massDOT
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Highway Division

Boston
Reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard

Project File No. 605789

Contract No. 109531

MassDOT Board
Capital Programs Committee
March 23, 2020

Project Overview

Transportation Improvement Project

- Funding through the MPO
- Partnership with City of Boston
  - Design – City of Boston
  - Construction - MassDOT

Low bid of 25.6 million

Proposed Construction Schedule

- Start in Summer 2020
- Full Beneficial Use in Fall 2024
- Substantial Completion in Spring 2025

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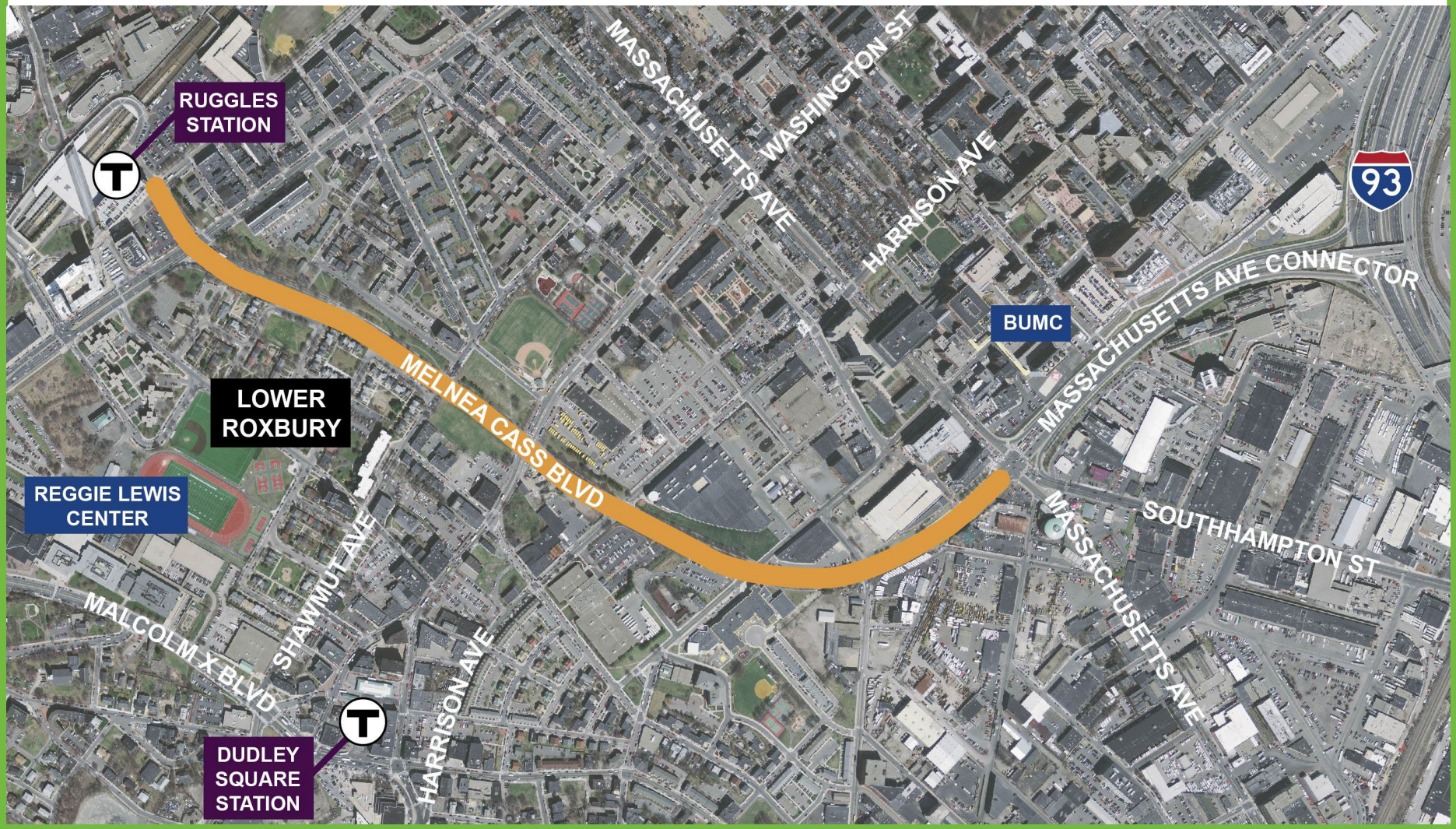
Locus Map



Project Goals

Improve Safety

- Implement Traffic Calming
- Improve Mode Separation and Visibility

Support Equal Access for Cyclists and Pedestrians

- Provide wider and separate facilities and crossings
- Implement reduced cross section for shorter crossings

Support Regional Traffic

- Provide Geometry Needed for the Traffic Volume, Emergency Vehicles, Buses, and Heavy Vehicles

Existing Conditions

Urban Corridor

- 4 - 5 Lane Cross Section – 2 Eastbound / 2 Westbound / Left-turn Lanes
- Raised and at Grade Medians
- Bike, Pedestrian, Trucking/Freight, and Public Transit Users
- 32,000 Average Daily Traffic, >800 Pedestrians during AM Peak Hour
- Older signal equipment and street lighting
- Commercial, Residential, Community Spaces
- South Bay Harbor Trail
- Existing trees border the roadway and sidewalks

What We Will Accomplish

Create a Complete Streets and a People-Centered Roadway Project

- Provide Multimodal Access and Safety Improvements
- Transform to a Neighborhood Street
- Serve Regional Traffic Demand
- Provide additional Time for Pedestrian Crossings
- Reduce Conflicts Among All Modes
- Reduce Vehicle Speeds
- Increase Tree Count
- Create a Gateway Entrance to the Roxbury and South End Neighborhoods
- Improve Connectivity
- Set the Stage for Economic Vibrancy

Additional Accomplishments

Invest for Climate Change and Stormwater Management Resiliency

- Upgrade Drainage System / Green Infrastructure
- Raise Roadway Height
- Plant 210 trees to Increase Future Canopy
- Replace Trees in Poor Health

Implement Sustainable Treatments for a Maintainable Corridor

- Investment into equipment
- Coordination with Abutters
- Extended 2-year maintenance obligation of trees by Construction Contractor
- Agreements with abutting businesses
- Coordination between City Agencies

Set the Stage for Economic Vibrancy

- Reconstruct Corridor, Upgrade Lighting, Improve Access

Upgrade All Traffic Signal Equipment

Proposed Improvements

The project consists of the reconstruction of Melnea Cass Boulevard in the City of Boston for an approximate length of 0.9 miles.

- Construction of separated bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the roadway
- New traffic signals
- Raised crossings
- Raised intersections
- Realignment of the roadway to include full depth pavement construction and cross slope modifications
- Relocation of curb lines
- Protection, planting, and maintenance of trees throughout construction
- Removal and reconstruction of medians
- Installation of storm-water management and infiltration systems
- New signal equipment, lighting, and transit facilities throughout the length of the project

Proposed Rendering

Melnea Cass Blvd at Tremont Street

Proposed Rendering

Melnea Cass Boulevard from Sojourner Truth Court to Shawmut Ave

Proposed Rendering

Melnea Cass Blvd at Washington Street

Proposed Rendering

Melnea Cass Blvd at Albany Street

Public Outreach

- Public Information Meetings(7)
- Engagement and Coordination meetings with Friends of Melnea Cass Boulevard (15)
- Pop Up Meetings (Ruggles Station, Tropical Foods, etc.)
- Mass DOT Design Public Hearing (March 2018)
- Public Workshops(2)
- Public Site Walks (4)

Project Schedule

Construction Starts
Summer 2020

Full Beneficial Use
Fall 2024

Substantial Completion
Spring 2025

Contract Field Completion
Summer 2025

Bid/Estimate Comparison

Contractor	Bid	Difference from Office Estimate (%)
Office Estimate	$19,001,312.18	-
Newport Construction Corporation	$25,640,640.64	34.9%
P Gioioso & Sons, Inc.	$25,839,053.25	35.9%
Albanese D & S, Inc.	$27,477,395.95	44.6%
McCourt Construction Co., Inc.	$27,756,992.35	46.1%
Average Bid	$26,678,520	40.4%

Project Value

STIP Amount = $25,315,588

Bid Amount	$25,640,640.64
Traffic Police	$ 855,000.00
Contingencies (10%)	$ 2,564,064.00
5% Construction Engineering	$ 1,618,010.97
Total	$ 30,677,715.61

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Thank You
Q&A

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