

Department of Transportation

Project No. 112-112 Replacement of a Culvert on Route 17A between William Street and Bartlett Street Town of Portland

Public Information Meeting Held at Portland Public Library, #20 Freestone Avenue Wednesday, December 17, 2008

Minutes

Presentation: A presentation lasting approximately 20 minutes was delivered by Mr. William Britnell and Mr. Scott Bushee with the Department of Transportation (Department) concerning the proposed culvert replacement followed by a short explanation of the Department's Right of Way process by Mr. Douglas Hummel.

The presentation covered the following items:

- ⇒ Need to replace the existing culvert:
 - Stone masonry box culverts (approximately 100 years old) connected by a 42" metal pipe
 - Recent partial collapse of the outlet section & loss of fill material
 - Recent settlement, flooding and multiple maintenance repairs

Presentation continued:

- ⇒ Proposed replacement culvert (5'x4') concrete box, scheduled for construction in 2010.
- ⇒ Reconstruction of existing WPA parapet wall including reuse of existing Mica stones
- ⇒ New storm water drainage system separate from the culvert.
- ⇒ Replacement landscaping
- ⇒ Weekend detour proposed to minimize duration of construction and cost using State Routes 66 (Marlborough Street) and Route 17 (Gospel Lane) (Summer 2010).
- ⇒ Estimated Cost is \$1.0 million to be funded with 80% Federal funds and 20% State funds.

Public Comments, Questions, and Answers: Approximately 10 residents attended, of which approximately 8 took the opportunity to ask questions or make comments, which are summarized below, along with the following responses:

Q: Will the appearance of the reconstructed parapet wall be consistent with the existing WPA wall? A symmetrical and engineered look is not desirable.

A: The new wall will replicate the appearance of the existing wall, to the extent possible, and use salvaged mica stones from the original wall.

Q: Will there be continuity of Department staff throughout the project?

A: Design Engineers will be inspecting the project during construction for conformity with contract plans and Town commitments. Construction personnel are currently involved in the design and project planning.

Q: Are the aesthetics of the protective fence to be installed on the headwalls considered?

A: A black polyvinyl chloride coated fence is proposed with a landscaping buffer. A landscape plan detailing proposed plantings will be coordinated with the Town. Landscaping is proposed along both sides of the stream channel at the culvert inlet and outlet and in front of both fences. Some species planned include Red Maple, Grey Dogwood, and Spice Bush. A complete landscape plan has not yet been developed.

Q: Will there be any devices installed on the culvert inlet to prevent access?

A: No, devices installed within the hydraulic opening of culverts have traditionally caused flooding due to their tendency for becoming blocked with debris.

Summary: Other questions regarding the design details and schedule were answered.

During the open house sessions before and after the presentation, residents asked about the effects of their properties. In all cases, there was no or very little effect.

There were no objections to proposed improvements or use of a weekend detour to expedite construction.

It was stated that the Department will review the comments from the meeting, along with any additional comments submitted in writing or by e-mail in the next two weeks.

Adjournment: The question and answer session was concluded at approximately 7:15 p.m. The Department representatives then continued to speak with residents informally until approximately 7:35 p.m.