

Office of Outdoor Advertising
Public Meeting

August 10, 2023

11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2nd Floor

Boston, MA 02116

(via Webinar)

Present:

Tim McCarthy, Executive Director

Office of Outdoor Advertising, August 10, 2023

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2

3 TIM MCCARTHY: Good morning, everybody.

4 My name is Tim McCarthy. I am the Director of Outdoor

5 Advertising for MassDOT. We are here for our August

6 10, 2023 Office of Outdoor Advertising hearing.

7 This meeting is being held virtually by

8 the Governor's Act, extending the virtual public

9 meetings through March of '25.

10 We are running this hearing by Zoom

11 platform.

12 Please note that this meeting is being

13 recorded by our stenographer, who is in attendance.

14 He will provide a transcript of the meeting that will

15 be posted on our web page when it is available.

16 The OOA team is present. Thanks to

17 Lydia, Jerry, Jason, Marc, and Chris for your

18 continued great work and effort.

19 This meeting is accessible to people

20 with disabilities and individuals with limited English

21 proficiency. If you filed a request to be available

22 today and did not receive it, please contact MassDOT's

23 Office of Diversity and Civil Rights at 857-368-8580

24 or you can email massdot.civilrights@dot.state.ma.us.

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1 Jerry Kelleher of our team will go
2 through the Zoom controls for this meeting.

3 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay. Thank you,
4 sir.

5 First of all, just check your
6 microphone icon. Make sure it's working at your
7 personal computer in case you want to make a comment.

8 The chat and interpretation functions
9 are not available for this webinar.

10 And, the only people on camera would be
11 panelists.

12 The Webinar ID for the August meeting
13 is 956 1959 4430.

14 If you cannot get the Internet or if
15 you have any tech problems as you go along, you can
16 call in: 301-715-8592.

17 You can also put written questions in
18 the Q&A feature, and we'll endeavor to answer them as
19 we go.

20 If you'd like to ask a question during
21 the meeting, just raise your hand on Zoom, and I'll
22 unmute you at the appropriate time.

23 Please, state your name for the record.

24 And, also, keep your comment to

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1 whatever subject we're discussing at the time. There
2 will be a period for general comments at the end.

3 Finally, if you're listening on the
4 phone and would like to make a comment, dial *9, and
5 I'll call out the last three digits of your phone
6 number and unmute your audio when it's your turn to
7 speak. Again, identify yourself for the record.

8 Those are the Zoom protocols for our
9 meeting. Thank you.

10 Back to the Director, Tim McCarthy.

11 TIM MCCARTHY: Thank you, Jerry.

12 Please note that accessible versions of
13 the meeting materials have been previously posted on
14 the OOA web page and will be referred to in this
15 meeting. And we'll post the links in the Q&A box as
16 well.

17 I'll go through the agenda.

18 The sign-in sheet physically obviously
19 cannot be signed. But by signing up for the webinar,
20 we have a list of those who are in attendance. Based
21 on that, we will have the attendance based on that.

22 On the screen is the agenda. And what
23 I will do is go through each item, and I will ask
24 questions of the proponents.

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1 Just so you know, everybody in the
2 public is currently muted and your camera is off.

3 And, as Jerry said, if you would like
4 to speak at some point during the meeting when the
5 public comment is requested, you should just use the
6 raise your hand function, as Jerry described at the
7 beginning of the meeting, and you can put your
8 question in the Q&A box.

9 Also, please note that you can provide
10 comments in writing to us via email as always.

11 For anybody who may be new, including
12 myself, we do not make any decisions at this actual
13 hearing. Every item is taken under advisement, and we
14 will make a decision within the next couple of weeks,
15 sometimes as early as a week. But we will give time
16 for write-in comments to us via email. Our email is
17 OOAInformation@dot.state.ma.us. And you can send your
18 comments in writing there.

19 Also, we have public comments at the
20 end of each item and then a final chance for overall
21 comments at the end of the agenda.

22 With that, Jerry, we'll start the
23 meeting.

24 GERARD KELLEHER: There's the agenda.

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1 TIM MCCARTHY: Beautiful.

2 Okay. The first on the agenda is
3 Permit Application Numbers 2023D015 and 2023D016.

4 Is the applicant present?

5 STEPHEN ROSS: Yes, sir.

6 TIM MCCARTHY: Steve, good morning.
7 How are you?

8 STEPHEN ROSS: I am well. How are you?

9 TIM MCCARTHY: Couldn't be better. A
10 little frazzled. A little frazzled. I'm not a big
11 computer guy, but a little frazzled. So, now we're
12 all settled down now. It's all good.

13 Is anyone here representing the
14 municipality where the sign is being proposed?

15 (No response.)

16 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands.

17 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. That's a
18 negative.

19 Are there any abutters present today?

20 (No response.)

21 GERARD KELLEHER: No.

22 TIM MCCARTHY: Negative as well. Okay.

23 GERARD KELLEHER: There's one hand.

24 One hand was raised, Tim.

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1 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay.

2 GERARD KELLEHER: Paige Duncan. I'm
3 not sure if she's an abutter.

4 I'll unmute you. Go ahead. Do you
5 have a -- are you an abutter?

6 PAIGE DUNCAN: No, actually, sorry, I
7 was late. I'm from the Town of Foxborough.

8 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay. Thanks. Okay.
9 That's good.

10 TIM MCCARTHY: Any comments?

11 PAIGE DUNCAN: The one comment that was
12 requested -- I don't know if my Board of Health
13 Director, he's on vacation this week, was going to
14 submit a written comment, but he was concerned about I
15 guess there's a new technology that will minimize
16 glare to adjacent property owners. And so I think
17 there was a concern to make sure that we don't end up
18 with complaints down the road related to glare. So, I
19 think that was our primary comment.

20 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. Thanks so much,
21 Paige. Thanks for being here.

22 PAIGE DUNCAN: Thank you.

23 TIM MCCARTHY: Is there anyone from the
24 District Office?

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1 (No response.)

2 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands raised.

3 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. I do have a note
4 from the District Office, from Bill Travers.

5 "Tree trimming will likely be needed to
6 provide visibility for this billboard. The applicant
7 is requested to contact the District to review the
8 need for a highway access permit for any tree trimming
9 or removal proposed on the I-95 highway layout. The
10 applicant should be made aware that MassDOT will be
11 requesting compensation for any obstructing healthy
12 trees requiring their removal in accordance to
13 MassDOT's tree trimming and removal policy."

14 Is there anyone here from Traffic
15 Operations?

16 GERARD KELLEHER: Yes, there is.

17 TIM MCCARTHY: Oh, okay.

18 GERARD KELLEHER: Thao? Thao Tran?

19 (No response.)

20 GERARD KELLEHER: He seems to be muted
21 on his end.

22 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. I do have a note
23 from James Danilla, Jim Danilla, and Thao is on this
24 as well.

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1 “The Traffic Engineering Section has
2 completed its review of the proposed board. The
3 purpose of the review is to identify any locations
4 where the board may distract a driver.”

5 Okay. He’s still on.

6 Hold on. “Based on the observations of
7 the traffic study, it’s their judgment that the
8 detailed traffic study of this location will not be
9 required.”

10 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay.

11 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. So, we have that
12 on the record.

13 So, Steve, was certified mail sent to
14 all the abutters in the last 30 days prior to your
15 submission?

16 STEPHEN ROSS: Yes, sir.

17 TIM MCCARTHY: Yeah, I have those. I
18 have those here.

19 Has the applicant received any comments
20 in support of or opposition?

21 STEPHEN ROSS: No comments at all.

22 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. Okay. Okay.

23 Let’s go to the inspector. The inspector on this
24 project is Marc Plante.

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1 Marc?

2 GERARD KELLEHER: Unmute, please.

3 Marc, can you unmute?

4 MARC PLANTE: Hello?

5 GERARD KELLEHER: Yes, go ahead.

6 TIM MCCARTHY: There you go, Marc.

7 Thank you.

8 MARC PLANTE: Thank you, Tim. Sorry

9 about that.

10 This is a proposed 90-foot monopole
11 facing Route 95 in the Town of Foxborough, two-panel
12 digital, one facing north, one facing south. This
13 area is of business character and there are two
14 businesses within 500 feet of the location. There is
15 no spacing issues with any other signs. And there are
16 no parks, playgrounds, or conservation land within 300
17 feet. Therefore, this site is conforming to our
18 regulations.

19 Thank you.

20 TIM MCCARTHY: Thanks very much, Marc.

21 As you know, I was out there as well.

22 Steve, as you know, if we agree to the
23 -- if the digital permit is granted, you must abide by
24 the 15-hour public service announcement requirement in

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1 addition to any commitments to the municipality PSA
2 services as well as all provisions set forth in the
3 700 CMR 3.00 for curfew, sensor brightness limit, 10-
4 second static delay as well.

5 STEPHEN ROSS: Yes, that's correct.

6 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay.

7 Is there any other public comment
8 regarding this item?

9 (No response.)

10 GERARD KELLEHER: I'm not seeing any
11 hands.

12 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. Not seeing any,
13 we'll move on to the next item on the agenda.

14 Thanks very much, Steve. Appreciate
15 it.

16 STEPHEN ROSS: Thank you, sir.

17 GERARD KELLEHER: Mr. Director?

18 TIM MCCARTHY: Yes, sir.

19 GERARD KELLEHER: Could we -- I'll put
20 the screen, the minutes from the last meeting up, and
21 maybe we could just approve those?

22 TIM MCCARTHY: Yeah. I just, as I
23 said, I'm a little disheveled as I picked all my
24 papers up and ran into my office.

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1 GERARD KELLEHER: No, no.

2 TIM MCCARTHY: So I'm just looking for
3 the -- there we go. I have it.

4 GERARD KELLEHER: It's on the screen.

5 TIM MCCARTHY: Yeah. Thank you so
6 much. I appreciate that.

7 So, would anyone here like to comment
8 on any of the items under the Item Number 4? Anybody
9 in the Zoom meeting that would like to comment on
10 anything under heading number 4?

11 (No response.)

12 GERARD KELLEHER: I don't see any
13 comments here.

14 TIM MCCARTHY: Okay. Is there any
15 general public comment?

16 (No response.)

17 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands.

18 TIM MCCARTHY: All right. Hearing none
19 and seeing none, I'll call it the August 10, 2023
20 public hearing of OOA is now adjourned.

21 Have a great rest of the week.

22 (Whereupon, the proceedings were
23 concluded on August 10, 2023 at 11:14 a.m.)

24 //

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Judith Luciano, do hereby certify that the foregoing record is a true and accurate transcription of the proceedings in the above-captioned matter to the best of my skill and ability.

Judith Luciano
Judith Luciano

**All names not provided were spelled phonetically to the best of my ability.