



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

APRIL 24, 2019

AT

WEST BROOKFIELD TOWN HALL

WEST BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

7:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

**WEST MAIN STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (PHASE 1)
Roadway Project Management Section**

IN THE TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

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

**JONATHAN GULLIVER
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. 606517

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed West Main Street (Route 9) Phase 1 Reconstruction Project in West Brookfield, MA.

WHERE: Town Hall, Lower Level Conference Room
2 East Main Street
West Brookfield, MA 01585

WHEN: Wednesday, April 24, 2019 @ 7:00PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed West Main Street (Route 9) Phase 1 Reconstruction Project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of resurfacing a one-mile section of West Main Street (Route 9) between Welcome Road and the Ware town line. The roadway will also be widened to provide bicycle accommodation and improve safety. Drainage improvements are proposed to improve stormwater runoff. Guardrail will be replaced as required and new signage and pavement markings will be included. Bicycle accommodations consisting of a five-foot shoulder on both sides of the roadway will be 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 West Brookfield 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. 606517. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. Mailed statements and exhibits intended for inclusion in the public hearing transcript must be postmarked no later than ten (10) business days after 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 (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/>

JONATHAN GULLIVER
HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

PATRICIA A. LEAVENWORTH, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER

West Main Street (Route 9) Reconstruction (Phase 1)
Ware Town Line to Welcome Road
West Brookfield, Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division (MassDOT) and the Town of West Brookfield Highway Department are proposing to rehabilitate and widen the roadway surface along a 1-mile portion of Route 9 from the Ware Town Line to Welcome Road in West Brookfield to provide bicycle accommodation and improve safety for all roadway users. The project also consists of related items of work; including new signing, striping, guardrail replacement where necessary, slope stabilization and improvements to existing drainage infrastructure.

Proposed Improvements

Pavement Rehabilitation

Due to the pavement surface deficiencies, the proposed pavement rehabilitation technique is a combination of milling & overlay and full depth reconstruction. The project will also include approximately eight to ten feet of box widening along the roadway to achieve the desired cross section.

Roadway Cross Section

The existing cross section of Route 9 consists of two travel lanes with narrow paved shoulders. Roadway widths are typically 24'-26' wide with 11.5' lanes and a 1-2' paved shoulders. These lane and shoulder widths do not meet state and federal minimum standards for the roadway classification. Route 9 is a Rural Principal Arterial, and part of the National Highway System (NHS). Widening the roadway to include 12' lanes and 5' shoulders is proposed to improve safety for all roadway users. The five-foot shoulders will meet minimum requirements to accommodate bicyclists and will also provide room for emergency and maintenance vehicles as well as pedestrians.

Drainage Improvements

Drainage alterations along the roadway will be needed to accommodate the proposed widening. The project will continue to utilize the existing "country drainage" system including paved swales, natural swales and drop inlets where possible. Asphalt berm may be constructed on portions of the roadway along steep grades where shoulder washout may occur. Drainage structures impacted by the proposed roadway work will be adjusted accordingly, and structures in poor condition will be replaced as necessary.

Safety Improvements

The primary objective of this project is to improve the safety for all users. This section of roadway has experienced a high number of accidents. A Road Safety Audit (RSA) was performed in 2012 to identify existing deficiencies and potential countermeasures. Some of the recommendations from the RSA that will be implemented as part of the project include improving visibility and sight distance, widening to provide paved shoulders meeting design standards, removing roadside obstructions, drainage improvements to reduce icing, new pavement markings to delineate the traveled ways and shoulders, and installing new signs conforming to the provisions of the MUTCD and MassDOT.