



Marion Shared-Use Path

Open House Community Meeting

Marion Town Music Hall, 164 Front St., Marion, MA 02738
– Wednesday, January 31, 2024, 6:00 PM

Project #607979



Agenda

1. Welcome, Notes, Procedures, Meeting Notice, Diversity & Civil Rights
2. Presentation Participants
3. Project Goals & Scope
4. Public Outreach History
5. Project Funding
6. Project Schedule
7. Environmental Reporting Scope & Update
8. Environmental Justice (EJ) Outreach
9. Next Steps
10. Questions & General Discussion
11. Thank You/Contacts



Public Meeting Notes and Procedures

Notification of video recording

- This In-Person public Open House meeting will be recorded. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation may choose to retain and distribute the video, images, and audio.
- All parts of this meeting are considered public record.

Important notes

- The meeting will be open to questions and answers at the end of the formal presentation.
- Additional information will be provided to allow for submission of comments and input. Your feedback is important to this project.

Notice of MassDOT's policy on diversity and civil rights

- All MassDOT activities, including public meetings, are free of discrimination.
- MassDOT complies with all federal and state civil rights requirements preventing discrimination based on sex, race, color, ancestry, national origin (limited English proficiency), religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or veteran's status.
- We welcome the diversity from across our entire service area. If you have any questions or concerns, please visit <https://www.mass.gov/nondiscrimination-in-transportation-program> to reach the Office of Diversity and Civil Rights.

Thank you for attending our meeting. We appreciate your participation!

Notice of Meeting

- Public Hearing Notice was advertised in:

- Cape Cod Times/New Bedford**

Standard Times

- January 17, 2024
- January 24, 2024

- The Wanderer**

- January 11, 2024
- January 18, 2024

- Marion Town Hall**

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CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. BA15P1255EA
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LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING: Shared Use Path Construction (Phase I) from the Marion-Mattapoisett Town Line to Point Road Marion, MA
The Town of Marion and MassDOT will hold an Open House Public Meeting in the Main Room at the Marion Music Hall, 164 Front Street, Marion MA, with regard to the project's Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF) submittal and 100% project design on Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at 6:00 P.M. The petitioners are seeking to construct a Shared Use Path for pedestrian and bicycle use in the Town of Marion from the Mattapoisett/Marion Town line to Point Road. This section of path is also part of a larger network immediately connecting Mattapoisett to Wareham, and on a larger scale a part of the Bay State Greenway priority 100 miles and the SouthCoast Bikeway. A copy of the EENF submittal may be requested through Project Manager Kevin Slattery, PWS, of HDR Engineering at (207) 239-3842 and via email, Kevin.Slattery@hdrinc.com. Reference: MassDOT Project #607979.
Publication Dates
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OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING: MARION, MA SHARED USE PATH ★

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Publication Dates
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MARION

TOWN OF MARION SHARED USE PATH
Posted: Jan 11, 2024

TOWN OF MARION SHARED USE PATH NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
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1/11, 1/18

Presentation Participants

- **MassDOT**
 - Joseph Yoo, Project Manager
 - Alex Lamarche, Environmental Analyst
- **Town of Marion**
 - Geoffrey Gorman, Town Administrator
 - Paula Meere, Town Pathway Committee
- **HDR Project Manager**
 - Kevin Slattery, PWS
- **HDR Environmental Outreach Lead**
 - Scott Farmelant
- **Foth Infrastructure and Environment, LLC**
 - Jeramy Packard, PE

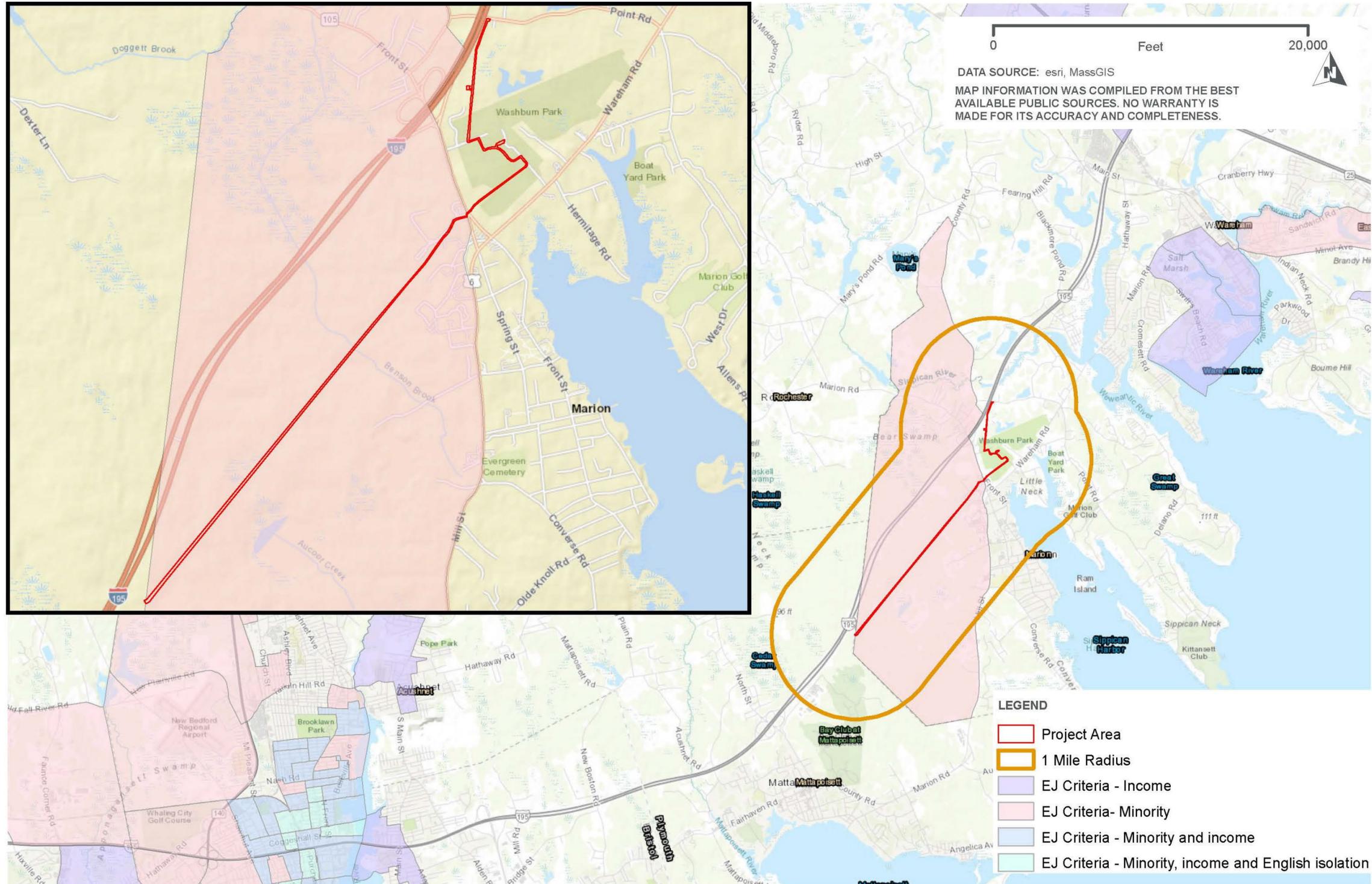
Project Scope

- Construction of approximately 3.8 miles of paved Shared-Use Path (SUP) beginning at the Mattapoisett/Marion town line
- Addition of connections to Mattapoisett SUP and future Wareham SUP
- Improved intersection configuration at Route 105/Spring Street to safely accommodate all roadway and path users
- New parking areas at Point Road terminus and within Washburn Park
 - 15 new parking spaces
- Addition of multiple access points to SUP for Marion residents and other path users at Washburn Park and at the 105/Spring St. Intersection

Project Goals

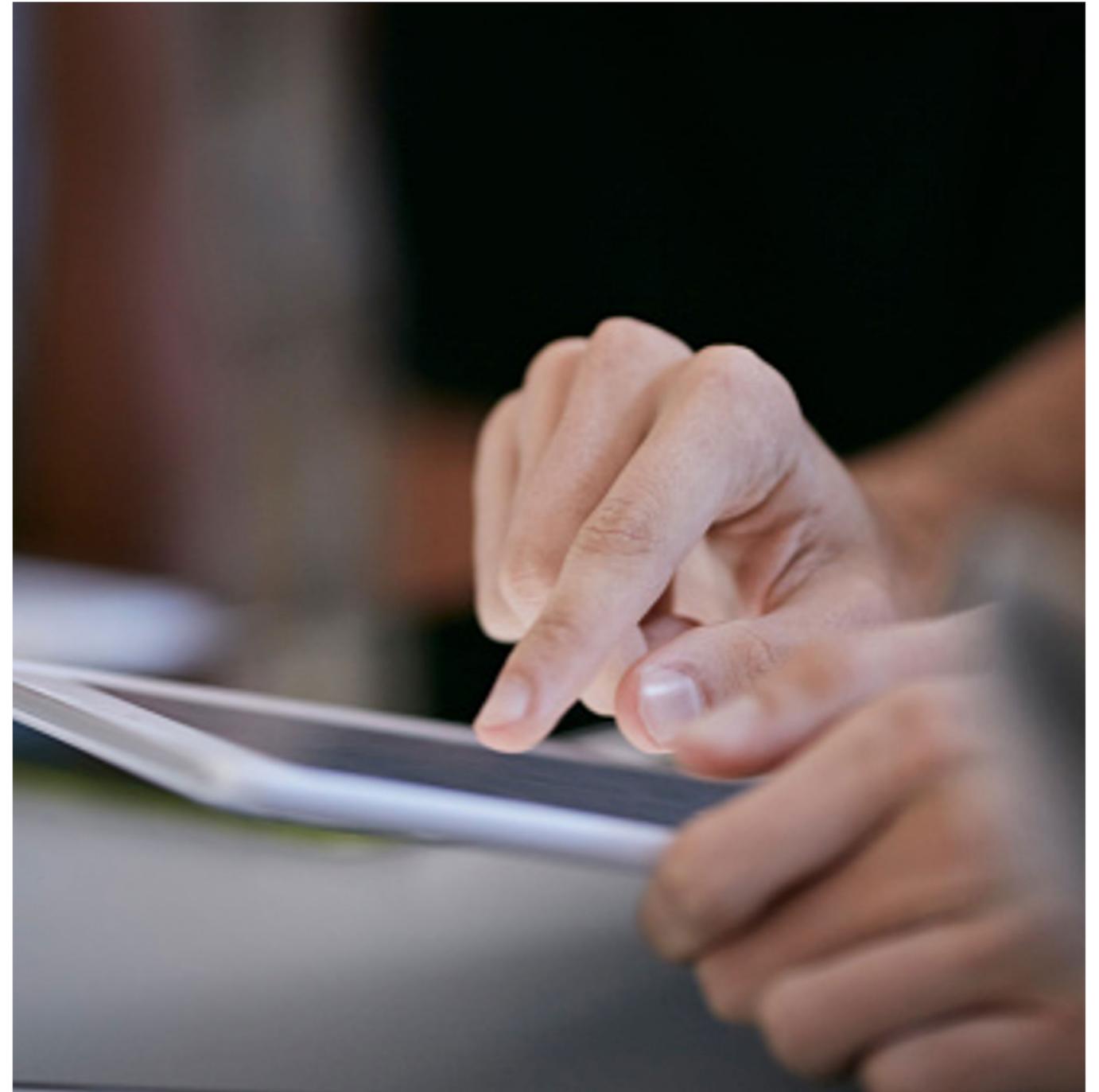
- Construct a paved shared-use path entirely in the Town of Marion for passive recreational use as part of the growing network of regional trails
- Increase community connectedness to open space and recreational areas
- Reduce need for vehicle use
- Offer overall benefit to Environmental Justice (EJ) communities.
- Provide readily available recreational resource for cardiovascular exercise
- Continue development of South Coast Bikeway, a 50-mile continuous system of SUPs connecting Rhode Island to Cape Cod

Environmental Justice Population Map



Public Outreach History

- June 2016: Town Public Meeting
 - Information meeting for project kickoff
- September 2017: Town Public Meeting
 - Presentation of design alternatives for Route 105/Spring St. intersection
- July 2019: Design Public Hearing
 - Preliminary Design
- January 2024: Today's Public Meeting
 - MA Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Presentation / Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF) Information



Project Funding

- The project program cost is approximately \$5.49M.
- The SUP will be funded with a combination of money from the Federal Highway Administration and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- The project must be programmed in a statewide funding transportation improvement program in the appropriate federal fiscal year for MassDOT to solicit construction bids.

EENF Notification Schedule

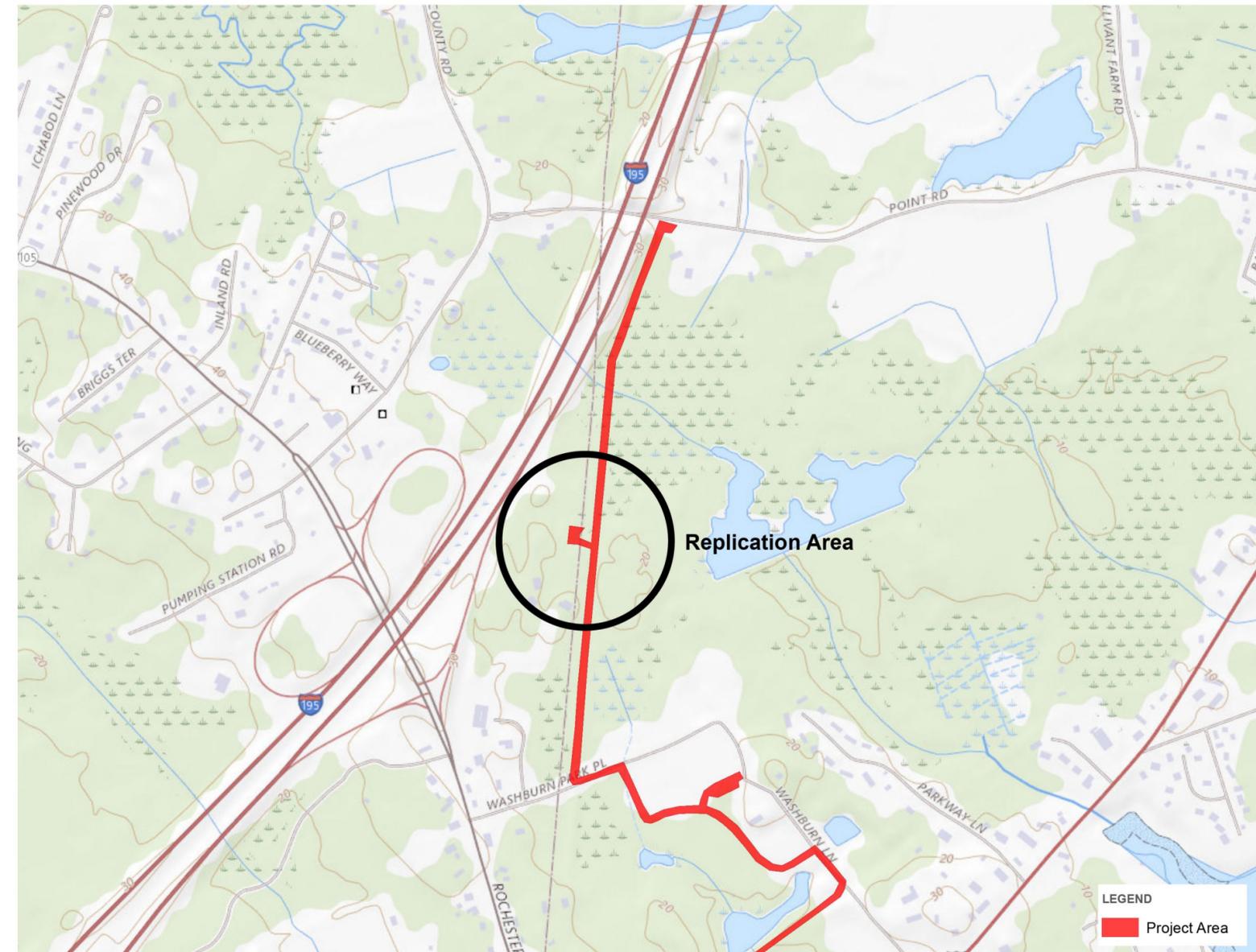


Environmental Notification Scope

- Scope will identify all environmental impacts, identify necessary mitigation protocols, and submit to MEPA Office via EENF.
- Assessment process incorporates construction phase impacts and operational phase impacts.
- No impact on:
 - Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
 - Designated wild and scenic rivers
 - Historic resources, water supply
 - Wastewater resources
 - Energy facilities
 - Air quality
- The majority of project will be constructed on abandoned rail/trolley corridors in sparse or uninhabited areas.

Environmental Impacts and Reporting

- MEPA Environmental Thresholds exceeded:
 - Creation of 5 or more acres of impervious area (5.1 acres)
 - Alteration of ½ or more acres of other wetland resources (2.14 acres)
- Resource Area Impacts:
 - 4,949 sf bordering vegetated wetland (BVW)
 - 43,560 sf riverfront area (RFA)
 - 49,794 sf land subject to coastal storm flowage (LSCSF)
- Wetland Replication Area
 - 5,050 square feet
- One State-Listed species



Project Impacts

- No Construction Impacts foreseen for the following:
 - Rare species:
 - The project will not result in the take of any rare species. To support this, a special conservation plan will be implemented for one species, whose mapped habitat range exists in the footprint of this project.
 - Air Quality
 - EJ populations
 - Historic or cultural properties
 - Public water or groundwater supplies
 - Wastewater
 - Storage, treatment, processing, or disposal of solid and hazardous waste

Mitigation

- Wetland replication of Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) at a 1:1 ratio
- Protection Plan for state-listed species conservation
- Safety amenities (e.g., ADA compliance)
- Stormwater management improvements include:
 - Erosion and sedimentation controls and pollution prevention controls.
 - Path-side swales and crushed stone trenches to intercept the runoff prior to discharge to wetlands and other waters.
 - Proposed grass depressions to collect runoff of sediment and minimize the potential for erosion and sedimentation towards adjacent wetland resource areas.

Environmental Justice Outreach

- MEPA Requirements for Outreach to EJ Populations.
 - Recently enacted state law and regulations* require implementation of project-specific enhanced public outreach protocols within geographic area around designated project site(s).
 - Designation of Marion SUP project within or proximate to an EJ community requires higher level of outreach to ensure that all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, receive fair treatment, and have opportunity for meaningful involvement with respect to the proposed SUP.
- MassDOT is committed to meeting or exceeding regulatory requirements for public outreach to and community engagement with EJ populations.

*Section 60 of Chapter 8 of the Acts of 2021: An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy (the “Climate Roadmap Act” or “the Act”); 2021 update to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Environmental Justice Policy (the “2021 EJ Policy”); 301 CMR 11.00 and associated policies and guidance.

Environmental Justice Outreach

- Inform and educate EJ populations about SUP impacts that are subject to MEPA review.
- Other objectives include:
 - Identify characteristics of likely effects of a project's environmental impacts on EJ populations (negative, positive, or neutral).
 - Describe the project benefits, environmental impacts, and related public health consequences.
 - Ensure that local EJ populations have opportunities to fully participate in MEPA project reviews and decision-making processes about the project.

Next Steps:

- Solicit public comments from tonight's meeting
 - 10 business days until comment period closes
- Environmental permitting
 - Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA)
 - Submit EENF to MEPA Office by February 29
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Federal Highway Administration – Section 4(f) *De Minimis*
 - Wetlands Protection Act: Notice of Intent
 - Spring 2024
 - 404 Permit – Army Corps of Engineers – Programmatic General Permit
 - Spring 2024

How to reach us

- Submit email comments to:
massdotprojectmanagement@dot.state.ma.us
- For project information visit the MassDOT Upcoming Events for Highway Division web site at <http://www.mass.gov/orgs/highway-division/events> or used the QR Code:
- Submit written comments to:
Carrie Lavalley, P.E., Chief Engineer
MassDOT
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Attention: Project Management, PROJECT FILE NO. 607979



Questions and General Discussion

- Questions?





Thank You

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Project #607979

Project Manager: Joseph Yoo,
joseph.yoo@dot.state.ma.us

