

Office of Outdoor Advertising
Public Meeting

January 9, 2020

11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2nd Floor

Boston, MA 02116

Present:

John Romano, Executive Director

Office of Outdoor Advertising January 9, 2020

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

2

3 JOHN ROMANO: Good morning, everybody.

4 My name is John Romano. I am the Director of Outdoor
5 Advertising for Mass. Department of Transportation.

6 We are here for the January 9, 2020 public hearing for
7 Outdoor Advertising.

8 This meeting is accessible to people
9 with disabilities and individuals with limited English
10 proficiency. If you had filed a request with us for
11 assistive technology, sign language, alternate format
12 documents, an interpreter, translated documents, or
13 other such services to be available here today, please
14 see Lydia if you have not yet received the assistance
15 you need. We also can have amplification devices
16 available from Lydia for anybody who needs them. If
17 you need any other similar assistance to participate
18 today, please let Lydia know and we will do our best
19 to help you. But, obviously, if we are made aware
20 ahead of time, we will be sure to have those for you.

21 Thank you.

22 And I don't believe anybody has
23 requested anything in advance, correct?

24 LYDIA QUIRK: No.

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Getting right to the
2 agenda, the first item, sign-in. On the table to my
3 left, there's a sign-in sheet. If you haven't signed
4 in yet, you can do so on your way out if you would
5 like to be part of the record.

6 Also, there's a copy of today's agenda.
7 There are meeting notes from the December 12 meeting
8 as well there. There's also a copy of the schedule
9 for the entire year for 2020. They're all the second
10 Thursday of the month in this room. So, the schedule
11 is printed and they're also posted on our website if
12 you'd like to take a copy of those with you.

13 I do apologize in advance for the
14 arctic conditions in the room. Unfortunately, my
15 office is not in control of the heat. And I can't
16 speak for other departments but they're, obviously,
17 not as efficient as we are in Outdoor Advertising or
18 it would be 68 degrees and comfortable. I'm sorry
19 about that. Unfortunately, it's like 58 degrees, but
20 it could be worse. If it was 58 outside, we'd be
21 happy I guess, right?

22 So, December 12th public hearing meeting
23 minutes, any questions, comments, concerns, changes?

24 (No response.)

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none, we will mark
2 those approved.

3 Okay. The next item on the agenda, we
4 have an application from American Outdoor Advertising
5 Company. This is for a two-sided digital application,
6 150 Royall Street in Canton, MA. It's a new
7 structure. These are Application Numbers 2020D001 and
8 D002.

9 Notification was provided to the town
10 administrator and the town clerk on December 6, 2019
11 by my office.

12 Is the applicant present?

13 DAVID MODICA: Present.

14 JOHN ROMANO: Can you please state your
15 name for the record, please?

16 DAVID MODICA: David Modica, M-o-d-i-c-
17 a.

18 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you, Dave.

19 Is anybody here representing the
20 municipality where the sign is being proposed?

21 (No response.)

22 JOHN ROMANO: Are there any abutters
23 present today?

24 (No response.)

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Is there anybody here
2 from the MassHighway District Office?

3 (No response.)

4 JOHN ROMANO: We got no memo from the
5 Highway District on this?

6 LYDIA QUIRK: We did not.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Thanks, Lydia.

8 Is there anybody present from MassDOT
9 Traffic Operations?

10 (No response.)

11 JOHN ROMANO: So, we did not -- they
12 are not present. However, we did -- Mr. Modica, we
13 did receive a memo from the Assistant Administrator of
14 Traffic and Safety Engineering, Neil Boudreau. His
15 staff did review this location. And it was determined
16 by them that a traffic study -- a detailed traffic
17 study of this location will not be required.

18 DAVID MODICA: Thank you.

19 JOHN ROMANO: Mr. Modica, was certified
20 mail notice to abutters sent out by you at least 30
21 days prior to submitting your application to my
22 office?

23 DAVID MODICA: Yes, sir.

24 JOHN ROMANO: And you did provide me a

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1 copy of that letter, and I have it with the package.

2 So, thank you.

3 DAVID MODICA: Yes.

4 JOHN ROMANO: And I also have the post
5 office receipts as well, so I appreciate you providing
6 those also, which you have.

7 DAVID MODICA: Yes.

8 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Did you receive
9 any written comments in support or opposition of this
10 application?

11 DAVID MODICA: I have two letters of
12 support from abutters, the Dunkin' Donut Corporation,
13 and it wasn't quite -- it was a letter of -- it was
14 okay with them. They had no -- Boston Mutual, which
15 is another abutter next door. Other than that, we
16 have received nothing at all negative.

17 JOHN ROMANO: Did you provide those
18 letters to us?

19 DAVID MODICA: I believe I did, sir,
20 yes.

21 JOHN ROMANO: I think I have those.
22 Boston Mutual Life Insurance, right, 120 Royall
23 Street?

24 DAVID MODICA: Yes, sir.

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1 JOHN ROMANO: And Dunkin' Donuts Brands
2 -- Dunkin' Brands -- got to get that right -- 130
3 Royall Street, right?

4 DAVID MODICA: Yes, those are the two.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. We have those.
6 Thank you.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you.

8 Okay. And then -- and you received an
9 authorization by the town by special permit as signed
10 off by the town administrator on your application, is
11 that correct?

12 DAVID MODICA: It is correct, yes. It
13 was resolved on the 12th of September or thereabouts.

14 JOHN ROMANO: And we did receive that
15 special permit as part of your package and we did
16 review that. So, thank you for providing that as
17 well.

18 Do you have anything you'd like to add
19 to your application at this time?

20 DAVID MODICA: No, no.

21 JOHN ROMANO: Okay.

22 DAVID MODICA: Approval would be nice.

23 JOHN ROMANO: All right. I'm going to
24 have my field inspector, Mr. Chris Chaves, give his

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1 field report at this time.

2 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Thank you, John.

3 As you mentioned, this is a two-sided
4 electronic proposed monopole located at 150 Royall
5 Street in Canton facing Route 128 and I-95. There are
6 multiple businesses within 500 feet of this location
7 to meet the criteria. There are no parks,
8 recreational areas within 300 feet. It is situated
9 within a ramp. As you know, Mr. Director, this is a
10 unique ramp. We asked for assistance from the State
11 Traffic Engineer regarding this location. It's my
12 understanding that you have a memo regarding the ramp.

13 JOHN ROMANO: That's correct, the State
14 Traffic Engineer. This was one, as we run into more
15 of these, it's very difficult for us sometimes to
16 determine Point C, as we all refer to, in determining
17 the location. We go to the State Traffic Engineer for
18 their assistance in many instances. And, in this
19 case, this was the case. And the State Traffic
20 Engineer reviewed it and provided us where Point C
21 was. And, thus, we were able to determine that this
22 is outside of that location, the 500 feet by Federal
23 Highway, and this does meet that requirement based on
24 the information provided us from the State Traffic

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1 Engineer. And we have that.

2 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yes, sir.

3 There are no other components or issues
4 with this site.

5 JOHN ROMANO: It meets all of the CMR
6 requirements?

7 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yes, it does.

8 JOHN ROMANO: From the field
9 perspective?

10 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: From the field
11 perspective, yes, sir.

12 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Anything else to
13 add, Mr. Chaves?

14 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: No. Thank you.

15 JOHN ROMANO: Any comments, questions,
16 concerns, from the audience?

17 (No response.)

18 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we
19 will take this under advisement and we will get back
20 to you.

21 Thank you, Mr. Modica.

22 DAVID MODICA: Thank you.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. The next item
24 under the agenda is application for renewal of Outdoor

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1 Advertising Permits. There is a list of a bunch.
2 Also unlicensed Outdoor Advertising Permits, a handful
3 of those and the dates they were processed.

4 Any comments or questions on those?

5 (No response.)

6 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none.

7 Item 4, for the record, actions taken
8 since the last public hearing. Any questions on
9 those?

10 (No response.)

11 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none.

12 Any public comment in general?

13 (No response.)

14 JOHN ROMANO: None. With that, we are
15 adjourned. Thank you all very much. Happy New Year.

16 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded
17 on January 9, 2020 at 11:12 a.m.)

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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.

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