

November 22, 2023

Town of Marion, MA

Front Street Pump Station Resiliency Improvements

Project Status Update

The Marion Public Works Department and its consultant, Weston & Sampson, continue to move forward with the Front Street Pump Station (PS) Resiliency Improvements project as previously shared during the January 2022 meeting of Marion's Water and Sewer Commissioners. This project continues to be funded (75%) by a grant from the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM), with local matching funds (25%) being provided by the Town of Marion.

The Phase 1 Improvements consist of the design, bidding, and construction of a permanent bypass connection to the Front Street PS, replacement of the air release valve located on the force main (FM), and the installation of a tapping sleeve & valve on the FM located near the intersection of Benson Brook Road and Route 6. The final design of Phase 1 Improvements was completed in January 2022 and was bid on February 18, 2022. Four bids were received from reputable contractors. All bids came in over the budgeted construction cost used in the original grant application submitted in June 2021. The higher costs were attributed to current market inflation and materials lead time conditions. The CZM Program graciously approved an increase to the grant amount to allow for the full bid of the Phase 1 scope, as well as a time extension to allow for funding to continue past June 30th, 2022. This approved expansion to the grant also increases the Town's matching funds, as the program requires a 25% match of the total project cost. The Town of Marion appreciates CZM's cooperation and values its relationship to bring this important project to fruition.

Construction contracts were executed in April 2022, with construction activities beginning in early June 2022. Construction is scheduled to conclude in July 2022. The Town of Marion and Weston & Sampson have continued to coordinate all construction efforts with Tabor Academy officials, as the station is located within an easement in the heart of campus.

Future Phase 2 of the Front Street Pump Station Improvements was limited to a preliminary level of detail, as this phase is anticipated to progress at a future date beyond this grant period and using separate funding. As discussed at the January 2022 Water and Sewer Commission Meeting, these improvements include sealing existing penetrations below the design flood elevation, installing flood barriers at the entrances on the upper level, and performing structural modifications that increase the building's capacity for hydrostatic loading associated with projected flood levels.

Please direct project related questions to:

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