

Office of Outdoor Advertising
Public Meeting

June 9, 2022

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 9, 2022

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P R O C E E D I N G S

JOHN ROMANO: Good morning, everybody.
My name is John Romano. I am the Director of Outdoor Advertising for MassDOT. We are here for our June 2022 Office of Outdoor Advertising public meeting.

This meeting is being held virtually by the Governor's Act extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, which runs through July 15, 2022.

We are running this hearing by Zoom platform.

Please note that this meeting is being recorded by our stenographer, who is in attendance. He will provide a transcript of the meeting that will be posted on our website as soon as it is available.

The meeting is accessible to people with disabilities and individuals with limited English proficiency. If you filed a request to be available today and did not receive it, please contact MassDOT's Office of Diversity and Civil Rights at 857-368-8580 or massdot.civilrights@dot.state.ma.us.

Jerry Kelleher of my staff will go through the Zoom controls for this meeting at this

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1 time.

2 Jerry, if you can do that, that would
3 be great.

4 GERARD KELLEHER: Okay. Okay. So, on
5 this meeting for June, the camera is only on for
6 panelists.

7 If you'd like to ask a question, please
8 raise your hand.

9 The chat and the interpretation
10 services are not functional.

11 If you can't access the internet or if
12 you have any technical problems, you could dial into
13 this meeting; 301-715-8592 is the number.

14 The ID for June is 949 9698 5475, and
15 the passcode, which is letters, and symbols, and
16 numbers, is the following: #pF.1#vRNE8.

17 One more thing here. Please submit all
18 questions using the Q&A feature, and state your name
19 before asking a question. And only ask a question
20 that's related to the topic that's on the agenda at
21 the time.

22 If you'd like to ask a question by
23 phone, you can dial *9, and I will call out the last
24 three digits of your phone number and unmute your

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1 audio when it is your turn to speak.

2 And that being said, I will turn it
3 over to the Director for the agenda.

4 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you, Jerry.

5 Please note that accessible versions of
6 the meeting materials have been previously posted to
7 the OOA website and will be referred to in the
8 meeting. And we have posted those links in the Q&A
9 box as well today.

10 I will go through the agenda.
11 Obviously, the sign-in sheet wasn't physically able to
12 be signed, but by signing up for the webinar, we have
13 a list of those who are in attendance today. So that
14 will constitute the sign-in part of our agenda.

15 Jerry, if you could put the agenda on
16 the screen now, and we will go through that, each
17 item, one-by-one, and I will ask various questions of
18 the proponents.

19 And just to reiterate what Jerry had
20 said, members of the public are currently muted and
21 your camera is turned off. And when we get to the
22 public comment period, Jerry will call on you if your
23 hand is raised or if you hit the *9 function if you're
24 on the phone.

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1 You can also use the Q&A box to make a
2 comment, as Jerry has stated.

3 Please note that you can also provide
4 comments in writing to us by email.

5 For anybody who may be new, we do not
6 make any decisions at this actual hearing or meeting.
7 Every item is taken under advisement, and decisions
8 are usually made within a few weeks, sometimes, many
9 times, as early as a week, but we will give time for
10 write-in comments through our email address, which is
11 OOAInformation@dot.state.ma.us.

12 You can send your comments in writing
13 there.

14 Also, we will have public comments at
15 the end of each item, and then a final chance for
16 overall comments at the end of the agenda.

17 So, Jerry, with that, we are going to
18 start the meeting.

19 The first item will be minutes
20 approval. As you well know, there was no meeting in
21 the month of May as there were no business items for
22 the month of May. So, the minutes that we will be
23 reviewing were for the April 14, 2022 meeting.

24 Are there any questions, comments, or

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1 concerns with those meeting minutes?

2 (No response.)

3 JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any hands
4 raised.

5 Jerry, do you see anything?

6 GERARD KELLEHER: No, I don't.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. With that said, I
8 will mark those as approved. And today is 6/9/2022.
9 Okay. Great.

10 The first item on the agenda is an
11 application for transfer of permits. The transferor
12 is Harbor Outdoor, LLC. The transferee, Interstate
13 IIH Outdoor, LLC. These are for Permit Numbers
14 2021D027, 290 Wood Road in Braintree, and also
15 2021D028 at the same location.

16 Just so you know that a pre-
17 installation study was approved. There will be a
18 post-traffic study required after the board is built
19 and up for a year. And the build by date for these
20 boards are December 8th of 2022. And, again, this is a
21 transfer only.

22 Is there anybody here for either Harbor
23 Outdoor and/or Interstate Outdoor? And, if so, please
24 state your name for the record.

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1 DREW HOFFMAN: Good morning. Drew
2 Hoffman, Harbor Outdoor.

3 KENNETH ROWELL: Ken Rowell, Interstate
4 Outdoor.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you,
6 gentlemen. Good morning.

7 We have reviewed the application for
8 transfer. Everything appears to be in order. The
9 appropriate documents were filed. The appropriate
10 payment was submitted.

11 You guys both understand about the
12 traffic study. The pre-installation study was
13 approved. The post-installation study does need to be
14 completed.

15 Ken, will that be done by your company,
16 Interstate?

17 KENNETH ROWELL: Yes, it will.

18 JOHN ROMANO: Okay.

19 KENNETH ROWELL: Yeah, we'll handle
20 that.

21 JOHN ROMANO: That will be done by
22 Interstate. All right.

23 And you know that the build by date is
24 12/8/22?

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1 KENNETH ROWELL: Yes.

2 JOHN ROMANO: All right. Great.

3 Do you have anything that you would
4 like to add at this time to your application?

5 KENNETH ROWELL: Not at this time.

6 Thank you.

7 DREW HOFFMAN: Not at this time. Thank
8 you.

9 JOHN ROMANO: All right. Great.

10 Thanks, gentlemen.

11 The inspector on this, Chris Chaves.
12 Chris, anything you have to add from the field
13 perspective?

14 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: No. This is an
15 unbuilt approved permit, John.

16 Just a reminder to Mr. Rowell, the sign
17 is to be built at the location that it was approved
18 at. So, just know that it was approved at a certain
19 location there on the property, and it is to be built
20 at the same location.

21 KENNETH ROWELL: Thank you.

22 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yes, sir.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great.

24 Are there any comments, questions, or

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1 concerns from anybody in the audience in attendance?

2 (No response.)

3 GERARD KELLEHER: I don't see any
4 raised hands.

5 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. All right. Seeing
6 none, gentlemen, we will take this application under
7 advisement, and we will get back to you.

8 Thank you very much for your attendance
9 today.

10 KENNETH ROWELL: Thank you.

11 DREW HOFFMAN: Thank you.

12 JOHN ROMANO: So, next, we have on the
13 agenda, this is an application for a permit amendment,
14 American Outdoor Media, LLC. This is for permit
15 applications 2021D029 and D030. And this is at 120
16 Cedar Street, Canton, MA. And this is an amendment to
17 make a slight change to the location of the permits on
18 the same property.

19 Is there anybody here from American
20 Outdoor Media representing the company today?

21 STEPHEN ROSS: Yes, Stephen Ross
22 representing American Outdoor Media.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Is there anybody here
24 representing the municipality today?

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1 (No response.)

2 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands raised.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you.

4 So, Mr. Ross, we reviewed the
5 application that you presented to us. There was a
6 special permit granted by the Canton Zoning Board of
7 Appeals that approved the two slight I think eight or
8 ten feet change in the location due to some
9 underground conditions that you guys encountered when
10 you went to install the initially approved -- the sign
11 at the initially approved location. The Town did not
12 have any issues with the change in location. Is that
13 your understanding?

14 STEPHEN ROSS: That is correct, sir.

15 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. So, we reviewed
16 the paperwork. We have found that everything appears
17 to be in order with what you submitted and what the
18 Town submitted. Again, like we said, they appear to
19 have no issue with that.

20 We spoke -- as this was a digital, this
21 was originally submitted to our traffic department to
22 be reviewed, as all digitals are. We sent the drawing
23 with the change, slight change in location. We did
24 get a memo from our state traffic engineer that said

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1 they had no issue. They had no issue before, and they
2 have no issue with the change in location as you
3 proposed. So, there is no traffic study. As there
4 wasn't before, there will not be one needed now with
5 this change.

6 Is there anything that you would like
7 to add to your amendment application at this time?

8 STEPHEN ROSS: No, sir.

9 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. And, let's see.
10 And, just for the record, the special permit was an
11 informal decision issued on April 21, 2022, by the
12 Town of Canton.

13 Again, my inspector for this is Mr.
14 Chris Chaves.

15 Chris, anything you would like to --
16 you can add to this inspection -- to this application?
17 I apologize.

18 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: No, John. I think
19 you covered it all. There's a slight change. I think
20 it's just over eight feet to the north. So, it's one
21 parking space on the property to the north that
22 they'll be moving it. So, there's no change in
23 anything in the field. Like you said, it's a very
24 slight change.

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Thank you,
2 Chris.

3 Are there any comments, questions,
4 concerns, or anything from those in attendance today?

5 (No response.)

6 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands are raised.

7 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing any
8 either. Great.

9 With that, Mr. Ross, we will take this
10 under advisement and we will get back to you.

11 Thank you for your attendance.

12 STEPHEN ROSS: Thank you.

13 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you, sir.

14 Okay. Next, we have -- next, is an
15 application -- these are two applications, but I'm
16 going to do these individually. This is JC Decaux
17 Boston. The first one is 15 Poplar Street. It's a
18 bus shelter, Application Number 2022SF033. This is
19 street furniture, a new bus shelter.

20 Notice was sent on May 10, 2022, to the
21 mayor and the city clerk.

22 Is the applicant present?

23 (No response.)

24 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing anybody.

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1 GERARD KELLEHER: No.

2 JOHN ROMANO: No. Is there anybody
3 here representing the municipality?

4 (No response.)

5 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing anyone.
6 Okay. Are there any abutters present?

7 (No response.)

8 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing any.

9 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands.

10 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Anybody from the
11 District Office?

12 (No response.)

13 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. This is not
14 something, where this is static street furniture,
15 there is no requirement for the Traffic Operations
16 Department to review.

17 Certified mail to abutters, that's not
18 applicable for street furniture.

19 And we have not received any letters in
20 support and/or opposition. And there is not anybody
21 here from the municipality or the proponent.

22 Special permit or variance, this is in
23 conformity with municipal bylaws. Peter O'Sullivan
24 from the mayor's office signed off the application

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1 with that checked off.

2 So, with that, Chris, you did this one
3 as well, right?

4 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yeah, John.

5 As you mentioned, these are bus
6 shelters. They fall under the category of street
7 furniture with the City of Boston. They are on City
8 property. There are no issues with this shelter.
9 They are built at this time.

10 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. And it is built,
11 right, Chris?

12 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yes, sir.

13 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Very good. Okay.

14 Does anybody have any comments,
15 questions, concerns? And, if I didn't say the
16 location, 15 Poplar Street in Boston. I apologize if
17 I did not say that at the beginning for this location.

18 (No response.)

19 GERARD KELLEHER: No hands raised.

20 JOHN ROMANO: I am not seeing any hands
21 raised. We will take this one under advisement.

22 And then I will go to the last one.
23 This is Application Number 2022SF034. This is also a
24 new bus shelter, street furniture. This location is

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1 33 Corinth Street, also in Boston.

2 Notice was sent to the municipality on
3 May 10, 2022 to the mayor's office and the clerk.

4 Again, I'll check, is the applicant
5 present? This is also JC Decaux.

6 (No response.)

7 JOHN ROMANO: Is anybody here
8 representing the City?

9 (No response.)

10 JOHN ROMANO: No. Any abutters
11 present?

12 (No response.)

13 JOHN ROMANO: None. Anybody from the
14 District Office?

15 (No response.)

16 JOHN ROMANO: I'm not seeing anybody.
17 Again, not applicable, static street furniture, for
18 Traffic Operations Department.

19 The same with abutter notice. This is
20 street furniture, so it's not applicable.

21 Special permit, again, Peter O'Sullivan
22 from the mayor's office signed it off as being in
23 conformity.

24 Mr. Chaves, could you give your field

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1 report on this one as well? You're a busy man today.

2 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: I am a busy man
3 today.

4 So, this one is just around the corner
5 from where we were before on Poplar. It's on Corinth
6 Street. Another newly constructed bus shelter on City
7 property within the street furniture program. There
8 are no issues with this site.

9 JOHN ROMANO: And this one is already
10 built, right?

11 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Yes, sir.

12 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Thank you. Okay.
13 Any comments, questions, concerns from
14 anybody in the audience on this bus shelter?

15 (No response.)

16 GERARD KELLEHER: I'm not seeing any.

17 JOHN ROMANO: No. Very good. Okay.
18 We will take this one under advisement and get back to
19 JC Decaux. Very good.

20 Okay. We will then go to Applications
21 for Renewals. We did receive the last permit -- last
22 license to be renewed and last permit. So, we have
23 completed all of the permit renewals and license
24 applications. They're all done. So, that's Item D

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1 and E.

2 For the Record - Actions Taken Since
3 the Last Public Meeting, Item 4, Rocco Realty in
4 Lakeville was approved. The other two remain on the
5 agenda as still under advisement. There are no change
6 to those.

7 Does anybody have any questions on
8 those?

9 (No response.)

10 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none.

11 Public comment. Any there any public
12 comment on any items related to the agenda or any
13 Outdoor Advertising in general?

14 (No response.)

15 GERARD KELLEHER: I'm not seeing
16 anything.

17 JOHN ROMANO: Not seeing anything.

18 With that, we will adjourn the meeting
19 at 11:21.

20 Thank you all very much for your
21 attendance. I hope you enjoy the rest of the day now
22 that the sun is out. It looks like it's going to be a
23 great day. Thank you all for your participation and
24 your help as always.

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1 All right. Have a great day.

2 (Whereupon, the proceedings were
3 concluded on June 9, 2022, at 11:21 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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