









#### **Zoom Hearing Controls**



• Ask a question and share comments



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



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## **Public meeting notes and procedures**

#### Notification of video 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.
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- By continuing attendance with this virtual public hearing, you consent to participate in a recorded event.
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#### Other important notes

- Your microphone and webcam are automatically disabled upon entering this hearing.  $\bullet$
- The hearing will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation. ۲
- Please take time to respond to our survey! Your feedback is important. ۲



## **Public meeting notes and procedures**

#### **Notification**

- While this virtual public hearing is not being recorded, the Massachusetts Department of lacksquareTransportation may choose to retain and distribute still images, audio, and/or the Q/A transcript.
- All parts of this hearing are considered public record. ۲
- If you are not comfortable being recorded, please refrain from utilizing the Q/A feature, turn off your ulletcamera, and keep your microphone muted, or you may choose to excuse yourself from the hearing.

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

- All MassDOT activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination.
- MassDOT complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements preventing discrimination based on sex, race, color, ancestry, national origin (limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or veteran's status.
- 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!



## **Public Outreach**

#### **Newspapers:**

- Cape Cod Times
- The Standard Times

#### MassDOT Social Media

- Twitter
- Facebook

## twittery

#### Thank You to the Following Organizations for Sending Notice of this Meeting:

- Southeast Regional Planning and Economic Development District lacksquare
- Wareham Council on Aging
- Wareham Commission on Disability
- Wareham Free Library  $\bullet$
- **Plymouth RMV Service Center**





REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES





## **Presentation participants**

#### MassDOT Project Manager

- Kathy Dougherty, P.E.
- MassDOT ROW Agent
  - Lisa Szamreta

#### MassDOT Producer/Facilitator

- Roy Kirwa and Raissah Kouame

#### • Tetra Tech (Design Firm)

– Jim Antonizick, P.E. – Project Manager



## Agenda

- **1** Project Justification/Need
- 2 Project Goals
- **3** Proposed Improvements
- 4 Environment/Community
- **5** Road User Experience
- 6 Construction Approach
- 7 Right-of-Way Process
- 8 Next Steps
- 9 Questions and Discussion







# Why was this project initiated?

### How did we get here?



SRPEDD (Southeastern Regional Planning & Economic Development District) Route 6 Corridor Study identifies need for safety improvements **May** 2021

Notice to Proceed received from MassDOT

## February 2022

Initial 25% Design submittal to MassDOT



Finalized 25% Design package to MassDOT

## **June** 2023

25% Design Public Hearing



#### **Existing corridor deficiencies**

- High frequency of vehicular and pedestrian crashes
  - Unsignalized intersection at
    Swifts Beach Road, with no
    dedicated westbound left
    turn lane
  - 4-lane cross section
    through mostly residential
    area, with closely spaced
    driveways
  - One mid-block crosswalk,
    and no other designated
    pedestrian crossings along
    the corridor







## **Existing corridor deficiencies (cont.)**



- Inadequate pedestrian and bicycle facilities
  - Narrow, unusable (1 foot)
    shoulders with no shared
    lane markings or signage
  - Deteriorating sidewalks
  - Non-ADA compliant ramps at mid-block crosswalk





# What do we want to accomplish?

## **Project goals**

- Improve safety of the corridor
- Improve bicycle and pedestrian accommodation within the corridor
- Improve safety and operational efficiency of the intersection with Swifts Beach Road
- "Right-size" the roadway cross section to match existing and projected traffic volumes
- Minimize impacts to abutting properties to the greatest extent feasible



Reconstructed intersection example





# What is being proposed?

### **Proposed improvements**



- ullet
- lacksquare
- •

## **Proposed improvements (cont.)**



## **Proposed improvements (cont.)**











## **Proposed improvements (cont.)**



 $\bullet$ turn lane to Gibbs Avenue



Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) at crossing •



## **Summary of proposed improvements**

- Route 6 roadway cross section reduced from 4 lanes to 2:  $\bullet$ 
  - 11-foot travel lanes
  - 5-foot shoulders
  - 5.5-foot sidewalk on northwest side
  - 10-foot shared use path with 4- to 5-foot grassed buffer on southeast side
- New signal for Route 6 at Swifts Beach Road
  - Route 6 westbound dedicated left turn lane
- Existing Route 6 at Wareham Plaza signal upgraded
- Exclusive pedestrian phase and crosswalks on all legs at both signals •
- ADA-compliant curb ramps throughout project  $\bullet$
- Pedestrian and bicycle crossings at both shared use path termini to transition to existing shared lane condition beyond project

- Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) for crossing at eastern project limit

Roadway transitions to match existing 4-lane cross section beyond southwest project limit – a future • project will extend 2-lane configuration farther west to Weweantic River





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

## **Environmental and community impacts**

- Pavement removal decreases impervious area, will reduce stormwater runoff
- Reduction in travel lanes from 4 to 2 will improve safety for residents and create a "more neighborhood, less travel corridor" feel
- Improved pedestrian and bicycle accommodation will encourage healthier transportation modes, thereby reducing traffic and air pollution









# How will the road user be affected?

#### MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



Traffic Signal example

## Roadway user experience

- Vehicles:
  - Slightly wider (11' vs. 10.5')
    single lane with 5' shoulder
    improves driver comfort
  - New signal at Swifts Beach
    Road improves safety and
    operational efficiency
- Cyclists:
  - 10' wide, two-way, roadwayseparated shared-use path improves rider comfort and safety



## Roadway user experience (cont.)

- Pedestrians:
  - Uniform sidewalks and
    ADA-compliant curb ramps
    improve safety and user
    comfort
  - Marked crossings at wide driveways improve safety
  - Exclusive pedestrian
    phasing and crosswalks on
    all legs at signals improve
    safety, network connectivity
    and travel time



Ramp reconstruction example







# Construction approach

- Route 6 to remain open throughout construction, with minimum one lane open in each direction at all times.
- Business and residential access to be maintained throughout construction
- Pedestrian access routes to be maintained at all times
- One side of the roadway will be constructed at a time, with both directions of traffic shifted to the other side of the roadway









## **Preliminary Right of Way (ROW)**

- MassDOT is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in public and private land for the implementation of this project.
  - Fee takings, permanent easements and/or temporary construction easements may be required.
- Affected property owners will be contacted by personnel from the MassDOT ROW Bureau or  $\bullet$ consultants representing the agency.
  - Property owners are protected under Massachusetts General Laws, primarily Chapter 79.

#### At this stage of design, the Right of Way process has not been finalized. This hearing is an opportunity for the public to comment on any impacts to properties.



## **Our next steps**



Review and consider comments received in response to hearing



Summer 2023 – Submit 75% Design package to MassDOT for review/comment



Winter 2023 -

Submit 100% Design package to MassDOT for review/comment



#### Spring 2024 – Submit PS&E Design package to MassDOT for final review



#### Winter 2024 – Advertise project, select contractor, begin construction





# Questions and discussion

## **Questions and discussion controls**

"Raise your hand" to be unmuted for verbal questions (Alt + Y)



• Submit your questions and comments using the Q&A button (Alt + H)



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 hearing to let us know how your experience was with this virtual hearing

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



#### How to reach us

- Submit email comments to:  $\bullet$ MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us
- Submit written comments to:  $\bullet$ Carrie E. Lavallee, P.E., Chief Engineer MassDOT 10 Park Plaza, Suite 7550 Boston, MA 02116 Attention: Project Management, Project File No. 610647
- For project information visit the MassDOT Highway Division Upcoming Events webpage at ۲ http://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events or via the QR Code:











