



DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2010

AT

THAYER MEMORIAL LIBRARY, DEXTER MEETING ROOM

LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS

7:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT 5 CORNERS

Project No. 605392

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

IN THE TOWN OF LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS

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

**LUISA PAIEWONSKY
DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR**

**FRANK A. TRAMONTOZZI, P.E.
CHIEF ENGINEER**

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

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
Project File No. 605392

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT - Highway Division to discuss the proposed Intersection Improvements at Five Corners project in Lancaster, MA.

WHERE: Thayer Memorial Library, Dexter Meeting Room
717 Main Street
Lancaster, MA 01523

WHEN: Monday, June 14, 2010 @ 7:00 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed Intersection Improvements at Five Corners 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 Improvements at the Five Corners Intersection in the Town of Lancaster. The project includes cold planning and overlay, full depth construction, minor geometric modification, signage, pavement markings and upgrade traffic control beacon at the intersection. Shared accommodations for all users have been provided in accordance with applicable guidelines. Also includes relocating South Bolton Road to Center Bridge Road about 450 feet north of the Five Corners and remove one leg of the intersection.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements is required. The town 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 Frank A. Tramontozzi, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT – Highway Division, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, ATTN: Project Management Section, Project File No. 605392. 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

The community has declared that this facility is accessible to all in compliance with the ADA / Title II. However, persons in need of ADA / Title II accommodations should contact Angela Rudikoff by phone at (617) 973-7005 or email to angela.rudikoff@state.ma.us. Requests must be made at least 10 days prior to the date of the public hearing.

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

LUISA PAIEWONSKY
DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR

FRANK A. TRAMONTOZZI, P.E. HIGHWAY
CHIEF ENGINEER

Boston, Massachusetts



DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR
TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LT. GOVERNOR
JEFFREY B. MULLAN
SECRETARY & CEO
LUISA PAIEWONSKY
DIVISION 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luisa Paiewonsky".

Luisa Paiewonsky
Highway Division Administrator

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.

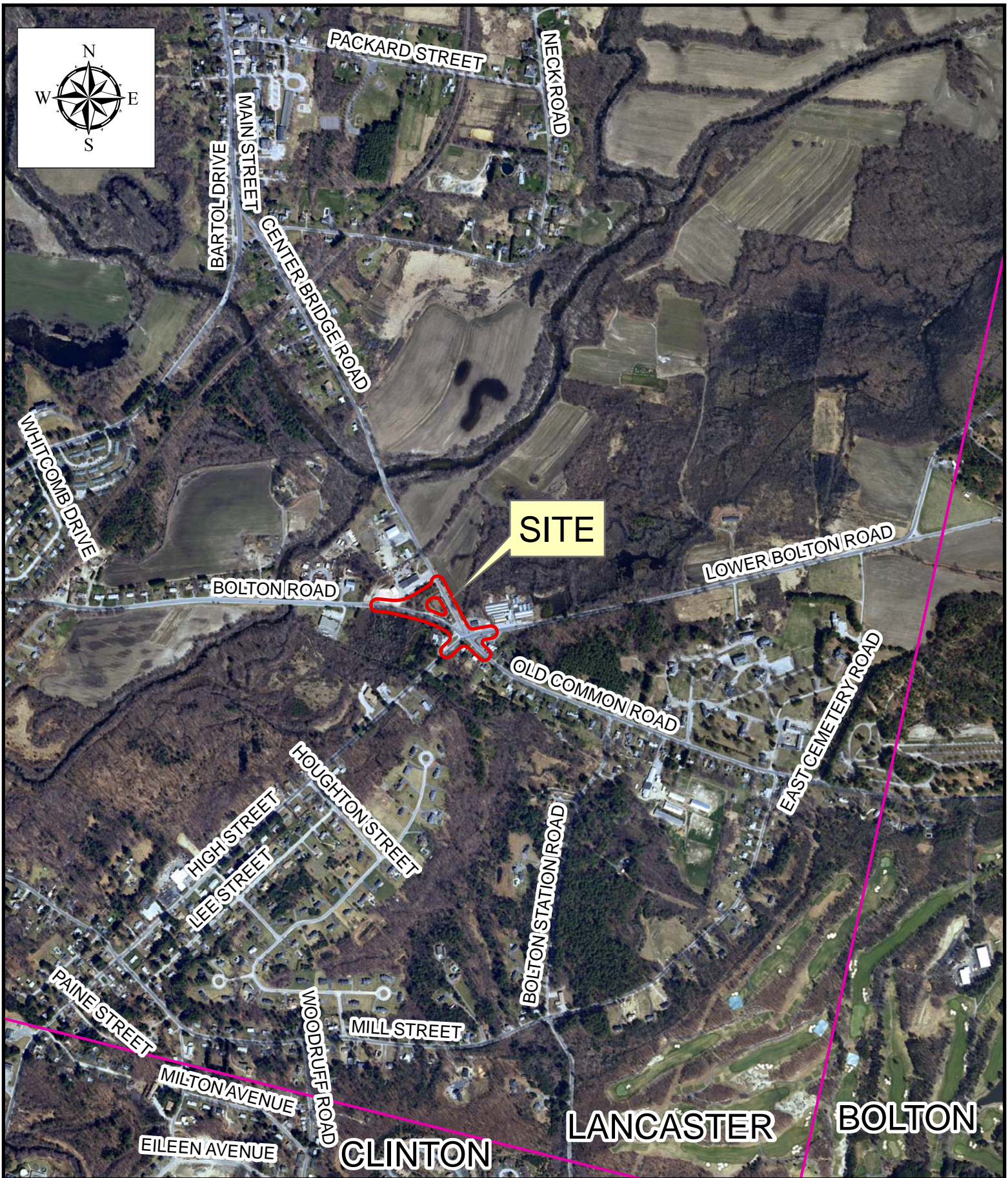
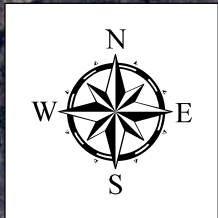
A Right of Entry is a document that is signed by the owner. It allows the Contractor to perform certain types of work on the owner's land. The work is usually minor in nature and frequently consists of loaming/seeding behind sidewalks, new driveway apron work, grading/sloping, and wetland protection,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



BETA Group, Inc.
Engineers • Scientists • Planners
315 Narwood Park South, Norwood, MA 02062
Lincoln, RI & Rocky Hill, CT
email: BETA@BETA-inc.com

Intersection of Route 110, South Bolton Road,
Center Bridge Road, and Old Common Road
LANCASTER
Massachusetts

Figure 1
PROJECT LOCUS
Scale: 1"=1000'±

**INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
AT FIVE CORNERS
LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS**

PROJECT LOCATION AND LIMITS

This project involves improvements to the five corners intersection (High Street Extension / South Bolton Road (Route 110) / Center Bridge Road / Old Common Road / Bolton Road) in Lancaster, Massachusetts. The project intersection is located in the central portion of Lancaster. Route 110 (High Street Extension and South Bolton Road) is an urban principal arterial oriented in an east-west direction and has posted speed limit of 30 mph. Center Bridge Road is an urban minor arterial and Bolton Road and Old Common Road are Urban Collectors with a north-south orientation. The project limit is about 250 feet from the intersection in each direction along Route 110 and Old Common Road. The Center Bridge Road and relocated Bolton Road limit is about 550 feet in length.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to improve vehicular, bicycle, and overall safety as well as provide efficient traffic operations within the project area. The project includes cold planing and overlay, full depth construction, minor geometric modification, signage, pavement markings and an upgraded traffic control beacon at the intersection. Shared accommodations for all users have been provided in accordance with applicable guidelines. Also included is the relocation of Bolton Road to intersect Center Bridge Road about 450 feet north of the Five Corners which will remove one leg of the five legged intersection.

EXISTING CONDITIONS

Land use in the project area is mostly residential with a large amount of open space and a few commercial spots. The Lancaster Recycling Center is located just north of the intersection on Center Bridge Road. The major abutters within the intersection are Volunteer Humane Society, Cumberland Farms convenience store / gas station, Lancaster Gardens, College Town Inn Bed and Breakfast and Lancaster Animal Hospital.

There are no sidewalks within the project limits and no crosswalks at the intersection. Pavement condition in the vicinity of the project intersection is fair. The little curbing at the intersection is in poor condition.

The intersection currently operates as an unsignalized intersection under stop control. The South Bolton Road, Center Bridge Road, and Old Common Road approaches are under stop control while the Bolton Road and High Street Extension (Route 110) approaches are free movements. This is a wide-open intersection with large distances between the five street approaches and stop line locations. There is a flashing beacon mounted on a mast arm on the south side of the intersection that flashes yellow for the major approaches (Route 110) and flashes red for the minor approaches.

The crash rate at “Five Corners” (High Street Extension/ Bolton Road (Route 110)/ Bolton Road/ Center Bridge Road/ Old Common Road) is very high compare to the MassDOT District 3 average for unsignalized intersections.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The proposed improvements for the intersection are as follows:

- Modify the 5-legged intersection to a 4-legged intersection by re-aligning South Bolton Road approach to intersect Center Bridge Road about 450 feet northwest of the existing intersection.
- Roadway rehabilitation via cold-planing and overlay, with full-depth reconstruction in areas of widening and relocation of South Bolton Road.
- Realigned South Bolton Road (Connector Road) will provide a 28' roadway including two 10' travel lanes and 4' shoulders/bike lanes.
- Widen Center Bridge Road between project intersection and proposed connector road to provide a 30' roadway including two 11' travel lanes and 4' shoulders /bike lanes.
- Widen Route 110 eastbound approach to provide a 32' wide roadway including two 12' travel lanes and 4' shoulders / bike lanes
- Provide scored Concrete Island at Old Common Road approach for improved right turn channelization.
- Geometric modifications will be made to increase corner radii for truck turning.
- Installation of a new traffic control beacon. This will serve as a supplementary measure to emphasize the improved intersection location & stop locations, reduce speeds along each approach and as a result decrease accidents and improve overall safety.
- Minimize the width and number of curb cuts / driveways within the proposed intersection and provide new granite curbing along each approach.
- New pavement markings will be provided to improve lane definition and vehicular safety.
- Signs will be replaced and upgraded according to current standards.
- Improvements will be made to the existing drainage system within the project limits including new deep sump catch basins and grass swale along re-aligned South Bolton Road.

MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC DURING CONSTRUCTION

Roadways in the project area will remain open to traffic throughout construction. Occasional short traffic disruptions may occur, but efforts 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

There are about three permanent easements/takings and eight temporary construction easements that will be required from the abutting properties. Temporary construction easements will be required for driveway and slope matching and seeding. The relocation of South Bolton Road will require a taking from Volunteer Humane Society property.

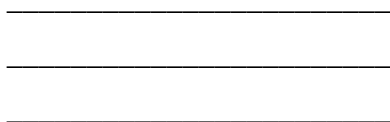
PROJECT COST

The preliminary construction cost estimate for the project is \$715,000.

PROJECT STATUS

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. The design is scheduled to be completed by late next year.

Please Fold and Tape



Please Place
Appropriate
Postage Here

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

RE: Public Hearing
INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT 5 CORNERS
LANCASTER
Project File No. 605392
Project Management

