

Office of Outdoor Advertising
Public Meeting

June 11, 2020

11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2nd Floor

Boston, MA 02116

(via Webinar)

Present:

John Romano, Executive Director

Office of Outdoor Advertising June 11, 2020

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P R O C E E D I N G S

JOHN ROMANO: Good morning, everybody. I hope you can all hear me. My name is John Romano. I'm the Director of Outdoor Advertising for MassDOT. We are here for the June 11 public hearing for Office of Outdoor Advertising.

By Governor's directive, we are doing this virtually, our monthly public hearing, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

So, currently, all audience members are on mute. I am going to ask Dan to put everybody on. In about one minute, I'm going to ask him to put everybody -- take you off of mute. So, if you could just keep the background noise down, that would be great.

We will go through this the same way that we go through our normal MassDOT hearings at 10 Park Plaza. We will follow the exact same format. So, our, you know, our hearing is accessible for people with disabilities. If anybody had called in ahead of time to ask for any assistance, we would have made that available.

Lydia, to the best of my knowledge,

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1 nobody has called in yet, is that correct, to ask for
2 assistance?

3 LYDIA QUICK: That's correct. We have
4 not had any requests.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Hey, Dan, can you
6 unmute everybody?

7 LYDIA QUICK: I could do it, too, if
8 you'd like, John. It's up to you.

9 JOHN ROMANO: I think I have it.

10 LYDIA QUICK: Let me know.

11 JOHN ROMANO: Okay.

12 LYDIA QUICK: Yeah, I looked at the
13 attendees. And it looked like they're muted by the
14 organizer. So, it looks like I can unmute if you'd
15 like me to.

16 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. All right. So you
17 can unmute yourself at any time. So, here we go. All
18 right.

19 So, our normal time for, you know,
20 questions or comments from the, you know, from the
21 audience as we usually do at 10 Park Plaza, so via
22 using GoToWebinar for today. And, in the chat box is
23 a link for the agenda and for the abbreviated meeting
24 minutes from May 14th if you want the link for those.

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1 Also, the agenda is posted on the screen. So, if you
2 have any questions about those, you know -- I mean if
3 you need to get those, if you had not searched them
4 ahead of time, they are available there.

5 So, we'll go right to the agenda. So,
6 as far as sign-in, obviously we can't do physical
7 sign-in sheets. But by you signing up and being an
8 attendee today, we will be able to generate a list of
9 the attendees and use that as the sign-in sheet. And
10 that will go with a copy of the transcript.

11 I want to remind people that this
12 meeting is being recorded by our stenographer, who is
13 also participating and will be creating a transcript
14 of this hearing as we do at each hearing. And that
15 hearing will be, you know, posted on our website in
16 the future, just like each month we post them, the
17 transcript. Usually, it takes about a month to get
18 the previous month's up. The month of May was posted
19 yesterday, I believe; for the May hearing, the
20 transcript was posted on our website.

21 If you don't get a chance to give a
22 comment and you do want to give a comment, our email
23 address is OOAInformation@dot.state.ma.us. You can
24 send in a comment with that. You can also reach us at

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1 857-368-4636.

2 Okay. So, the first item are the
3 minutes approval for the May 14, 2020 OOA public
4 hearing. If anybody has any questions, comments, or
5 concerns on the regular session minutes from May 14,
6 2020?

7 Judi, did you have a question?

8 JUDI RILEY: No.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. So, seeing none, I
10 am going to mark the minutes approved.

11 (Background conversation.)

12 JOHN ROMANO: I'd appreciate it if you
13 could mute yourself. If not, I'm going to have to
14 mute everybody. Thank you.

15 Okay. So, those meeting minutes are
16 approved.

17 The next item we actually have on the
18 agenda today is an application for electronic permits
19 for Carroll Advertising, 3 Lopes Drive in Norton,
20 Massachusetts, Application Number 2020D007 and D008.
21 These are new structures being built.

22 Notice was sent by my office to the
23 municipality on May 14th to the town manager and to the
24 town clerk.

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1 Is the applicant present here today?

2 JOHN CARROLL: Yes, sir. John Carroll
3 from Carroll Advertising.

4 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Just spell your
5 last name for the record, please?

6 JOHN CARROLL: C-a-r-r-o-l-l.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you. Okay, is
8 there anybody representing the municipality where the
9 sign is being proposed?

10 (No response.)

11 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Hearing none, are
12 there any abutters present today?

13 (No response.)

14 JOHN ROMANO: Hearing none, is anybody
15 here present from the MassDOT District Highway Office?

16 (No response.)

17 JOHN ROMANO: I do not see anybody from
18 the District Office. I am going to read an email into
19 the record that was received from Bill Travers from
20 District 5.

21 Mr. Carroll, the District would just
22 remind you that if you need to do any type of tree
23 removal or trimming that you will need an access
24 permit that is issued by the District. I am not

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1 reading this word-for-word; I am paraphrasing. And
2 that it needs to be approved through the District.
3 So, anything of that nature with any type of tree
4 trimming or removal is a separate permit acquired
5 through the District. So, please make sure if that's
6 the case, should you receive the permit, that you
7 contact Bill Travers at District 5. Is that
8 understood?

9 JOHN CARROLL: Yes, sir.

10 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you.

11 Is anybody present from MassDOT Traffic
12 Operations?

13 (No response.)

14 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none, I want to
15 state for the record that we did receive a memorandum
16 from Neil Boudreau, Assistant Administrator of Traffic
17 and Safety Engineer. They did a pre-installation
18 evaluation of this location for these two
19 applications, and it was determined that a detailed
20 traffic study of either of these two application
21 locations will not be required at this time. So,
22 you're all set as far as additional traffic study.

23 JOHN CARROLL: Thank you.

24 JOHN ROMANO: John, was certified mail

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1 notice to abutters sent out by you at least 30 days
2 prior to submitting your application to this office?

3 JOHN CARROLL: Yes, sir.

4 JOHN ROMANO: And you did provide me
5 with a copy of the letter. And I also have a copy of
6 the post office receipts that you sent out as well.
7 So, thank you.

8 John, have you received any written
9 comments in support or opposition of this application?

10 JOHN CARROLL: No, sir.

11 JOHN ROMANO: Neither have we. Okay.

12 John, special permit or variance.
13 According to your application, you received a special
14 permit from the Town. You did provide a copy of that.
15 And is that your understanding?

16 JOHN CARROLL: Yes, sir.

17 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you.

18 Is there anything you'd like to add to
19 your application before I have my inspector give his
20 field report?

21 JOHN CARROLL: No, sir.

22 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. I will ask my
23 inspector, Chris Chaves, to give the field report he's
24 given me in place of Marc Plante, who was unable to

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1 participate in today's hearing.

2 Chris, if you could do that, that would
3 be great.

4 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yeah, no problem,
5 John.

6 This is a proposed electronic monopole
7 facing 495 in Norton north and south. It's located on
8 industrially zoned property. There are two businesses
9 within 500 feet of the proposed structure. There are
10 no conservation land, recreational areas, or any other
11 critical areas within 300 feet of the proposed
12 structure. And, from a field standpoint, it looks
13 good.

14 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Thank you
15 very much. Appreciate that, Chris.

16 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Thank you.

17 JOHN ROMANO: Are there any comments,
18 questions, or concerns from those in attendance, from
19 the audience, regarding this permit?

20 (No response.)

21 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, Mr.
22 Carroll, we are going to take this permit under
23 advisement as we do with all of those in these
24 hearings.

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1 Just a reminder, as I know you are
2 aware having done business with us I the past, Section
3 700 CMR 3.17 has all of the restrictions and issues
4 related to digital boards that you must follow for
5 sensor limits, brightness, 10-second static display,
6 etc., and also the 15-hour public service announcement
7 requirement that Mr. Kelleher will -- you will work
8 with him as you do with your boards.

9 You're okay and familiar with that,
10 correct?

11 JOHN CARROLL: Yes, sir.

12 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. We will take this
13 application under advisement and we will get back to
14 you.

15 JOHN CARROLL: Thank you very much.
16 Appreciate all the help.

17 JOHN ROMANO: No problem.

18 Next on the agenda, For the Record,
19 actions taken since the last hearing.

20 Does anybody have any questions under
21 that Item 4?

22 (No response.)

23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we
24 will go to the last item, public comment.

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1 Are there any other public comments
2 relating to the agenda today or any other Outdoor
3 Advertising item?

4 (No response.)

5 JOHN ROMANO: Okay, seeing none, we
6 will adjourn the meeting at 11:13 a.m. I thank you
7 all very much for your participation. I hope
8 everybody stays safe and is well. And we will have
9 our next hearing will be the second Thursday of July.
10 And we will, again, be doing it through GoToWebinar.
11 Unless something drastic changes, which I don't see, I
12 anticipate it being, again, through GoToWebinar. And
13 we will send out the link in a couple of weeks on
14 that.

15 Thank you all very much. Have a great
16 day. Thanks for your help.

17 (Whereupon, the proceedings were
18 concluded on June 11, 2020 at 11:13 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.