



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2016

AT

**LOWER CONFERENCE ROOM, DEDHAM TOWN HALL
26 BRYANT STREET**

DEDHAM, MA

7:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

**ROADWAY AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS AT ELM STREET AND RUSTCRAFT ROAD
IN THE TOWN OF DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

PROJECT FILE NUMBER 607901

PROJECT MANAGEMENT SECTION

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION**

**THOMAS J. TINLIN
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

**PATRICIA A. LEAVENWORTH, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No. 607901

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed roadway and sidewalk improvements at Elm Street and Rustcraft Road, Dedham, MA.

WHERE: **Dedham Town Hall
26 Bryant Street
Dedham, MA 02026**

WHEN: **Wednesday February 10, 2016 @ 7:00 P.M**

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed roadway and sidewalk improvement project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The goal of this project is to improve pedestrian and bicycle accommodations and safety along the corridor, while also rehabilitating the roadway pavement. Proposed improvements include roadway widening and pavement milling and overlay, sidewalk reconstruction, high visibility crosswalk beacons, and new signs and pavement markings.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Town of Dedham is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassDOT's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassDOT subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout will be made available on the MassDOT website listed below.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Roadway Project Management, Project File No. 607901. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked within ten (10) business days of this Public Hearing. Project inquiries may be emailed to dot.feedback.highway@state.ma.us

This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (including but not limited to interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, open or closed captioning for videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats, such as audio tapes, Braille and large print), as available. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone (857-368-8580), fax (857-368-0602), TTD/TTY (857-368-0603) or by email MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign-language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

In case of inclement weather, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHighway website <http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Highway/>.

THOMAS J. TINLIN
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

PATRICIA A. LEAVENWORTH, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER



Dear Concerned Citizen:

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is committed to building and maintaining a transportation infrastructure that is both safe and efficient for all who use our roadways, bridges, bicycle facilities and pedestrian paths, while maintaining the integrity of the environment.

As part of the design process for this project, we are conducting this public hearing to explain the proposed improvements, listen to your comments and answer any questions you may have. At the conclusion of the hearing, MassDOT will review all of your comments and, where feasible, incorporate them into the design of the project.

We recognize that road and bridge construction can create inconveniences for the public. MassDOT places a great deal of emphasis on minimizing the temporary disruptive effects of construction.

MassDOT encourages input from local communities and values your opinions. Please be assured that we will undertake no project without addressing the concerns of the community.

Sincerely,
Patricia A Leavenworth, P. E.
Chief Engineer

WHAT IS A PUBLIC HEARING?

WHY A PUBLIC HEARING?

To provide an assured method whereby the Commonwealth of Massachusetts can furnish to the public information concerning the State's highway construction proposals, and to afford every interested resident of the area an opportunity to be heard on any proposed project. At the same time, the hearings afford the Commonwealth an additional opportunity to receive information from local sources which would be of value to the State in making its final decisions to what design should be advanced for development.

WHY NOT A VOTE ON HIGHWAY PLANS?

The hearings are not intended to be a popular referendum for the purpose of determining the nature of a proposed improvement by a majority of those present. They do not relieve the duly constituted officials of a State highway department of the necessity for making decisions in State highway matters for which they are charged with full responsibility.

WHAT DOES A PUBLIC HEARING ACCOMPLISH?

It is designed to ensure the opportunity for, or the availability of, a forum to provide factual information which is pertinent to the determination of the final alternative considered by the state to best serve the public interest, and on which improvement projects are proposed to be undertaken.

It is important that the people of the area express their views in regard to the proposal being presented, so that views can be properly recorded in the minutes of the meeting. These minutes will be carefully studied and taken into consideration in the determination of the final design.

RIGHT OF WAY ISSUES

A secure right of way is necessary for this project. Temporary construction easements may be required. Your municipality is responsible for acquiring all necessary rights in private or public lands. If your property is affected, your rights are fully protected under law.

1. REASON FOR PROJECT

The completion of this project will serve local needs. The proposed enhancement will also be in the interest of others in the greater community, and provide for the public good.

2. WHO CONTACTS ME?

Representatives of the municipality have already contacted or will contact you. They will explain the procedures used in acquiring any necessary rights in land.

3. WHAT ABOUT DONATIONS? WHAT IS A RIGHT OF ENTRY?

Town officials will often seek donations, of parcels, where permanent rights are required. This procedure will minimize the acquisition cost for your community.

A Right of Entry is a document that is signed by the owner. It allows the Contractor to perform certain types of work on the owner's land. The work is usually minor in nature and frequently consists of loaming/seeding behind sidewalks, new driveway apron work, grading/sloping, and wetland protection, etc. The rights granted are temporary in nature.

4. WHAT IS A FAIR PRICE FOR THE ACQUIRED PARCELS?

In the event that donations are not considered, or completed, every effort will be made to ensure that an equitable value is awarded. Municipal and/or outside appraisers will complete an appraisal. Consideration is given to the type of rights needed, whether in fee, permanent or temporary easements. The appraisal will be the basis for arriving at a fair price (for damages that result).

5. MUST I ACCEPT THE MUNICIPALITY OFFER?

No, if the owner feels that the offer is not fair the owner may petition the courts. This action does not stop or delay the acquisition. The action must occur within 3 years. The owner(s) may be paid pro tanto (for the time being). The pro tanto payment will not prejudice the court's final decision.

O:\4800s\4816 - Dedham - ElmRustcraft Rd\Engineering\Reports\FDR\Figures\4816 - Location Map.dwg Mar 04,2015 11:16am



LEGEND



PROJECT LOCATION



TOWN LINE



SCALE IN FEET: 1"=500'



**Roadway and Sidewalk
Improvements -
Elm Street and
Rustcraft Road**

Dedham, MA

Figure 1

Location Map

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

PROJECT LOCATION

The project study area, shown in **Figure 1**, is located in the southern portion of Dedham, Massachusetts. The project extends along Elm Street and Rustcraft Road from Robinwood Road to Fairbanks Park, a distance of approximately $\frac{7}{8}$ miles. Elm Street intersects Providence Highway approximately 900 feet northwest of the western project limit, providing access to Route 1, I-95/Route 128, and surrounding towns. The Dedham Corp Center Commuter Rail Station is located along Rustcraft Road within the project limits, providing travel between Boston's South Station and Franklin. Rustcraft Road intersects with East Street approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the eastern project limit. Elm Street and Rustcraft Road form a continuous roadway, transitioning from one to the other at a sharp horizontal curve where the roadway shifts from the primarily north-south alignment of Elm Street to the primarily east-west alignment of Rustcraft Road.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to improve pedestrian and bicycle accommodations and safety along the corridor by connecting the Avalon and Jefferson at Dedham Station apartment complexes with the MBTA station and the Fairbanks Park.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The goal of this project is to improve the level of safety through geometric, capacity, and pedestrian facility improvements within the intersection. The proposed improvements described in this report are summarized below:

- Provide uniform 32 to 36-foot width for Elm Street and Rustcraft Road within the project limits. This will be striped for an 11 to 12-foot travel lane and a five to six-foot shoulder in each direction.
- Provide a typical 5'-6" cement concrete sidewalk along the project length. Sidewalks will be provided on both sides of the roadway from beginning of the project limit near Legacy Place and will continue easterly up to MBTA Station where it will connect to existing sidewalk just constructed in 2015 on south side of Rustcraft Road, beyond which a single sidewalk will continue along the south side of Rustcraft Road to the crosswalk near the Red Cross building. From this point, sidewalk will continue on the north side of Rustcraft Road for the remainder of the project, connecting to the existing sidewalk at Fairbanks Park. The project will provide a continuous pedestrian path from Providence Highway to Fairbanks Park to the eastern project limit.
- Provide three Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB) crosswalk lights will be provided at crosswalks at Legacy Place, the MBTA station and near the Red Cross building for pedestrian crossing.
- Install granite curb with proposed sidewalk on Elm Street and Rustcraft Road along the project length.
- Provide new ADA-compliant wheelchair ramps at the intersection of Elm Street at Legacy Place and Robinwood Road as well as at all crosswalks throughout the corridor.
- Provide stormwater improvements along the corridor.
- Provide new pavement markings and signs throughout project.
- Relocate utility poles at locations of roadway widening and where necessary for pedestrian clearance.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

All roadways in the project area will remain open to traffic throughout construction. Construction will take place with both lanes of traffic on Elm Street and Rustcraft Road maintained during peak periods, with the potential during non-peak times to reduce traffic to in a single lane with alternating traffic. Occasional short traffic disruptions may occur but every effort will be made to minimize inconvenience to the public. Pedestrian and vehicular access to abutting properties will be maintained at all times, except for brief periods of time of which abutters will be notified in advance.

RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS

Permanent drainage, utility, and sidewalk easements will be required to accommodate proposed improvements. Temporary construction easements associated with the construction will be required. The Town will be responsible for securing all necessary easements.

PROJECT COST

The current estimated construction cost of this project is approximately \$2.1 million.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

The design plans presented here are preliminary (25% design level). Comments made at this public hearing will be incorporated to the maximum extent feasible in the final design. Design is scheduled to be completed by the Spring of 2017.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

Dedham, MA
Roadway and Sidewalk Improvements at Elm Street and Rustcraft Road
Project File No. 607901

This sheet is provided for your comments. Your input is solicited and appreciated. Please return your sheet, with comments, to a staff member at the meeting, or mail to:

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3973
Attn: Roadway Project Management

The final date for receipt of written statements and exhibits for inclusion into the official hearing transcript will be ten (10) days after the Public Hearing.

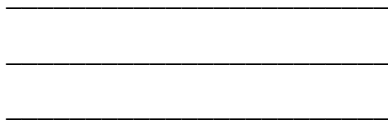
PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT LEGIBLY.

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Please Fold and Tape



Please Place
Appropriate
Postage Here

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E.
Chief Engineer
MassDOT – Highway Division
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116-3973

RE: Public Hearing
Roadway and Sidewalk Improvements at Elm Street and Rustcraft Road
Dedham, MA
Project File No. 607901
Roadway Project Management

