

Office of Outdoor Advertising  
Public Meeting

March 14, 2019

11:00 AM

State Transportation Building

10 Park Plaza

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Boston, MA 02116

Present:

John Romano, Executive Director

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

2

3 JOHN ROMANO: Welcome to the MassDOT  
4 Office of Outdoor Advertising, March 14, 2019 public  
5 hearing.

6 This meeting is accessible to people  
7 with disabilities and individuals with limited English  
8 proficiency. If you filed a request with us for  
9 assistive technology, sign language, alternate format  
10 documents, an interpreter, translated documents, or  
11 other such services to be available here today, please  
12 see Lydia.

13 Lydia, I don't believe anybody filed in  
14 advance.

15 LYDIA QUIRK: No.

16 JOHN ROMANO: We also have  
17 amplification devices available should you need them.  
18 If you need any other similar assistance to  
19 participate today, please let Lydia know, and she will  
20 try to help you. If we get any requests in advance,  
21 we will certainly make sure that we make every  
22 reasonable attempt to get what you need here at the  
23 time of the meeting. So, thank you.

24 Okay. If you haven't signed in

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1 already, there is a sign-in sheet on the table to my  
2 left along with copies of the meeting minutes from the  
3 last meeting and a copy of today's agenda. And you  
4 can always sign-in on your way out. We don't have a  
5 sign-out.

6 So, meeting minutes from February 14,  
7 2019 hearing, any questions, comments, concerns,  
8 changes, etc.?

9 (No response.)

10 JOHN ROMANO: Seeing none, I will mark  
11 those approved.

12 Okay. The first item on the agenda  
13 today, we have an application for a permit amendment  
14 from Outfront Media Boston, LLC. This is Permit  
15 Number 2014007, 152 Milk Street, Boston. This is a  
16 bike kiosk that is being moved to Surface Road at  
17 India Street. And it's actually on the same property,  
18 just on the opposite side of the building. So, that's  
19 why we're doing this as an amendment and not a new  
20 permit because while the name of the street is  
21 different, it's physically on the same contiguous  
22 property. So, we did that one as an amendment.

23 Is anybody here from the proponent,  
24 Outfront?

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1                   ANGELA RUFO: Angela Rufo. Angela  
2 Rufo.

3                   JOHN ROMANO: Is anybody here from the  
4 municipality where the amendment is being proposed?

5                   (No response.)

6                   JOHN ROMANO: So, Angela, we reviewed  
7 the application for an amendment. There appears to be  
8 no issues with the paperwork submitted. The City of  
9 Boston has signed off on the location change. Kim  
10 Foltz has signed off on that. There doesn't appear to  
11 be any issues from that standpoint.

12                   Chris, my inspector, any issues from  
13 the field?

14                   CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: It's just street  
15 furniture. It's the same property, as you mentioned.  
16 No issues at all.

17                   JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Angela, anything  
18 you'd like to add to this amendment application?

19                   ANGELA RUFO: No.

20                   JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Thank you very  
21 much.

22                   Any questions, comments, or concerns  
23 from the general public?

24                   (No response.)

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we  
2 will take this under advisement and get back to you.

3 ANGELA RUFO: Thank you.

4 JOHN ROMANO: The next item on the  
5 agenda is an application for permit transfers. These  
6 are looking to be transferred from Robinson's Realty  
7 Corporation, and the transferee is Murray Marketing,  
8 Inc. Let's see. This says these are Applications  
9 2018D002 and D003.

10 Is anybody here representing either  
11 party?

12 JOSEPH MURRAY: Joseph Murray, Murray  
13 Outdoor.

14 JOHN ROMANO: So, Mr. Murray, we  
15 reviewed the application for transfer. Everything,  
16 all of the paperwork, appears to be in order. And I  
17 had my inspector go out and take a look at this just  
18 to make sure even though these were recently built.  
19 He did a new build inspection on them.

20 So, Marc, would you like to give your  
21 report?

22 MARC PLANTE: Yes, John.

23 It's a newly built monopole on Route 25  
24 in Wareham. And it is functioning as of right now and

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1 is conforming to the regulations.

2 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great. Mr.  
3 Murray, as we discussed yesterday, the permit numbers  
4 need to be put on. You've informed me that they've  
5 been ordered and will be installed.

6 JOSEPH MURRAY: Yes.

7 JOHN ROMANO: So, if you'll let me know  
8 when those are up, we'll do a follow up on that just  
9 to complete the inspection. And, with that, we see no  
10 other issues. Right, Marc?

11 MARC PLANTE: Right.

12 JOSEPH MURRAY: Yeah, I can send  
13 pictures so he doesn't have to drive all the way out.

14 JOHN ROMANO: All right. He can use  
15 the exercise. We send him on little hikes, you know.  
16 But, thank you very much.

17 So, does anybody from the general  
18 public have any questions, comments, or concerns about  
19 this transfer?

20 (No response.)

21 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Anything you'd  
22 like to add to the application at this time, Mr.  
23 Murray?

24 JOSEPH MURRAY: No. Other than the

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1 permit numbers, we believe it's complete, and it's  
2 already displaying the DOT messages.

3 JOHN ROMANO: Yes, Mr. Kelleher  
4 monitors our PSA program. He runs it and has told me  
5 that we've already got that up and running. So,  
6 that's good.

7 Okay. We will take this under  
8 advisement and we'll get back to you.

9 JOSEPH MURRAY: Thank you.

10 JOHN ROMANO: Now we have the next item  
11 on the agenda is an application for electronic  
12 permits. Again, this is Murray Outdoor. The  
13 location, 537 -- I'll give my best on this one --  
14 Quequechan Street in Fall River. This is Application  
15 2019D003. This is to convert an existing static  
16 permit number 200028 to a digital.

17 Notice was sent by my office to the  
18 mayor and city clerk on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

19 Is the applicant present?

20 JOSEPH MURRAY: Yes.

21 JOHN ROMANO: Please state your name.

22 JOSEPH MURRAY: Joseph Murray.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Is anybody here from the  
24 municipality where the sign is being proposed?

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1 (No response.)

2 JOHN ROMANO: No. Are there any  
3 abutters present today?

4 (No response.)

5 JOHN ROMANO: No. Is anybody present  
6 from the MassDOT District Office?

7 (No response.)

8 JOHN ROMANO: We did receive an email  
9 from Mr. Bill Travers, Operations Engineer from  
10 District 5. And he said there are no issues from the  
11 District's perspective on this.

12 Is anybody present from Traffic  
13 Operations, MassDOT?

14 (No response.)

15 JOHN ROMANO: No. We do have a memo  
16 from the State Traffic Engineer's Office. They did  
17 review this site and there is no traffic study  
18 required for this location.

19 Mr. Murray, was certified mail notice  
20 to abutters sent out at least 30 days prior to  
21 submitting your application to my office?

22 JOSEPH MURRAY: Yes, and I did provide  
23 copies of all receipts.

24 JOHN ROMANO: And we do have those.



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1 And I also have a copy of the letter. Thank you for  
2 providing that. Okay.

3 Have you received any written comments  
4 in support or opposition of the application?

5 JOSEPH MURRAY: No.

6 JOHN ROMANO: And neither have we.

7 Okay. So, special permit or variance,  
8 per the application, it was signed off by the building  
9 inspector in Fall River. It says that it meets the  
10 bylaws as written.

11 JOSEPH MURRAY: Yeah, no special permit  
12 required. It's a permitted use.

13 JOHN ROMANO: Yes. Okay. At this  
14 time, I would like to have my inspector, Marc Plante,  
15 give his report.

16 MARC PLANTE: Absolutely, John. Thank  
17 you.

18 This is an existing monopole with a  
19 static face. It's facing 195 in Fall River. There is  
20 no spacing issue to be addressed. And it is  
21 conforming with the regulations as it is.

22 JOHN ROMANO: So no issues from the  
23 regulation standpoint in the field I guess.

24 MARC PLANTE: Yes.

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1 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Great.

2 Mr. Murray, is there anything you would  
3 like to add to your application at this time?

4 JOSEPH MURRAY: Not at this time, but  
5 I'm always available for addressing any concerns that  
6 might come up.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Just a reminder  
8 that should this permit be approved that you have to  
9 follow all the requirements of 3.17 in the CMR  
10 regarding electronic signs. And, also, as I know  
11 you're aware from the earlier application, we have our  
12 PSA program. You're required to provide 15 hours per  
13 month for each face. There's one face on this one,  
14 for the face. Mr. Kelleher will send out to you, like  
15 he does on a monthly basis, the PSAs that the state  
16 will require for each one.

17 JOSEPH MURRAY: Absolutely.

18 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Thank you.

19 Any comments, questions, concerns from  
20 the general public?

21 (No response.)

22 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we  
23 will take this under advisement and we will get back  
24 to you.

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1 JOSEPH MURRAY: Thank you.

2 JOHN ROMANO: Okay, next item on the  
3 agenda is Clear Channel Outdoor. This is 296 North  
4 Beacon Street in Boston, Application Number 2018D027  
5 and D028. This is -- we're hearing this for a second  
6 time. This was originally heard on December 13, 2018.  
7 At the time at that hearing, an issue was raised about  
8 the notification to abutters' letter. We then  
9 required Clear Channel to resend out the letter to the  
10 abutters. And so we are moving everything forward.  
11 They followed all the procedures. And that's how we  
12 got to the March meeting.

13 So, from a physical standpoint, it's  
14 the same sign that was proposed back then. And I will  
15 go through all of the questions, but the purpose of  
16 rehearing this was due to the renotification of the  
17 abutters with the proper letter. So that's the reason  
18 for them coming back.

19 So, again, 2018D027 and D028. Notice  
20 was sent originally back in November and then, again,  
21 back on February 8, 2019 to the mayor and the city  
22 clerk.

23 Is the applicant present today?

24 MICHAEL MAURELLO: Mike Maurello, Clear

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1 Channel Outdoor.

2 CHRIS QUINN: And, Chris Quinn  
3 appearing for Clear Channel as well.

4 JOHN ROMANO: Is there anyone here  
5 representing the municipality where the sign is  
6 proposed?

7 (No response.)

8 JOHN ROMANO: No. Okay. Are there any  
9 abutters present today?

10 (No response.)

11 JOHN ROMANO: No. Is there anybody  
12 here from the District Office?

13 (No response.)

14 JOHN ROMANO: No. Anybody here from  
15 MassDOT Traffic Operations?

16 (No response.)

17 JOHN ROMANO: I'll reiterate what I had  
18 from the Traffic Department back in December. There's  
19 a memo from the State Traffic Engineer saying that no  
20 further traffic study is required for this location.

21 And, despite what I just said earlier,  
22 I'm going to ask these questions anyways.

23 Mike, was certified mail notice to  
24 abutters sent out by you at least 30 days prior to

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1 resubmitting your application to the OOA?

2 MICHAEL MAURELLO: Yes.

3 JOHN ROMANO: And I do have copies of  
4 your letter and your post office receipts.

5 Have you received any written comments  
6 in support or opposition of this application?

7 MICHAEL MAURELLO: No.

8 JOHN ROMANO: So, MassDOT, at the last  
9 hearing, did have three individuals speak. And I am  
10 just, as I would do in any case like this, all of that  
11 information is being brought forward to this record.  
12 I'm not going to read any of this stuff. I'm just  
13 going to state that Anthony D'Isidoro, president of  
14 the Allston Brighton Civic Association; an abutter,  
15 Mr. Richard Redmond; and, another neighbor, Joanne  
16 D'Alcomo, were opposed to this application. And all  
17 of that record is with this file. It carries forward  
18 to this hearing. Okay?

19 And, special permit or variance, you  
20 provided a copy from the City of Boston to us.

21 And speaking today, earlier this  
22 morning, with Mr. Mark McGonagle of the BPDA, the  
23 license agreement that you guys have to sign, it's my  
24 -- his information to me is that he's approved it to

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1 be signed and it should be signed in the next day or  
2 so. And he will provide a copy of that to me.

3 This will be taken under advisement.  
4 And no decision will be made until I get word from  
5 them that it's been signed. But I've been told this  
6 morning that it's imminent.

7 CHRIS QUINN: Mr. McGonagle did  
8 indicate that that would be forthcoming, but  
9 apparently they have a busy agenda over there. And  
10 this is in the pipeline. We don't expect it to be  
11 more than a day or two before we get the signature,  
12 and we'll forward it to immediately when we have it.

13 JOHN ROMANO: Great. Yeah. And that's  
14 exactly what he told me.

15 I also received a call yesterday from  
16 City Councilor Mark Ciommo who just kind of similarly  
17 relayed the same thing. I guess he's been involved in  
18 the whatever work that's been going on in the  
19 community. He had no opposition. He was just, you  
20 know, reiterating that that was imminent and that it  
21 hadn't been finalized, but was close.

22 CHRIS QUINN: All right.

23 JOHN ROMANO: Chris, do you want to  
24 give your -- a restating of your inspection from the

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1 initial application?

2 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Sure. This is a  
3 conversion of a current static permit facing  
4 Interstate 90, Mass Pike. There are no static signs  
5 on the same side of the roadway within 500 feet of  
6 this location. Also, no digital on either side of the  
7 highway. So there are no spacing issues to any other  
8 signs, parks, or any other critical areas. So,  
9 nothing has changed since the last inspection.

10 JOHN ROMANO: Thank you.

11 Mr. Maurello or Mr. Quinn, anything you  
12 want to add to your application at this time?

13 CHRIS QUINN: No, I think everything is  
14 complete at this time. The only missing piece is that  
15 John Hancock from BPDA, which will be taken care of.

16 JOHN ROMANO: Any other comments,  
17 questions, or concerns from the general public?

18 (No response.)

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

21 Thank you.

22 Okay. Next up on the agenda is an  
23 application for permits. This is Creative Outdoor  
24 Advertising of America. These are recycling

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1 receptacles. There are seven I think -- seven, in  
2 various locations in Malden.

3 As I usually do with these type of  
4 items, I'm going to take them all as a group unless  
5 somebody has a particular question on any individual  
6 one. Please feel free to raise it. They are located  
7 at Salem Street, at Ferry Street, 440 Main Street,  
8 Florence Street at Main Street, 654 Main Street at  
9 Mountain Ave., 728 Main Street at Clifton Street, 780  
10 Main Street at Clinton Street, and 914 Salem Street at  
11 Broadway.

12 Again, all of these are in the City of  
13 Malden. These are Permit Application Numbers 2019012  
14 through 018. These units are street furniture.

15 Notification was provided to the mayor  
16 and the clerk on January 3, 2019.

17 Is the applicant present for these?

18 (No response.)

19 JOHN ROMANO: No. Is anyone here  
20 representing the municipality where the street  
21 furniture receptacles are being proposed?

22 (No response.)

23 JOHN ROMANO: No. Any abutters present  
24 today?



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1 (No response.)

2 JOHN ROMANO: Anybody here from the  
3 MassDOT District Office?

4 (No response.)

5 JOHN ROMANO: No. And this is not  
6 something that Traffic Operations would review.

7 Notice to abutters, not applicable for  
8 street furniture.

9 And, special permit, not subject to  
10 municipal zoning or bylaw per Kevin Duffy of the City  
11 of Malden, as he signed off on the application.

12 And I did have a conversation previous  
13 with Mr. Duffy. These are some additional units.  
14 Previously, maybe another ten or so roughly -- I  
15 forget the exact number -- were installed. And I had  
16 a long conversation with Mr. Duffy. And this is an  
17 initiative of the City as it would be required. On  
18 the street furniture, you know, it's something they're  
19 obviously 110 percent behind. And it's an initiative  
20 by the mayor of Malden.

21 Chris, would you like to give your  
22 inspector's report --

23 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: Sure.

24 JOHN ROMANO: -- on all of these as a

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1 group?

2 CHRISTOPHER CHAVES: These are existing  
3 trash or recycling receptacles, part of the street  
4 furniture program. They aren't subject to spacing.  
5 They're street furniture and serve a public service.  
6 No issue.

7 JOHN ROMANO: Great. And, having  
8 reviewed all of the associated paperwork, it doesn't  
9 appear that, as you said, Chris, there's no issue with  
10 CMR. It fits. Great.

11 Any comments, questions, concerns, from  
12 the general public on these?

13 (No response.)

14 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we  
15 will take these under advisement.

16 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. The next section  
17 on the agenda is the for the record, actions taken  
18 since our last public hearing. There are several  
19 items. Any comments, questions, concerns on those?

20 (No response.)

21 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. And then, lastly,  
22 general public comment. Any general public comment?

23 (No response.)

24 JOHN ROMANO: Okay. Seeing none, we

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1 are adjourned. Thank you all very much. Have a great  
2 day.

3 (Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded  
4 on March 14, 2019 at 11:22 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.