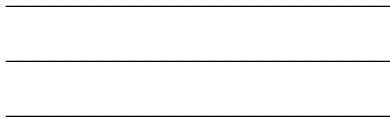
How will I benefit from this project?

The proposed bridge will improve the condition of the roadway and limit traffic impacts in the future for repairs. The proposed bridge will conform to current MassDOT design and safety standards for bridges, roadways, and pedestrians.

What are the improvements of the project?

Replacement of the existing bridge, which is approximately 120 years old and in poor condition, with a modern bridge meeting current MassDOT design and safety standards. Sidewalks and pedestrian curb ramps at adjacent streets will be reconstructed to conform with ADA Standards.

Please Fold and Tape



Please Place
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Carrie E. Lavalley, P.E.
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MassDOT – Highway Division
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Boston, MA 02116-3973

RE: Virtual Public Informational Meeting
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT BOYLSTON STREET OVER GREEN LINE D
NEWTON
Project File No. 612182
Attn: Project Management

