

## Environmental Justice Screening Form

Project Name	<b>Proposed West Main Street (Route 9) Improvements Project (Phase 1 and 2)</b>
Anticipated Date of MEPA Filing	<b>Week of June 26th</b>
Proponent Name	<b>Town of West Brookfield Highway Department</b>
Contact Information (e.g., consultant)	<b>CHA Consulting, Inc. – John Morgan, 781-982-5437 Jay Hall, 781-792-2221</b>
Public website for project or other physical location where project materials can be obtained (if available)	<b>Highway Department - West Brookfield Massachusetts (<a href="http://wbrookfield.com">wbrookfield.com</a>)</b>
Municipality and Zip Code for Project (if known)	<b>West Brookfield, 01585</b>
Project Type* (list all that apply)	<b>Transportation – Roadways</b>
Is the project site within a mapped 100-year FEMA flood plain? Y/N/unknown	<b>No</b>
Estimated GHG emissions of conditioned spaces ( <a href="#">click here for GHG Estimation tool</a> )	<b>Not Applicable – no buildings proposed</b>

### Project Description

<p>1. Provide a brief project description, including overall size of the project site and square footage of proposed buildings and structures if known.</p> <p><b>The Town of West Brookfield is proposing to rehabilitate and expand the roadway surface along Route 9/West Main Street from the Ware/West Brookfield Town Line east to Pierce Road in West Brookfield, Massachusetts (See Attached Locus). The objective of this approximately 2.1-mile project is to upgrade the existing roadway infrastructure which includes widening (up to 10 +/- feet cumulatively for both sides of road) to extend the service life and improve traffic flow as well as increase safety for all roadway users. Proposed improvements include: road widening (road center will remain essentially the same); mill and overlay; providing dedicated shoulders for bicycles throughout the project; improving the existing storm drainage system including installing deep sump catch basins; and, construction of retaining walls. Safety improvements include installing guardrails, new signs and recessed polyurea pavement markings/stripping throughout the roadway corridor for improved driver awareness. Minor impacts to streams and wetlands are proposed. No other special environmental resources occur within the project area. It should be noted that an Article 97 land swap was negotiated between the MA DF&amp;G Coy Hill Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and the Town of West Brookfield (See Section 6).</b></p> <p><b>See List of Environmental Permit Applications required for the project in Item #3.</b></p>
<p>2. List anticipated MEPA review thresholds (301 CMR 11.03) (if known):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>11.03(6)(b)(1)(b)- widening of an existing roadway by four feet or more for 1/2 or more miles</b></li> </ul>

- **11.03(6)(b)(2)(a)- alteration of bank or terrain located ten or more feet from the existing roadway for one-half or more miles**
  - **11.03(6)(b)(2)(b)- cutting of 5 or more living public shade trees of 14 or more inches in diameter at breast height**
  - **11.03(1)(b)3. - Disposition or change in use of land or an interest in land subject to Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth**
3. List all anticipated state, local and federal permits needed for the project (if known)
- **MEPA Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF) & Environmental Impact Report (EIR)**
  - **Order of Conditions – Town of West Brookfield**
  - **US Army Corps of Engineers §404 General Permit - Self Verification Notification Form (SVNF)**
4. Identify EJ populations and characteristics (Minority, Income, English Isolation) within 5 miles of project site (can attach map identifying 5-mile radius from [EJ Maps Viewer](#) in lieu of narrative)  
**See attached Map; EJ Populations within 1-mile of the project site include: Minority & Income (1 – Ware) and Income (2 – West Brookfield & Warren)**
5. Identify any municipality or census tract meeting the definition of “vulnerable health EJ criteria” in the [DPH EJ Tool](#) located in whole or in part within a 1 mile radius of the project site
- **Childhood Blood Lead (2016 – 2020) – West Brookfield & Warren & Ware**
  - **Childhood Asthma (2013 – 2017) – Warren & Ware**
  - **Low Birth Weight (2011 – 2015) – Ware**

6. Identify potential short-term and long-term environmental and public health impacts that may affect EJ Populations and any anticipated mitigation

**Negative short-term impacts associated with the project will occur primarily during the construction period and include: temporary lane closures, increased delays on West Main Street during proposed road construction; and, temporary and minor, localized, increased generation of localized Greenhouse Gas Emissions from construction equipment in active construction zones. The project is not anticipated the exacerbate pre-existing long-term conditions related to air, water or soil or pollution. Long-term impacts to climatological conditions will comply with all regulations related to air quality.**

**Impacts to Wetland Protection Act (WPA) resources are minor for the project. Approximately 283 square feet (s.f.) of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands will be permanently impacted as a result of work associated with grading and culvert/headwall replacement proposed under this project. This area will be mitigated by replicating approximately 300 square feet (s.f.) of new wetland. No intermittent or perennial stream culverts are proposed for replacement/improvements for this project. Inland bank will be impacted, approximately 60 linear feet (l.f.) (30 l.f. permanent /30 l.f. temporary), due to road widening, replacement of stormwater structures and/or construction of headwalls.**

**A permanent easement within the MA DF&G Coy Hill Wildlife Management Area (WMA) was negotiated between the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Town of West Brookfield for shoulder work and installation of retaining walls in select locations along Route 9/West Main Street associated with the proposed road improvement work.**

**No other special resources, as identified on MassGIS data layers, are associated with the proposed project corridor, including: Bordering Land Subject to Flooding (BLSF)/FEMA Zone AE/A 100-year floodplain); Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC); DEP Wellhead Protection; public surface drinking water supplies (Zone A or B) and/or outstanding resource waters (ORW).**

7. Identify project benefits, including “Environmental Benefits” as defined in 301 CMR 11.02, that may improve environmental conditions or public health of the EJ population

**The proposed road rehabilitation project is designed to improve safety, access, and connectivity within the Town of West Brookfield and adjacent areas for all roadway users. The project promotes safe bicycle travel as an alternative to motor vehicles.**

**The project also proposes to improve existing water quality/drainage patterns by installing deep sump catch basins/manholes and new reinforced concrete pipes as well as constructing retaining walls and/or slope stabilization practices. Most catch basins along sections of the road with the open drainage systems have deteriorated and will be replaced in-situ or adjacent to. The project adds additional closed drainage system infrastructure and removes or consolidates eight (8) of the forty-five (45) existing discharges. Eight (8) of the thirty-seven (37) proposed discharges are existing cross culverts with no closed drainage connections which are not altered from the existing condition. The remaining twenty-nine (29) proposed discharges have pre-treatment via deep sump catch basins.**

8. Describe how the community can request a meeting to discuss the project, and how the community can request oral language interpretation services at the meeting. Specify how to request other accommodations, including meetings after business hours and at locations near public transportation.

**A general project information meeting will be held at West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 E Main Street, on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023, at 6:00 pm. Additional meetings for pending local and State environmental permits will be held at dates to be determined. Questions, comments, or requests for additional outreach meetings may be sent to John Morgan at the following email address: [jmorgan@chacompanies.com](mailto:jmorgan@chacompanies.com).**