



**DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING**

**DECEMBER, 4, 2013**

**AT**

**TOWN HALL, GRANGE ROOM**

**DUNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS**

**7:00 PM**

**FOR THE PROPOSED**

**Main Street over Salmon Brook Bridge Replacement Project)**

**Project No. 606302**

**Bridge No. D-13-001**

**Bridge Project Management Section**

**IN THE TOWN OF DUNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS**

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

**FRANCIS A. DEPAOLA, P.E.  
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR**

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

Complete packet of all related information is available in the office of the Board of Road Commissioners, lower level during regular business hours.

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION**  
**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Project File No. 606302**

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed bridge replacement project of Main Street over Salmon Brook in Dunstable, MA.

WHERE: Town Hall, Grange Room  
511 Main Street  
Dunstable, MA 01827

WHEN: Wednesday, December 4, 2013 @ 7:00 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed bridge replacement project of Main Street over Salmon Brook. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The project is a “footprint” bridge reconstruction project and involves the replacement of the existing structurally deficient bridge with a new structure of statutory load carrying capacity in the same location and along the same horizontal and vertical alignment. The bridge will be designed to blend into the surrounding environment to the maximum extent practical. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a usable shoulder have been provided in accordance with applicable design guides.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Town of Dunstable 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: Bridge Project Management, Project File No. 606302. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 (10) business days before the meeting.

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

FRANCIS A. DEPAOLA, P.E.

PATRICIA A. LEAVENWORTH, P.E.



Deval L. Patrick, Governor  
Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor  
Richard A. Davey, Secretary & CEO  
Frank DePaola, Administrator



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,

Frank DePaola  
Administrator, Highway Division

## **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).

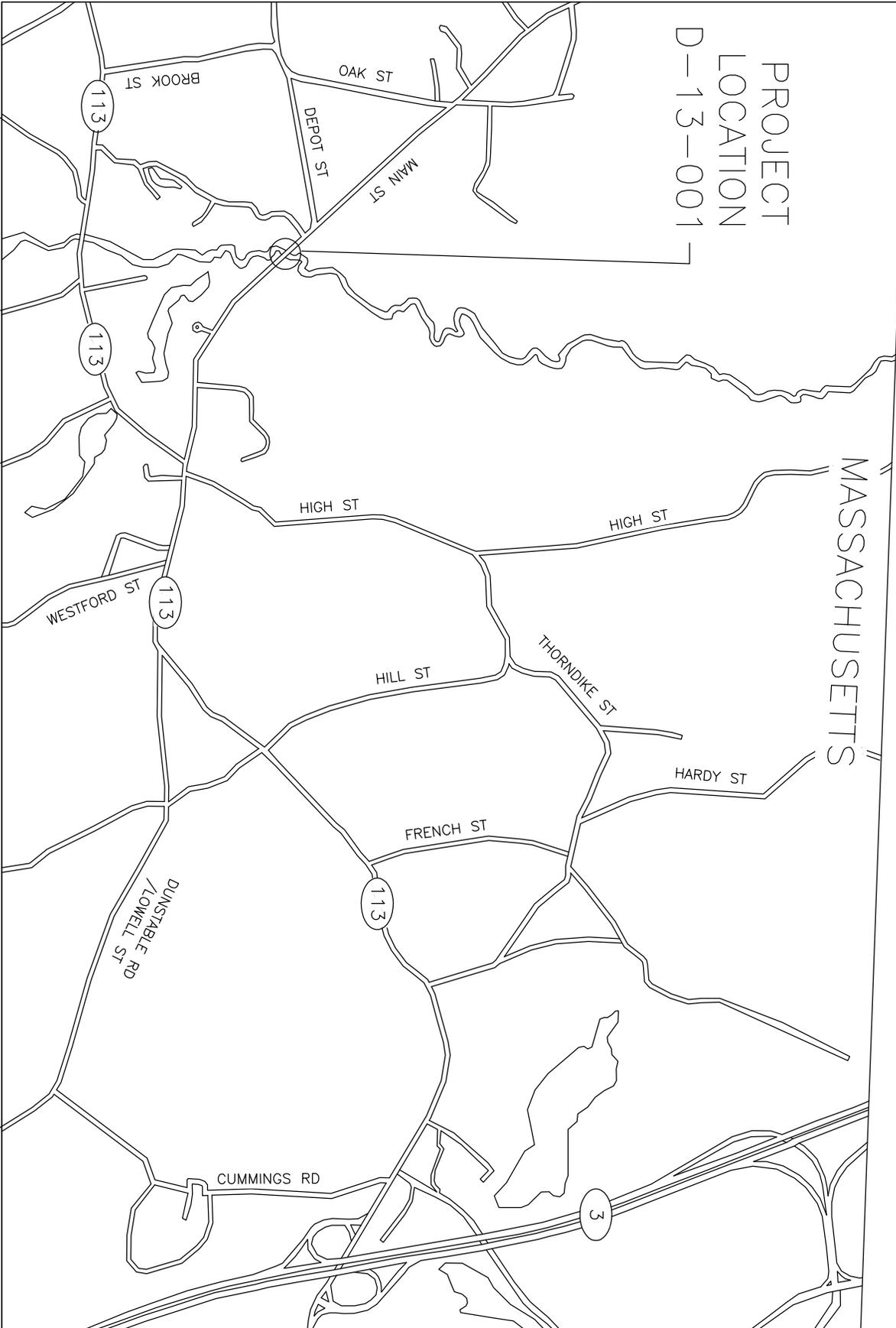
### **5. MUST I ACCEPT THE MUNICIPALITY OFFER?**

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.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

MASSACHUSETTS

PROJECT  
LOCATION  
D-13-001



LOCUS MAP

## **Project Description**

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Highway Divisions is proposing to replace bridge D-13-001 carrying Main Street over Salmon Brook in the Town of Dunstable, Massachusetts.

## **Purpose and Need**

The purpose of the project is to replace the structurally deficient bridge. The proposed bridge will be constructed in the same footprint as the existing bridge. The existing bridge superstructure and substructure will be completely removed and replaced. The existing center pier will be removed down to channel mud line.

According to the latest MassDOT Highway Division bridge inspection report dated July 7, 2013, the bridge condition is listed as being in “critical” condition. The roadway has been narrowed with concrete barriers and guardrail to keep the traffic off the deteriorated headwalls, roof slab, and cracked granite clapper stone. There is a severe loss of fill under both approach slabs which could result in local failures. The bridge currently has a posted weight restriction.

## **Existing Conditions**

The existing structure, which was built around 1850 and widened in 1938, is owned by the Town of Dunstable. It is a two span culvert with an overall skewed width of 33'±. The easterly 21'± of the bridge consists of two 10' ± long stone clapper roof spans supported by dry laid field stone abutments and a center pier. The time of construction is unknown. The westerly 12'± of the bridge is a two barrel cast-in-place 3 sided concrete culvert constructed in 1938. The bridge has a square out-to-out width of 28'6” and a curb-to-curb width of 24'. It carries one 12' width travel lane in each direction without any sidewalk and shoulder.

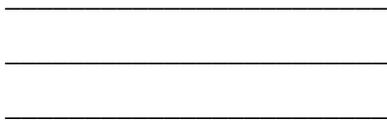
## **Proposed Improvements**

The proposed structure will be a 25'-6” long single span cast-in-place reinforced concrete slab supported by integral abutments. The proposed superstructure will have an out-to-out width of 30'-10” and a roadway width of 28'. It will provide two - 12' wide travel lanes and two - 2' wide shoulders. Sidewalks are not proposed at this location as there are no existing sidewalks and none are anticipated to be constructed in the future. The project also includes the installation of approximately 300' of turtle fence on both sides of the northerly approach. Riprap will be placed around the proposed abutments for scour protection.

The project is intended to be built in one phase with the roadway closed to traffic. The closure is intended to coincide with school summer recess if possible.



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  
Main Street over Salmon Brook Bridge Replacement Project  
**DUNSTABLE**  
Project File No. 606302  
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