

Permanent slope easements are required at two locations (approximate STA 24+00 RT and STA 28+25 RT to STA 32+00 RT) on property at #652 West Main Street. These easements are needed to construct and maintain the proposed modified rockfill slopes. These rock slopes will be graded at a slope of 1.5 H to 1 V to minimize grading extents from the edge of roadway. This grading is necessary to accommodate the proposed roadway widening. The proposed widening will increase safety for roadway users.

Alternatives to avoid impacts to the property at #652 West Main Street and the need for a permanent easement and were considered. These include:

- Not widening the roadway was considered, but this would not accomplish the goals of the project to improve safety for road users.
- Modifying the proposed alignment of the roadway was also considered. However, modifications to the curve geometry would result in additional impacts to property on the opposite side of the roadway including impacts to wetland resources and stone walls.
- Constructing retaining walls at these locations was considered. However, this would entail significant additional cost to the project and would provide minimal benefit as the extents of excavation would be approximately the same at the extents proposed with the modified rockfill slope.

Steps to reduce and mitigate impacts to the property at #652 West Main Street have been implemented in the design. These include:

- The proposed roadway alignment was selected to achieve the necessary safety benefits and balance the impacts to properties on both sides of the roadway.
- The proposed roadway width was selected as the minimum width that would provide the necessary safety benefits for roadway users including motor vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians.
- Minimizing grading impacts by using modified rock slopes that tie into the existing terrain as close as possible to the roadway. Without the use of modified rock, slopes would be graded at 2 H to 1 V maximum resulting in the need for additional grading and tree clearing further into the property.