CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2011

Present: Ald. Harney (Acting Chairman), Johnson, Swiston, Shapiro and Fuller Absent: Ald. Ciccone, Yates and Freedman City Staff: Clint Schuckel, Traffic Engineer and Officer Rocco Marini, Newton Police Department Others Present: Donald LaPlante, Don's Car Service

#201-11DONALD LaPLANTE, 395 Lexington Street, Auburndale, requesting (one)
public auto license for Don's Car Service. [06/02/11 @ 3:37 PM]ACTION:APPROVED 5-0

<u>NOTE:</u> Donald LaPlante and Officer Marini joined the Committee for discussion on this item. Officer Marini reported Mr. LaPlante's Lincoln Town Car passed inspection and recommends approval and issuance of public auto license #14.

Ald. Johnson made the motion to approve this public auto license. Committee members agreed 5-0. Acting Chairman Harney reported the Board of Aldermen would vote to approve this public auto license on July 11, 2011.

<u>DISCUSSION ITEM</u>: Chairman's Note: At the Chair's request, Officer Rocco Marini, will provide an update on the semi-annual taxi license/public auto re-inspections as discussed on June 8, 2011 (#169-11).

NOTE: On June 8, 2011, Officer Marini reported that the following four vehicles did not pass the semi-annual inspection for reasons indicated. Newton Yellow Cab #32 needs an inspection sticker, #49 needs to be replaced and #36 had an internal fire. Weldon Executive Coach PA#4 has not been available for inspection.

Officer Marini provided Committee members with an updated semi-annual inspection report dated June 22, 2011, attached to this report. He reported Newton Yellow Cab vehicles are still outstanding. Vehicle #36 is in the process of being repaired. Officer Marini anticipates this vehicle will be available for inspection within a few weeks. Vehicle #49 is in the process of being replaced through an auction dealer. Officer Marini anticipates this vehicle will be purchased, painted and numbered within the next month and will be available for inspection. Vehicle #32 remains having transmission issues and is awaiting parts. Weldon Executive Coach passed inspection without issues.

Officer Marini stated he would provide the Committee Clerk with Newton Yellow Cab inspections as they become available for the City file.

#19-10 <u>DAVID KOSES</u>, Traffic Council Chair, requesting discussion of a stationary radar sign program. [01/11/10 @ 3:55 PM] HELD 8-0 on 01/20/10 ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 5-0

<u>NOTE:</u> Acting Chairman Harney said it is Chairman Ciccone's intention to entertain a motion to vote no action necessary on this item. He reviewed with members the Committee report from January 20, 2010, on why this item was initially held, attached to this report. The Committee Clerk indicated that Mr. Danila and Mr. Schuckel also support this vote because the City does not have the funds to complete a before and after study. It was suggested that Mr. Koses docket an item if the situation changes.

Ald. Swiston stated speed remains an issue in the City, she was hopeful stationary radar signs would be implemented to resolve speeding issues. She asked if there was another solution. Ald. Shapiro suggested docketing a resolution to the Executive Department requesting them to reallocate funds to assist with speed control remedies.

Mr. Schuckel stated there is a "Bill" at Beacon Hill requesting the reduction of City speed limits from 30 mph to 25 mph. He stated the Public Works Department's opinion is to limit installing stationary radar signs to school zones only, the impact is only for a short time, drivers return to their regular driving patterns. Mr. Schuckel also supports the vote of no action necessary because the City does not have the funds to complete a before and after study to determine if there is a change in behavior during and after school zone times.

Ald. Johnson asked if grants were available to assist the City with safety issue needs for schoolaged children. Mr. Schuckel answered that he did not know.

Ald. Shapiro made the motion for no action necessary on this item. Committee members agreed 5-0.

DISCUSSION ITEM: Chairman's Note: At the Chair's request, Clint Schuckel Associate City Engineer, will provide an update on the I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project.

NOTE: Mr. Schuckel reviewed with Committee members this project. He provided a PowerPoint presentation and a letter from the City commenting on the I-95 Project dated June 16, 2011; both are attached to this report.

The project is currently at 25% design, MassDOT held a public hearing on June 1. Mr. Schuckel stated the City is concerned that the peak- hour traffic projections for the Kendrick Street-Nahanton Street corridor may underestimate the future traffic volumes resulting from the cumulative effect of ten years of annual growth in vehicle traffic, new development in Needham's New England Business Center, and new highway access. In the letter, the City made recommendations for the project. At a minimum, the project's traffic study should be expanded to four intersections in the City and examine at least three traffic scenarios.

This project is the final segment of MassDOT's ongoing work to widen I-95 to four travel lanes from Route 24 to Route 9. Mr. Schuckel reviewed the project schedule, scope of work, and traffic impacts. It is estimated the design work will be completed in fall 2012, construction to begin in 2013 and completed in 2016. The proposed 127 million dollar project will widen 3.3 miles of I-95 (Route 128) along the City of Newton's southwestern border. Three interchanges (Kendrick Street, Highland Street, Route 9), MBTA bridge (center pier only) and the Central Street overpass (becomes Elliot Street in Newton).

Acting Chairman Harney opened the discussion for public comment. Maureen Meagher, 342 Quinobequin Road, expressed her concerns. She asked if the City is satisfied with the design of the storm water retention and snow banks on the highway shoulder. Mr. Schuckel answered the storm water retention issue has been addressed in the letter to MassDOT on all storm water management plans and analyses. Ald. Fuller suggested Ms. Meagher write a letter to MassDOT addressing her concerns. Ald. Johnson then suggested she contact Senator Creem and Representative Kahn.

Mr. Schuckel suggested inviting McMahon Associates to a future meeting to answer additional questions. Ald. Fuller suggested inviting Senator Creem and Representative Kahn to attend that meeting. Acting Chairman Harney suggested Mr. Schuckel amend the letter to MassDOT in the Traffic Study section to include Quinobequin Road and Chestnut Street. He then suggested amending #5 section to include the Quinobequin Road issues. Ald. Johnson suggested carbon copying the amended letter to Senator Creem, Representative Kahn and courtesy copying Representatives Balser and Lawn.

At approximately 9:10 pm, Ald. Johnson moved to adjourn. Committee members agreed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay W. Harney, Acting Chairman

#201-11

TAXI INSPECTION MEETING 6/22/2011 7:45pm

	Newton	Richard	Medallions	(f)# 32
#	Yellow Cab	Johnston	30-49	inspection
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	an a			(f) # 36
				internal fire
	Weldon	Jerald	PA 4,5,9,10	PASSED
#	Executive	Robbins		
	Coach	617-828-		
4.4 - C.	253	4990		
	Riverview	617-928-		
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#201-11	Service 395	Laplante		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
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	MA 02466			

#201-11

Don's Car Service

395 Lexington Street Auburndale, MA 02466 617-962-4446

6/2/11 Received \$25.00 Check # 1001

To Whom It May Concern:

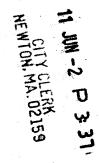
I am writing in regards to obtaining and applying for a Medallion plaque in order to operate a livery business in the City of Newton.

If you need further information regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don LaPlante

Donal 03. papante



#201-11

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APPLICATION FOR OPERATION OF TAXI LICENSE/PUBLIC AUTO/EXCLUSIVE TAXI STAND

Applicant is required to keep current information on file with the City of Newton Board of Aldermen's office at all times. Changes or updated information may be sent by mail to Newton City Hall, Board of Aldermen, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton Centre, MA 02459.

- 1. Name of Applicant: Donald Laplante
- 2. Name and Address of Business: Don's Car Service 395Letington St. aulpurndale ma. 02466
- 3. Total number of Licenses: 1

PUBLIC AUTOS = 1

TAXI LICENSE =

4. If applicable, *list all addresses* of EXCLUSIVE TAXI STANDS:

5. Please specify the type of business entity (sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation) Sole proprietorship

- 6. If the business is a sole proprietor, please state the full name and address of the owner: Donald S. La Plante 375 Leting for S/, auburn dale, ma. 024 (b
- 7. If the business is a partnership, please state the name and address of each partner: $\gamma_0 O$

8. If the business is a corporation, please state the full corporate name and list the officers of the corporation (President, Vice President, Treasurer or Clerk/Secretary)

10

9. Please provide the name, title and telephone number of the person to contact concerning complaints: Denald La Plante 6/7-9624446

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#169-11

169-11

TAXI INSPECTION MEETING 6/22/2011 7:45pm

	Newton	Richard	Medallions	(f)# 32
#	Yellow Cab	Johnston	30-49	inspection
	25 Border St	617-332-	(Total 20)	sticker
	Newton,Ma	7700		(f) # 49
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	Coach	617-828-		
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	Riverview	617-928-		
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	Don's Car	Don	PA 14	PASSED
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	Lexington	617-962-		
	St. Newton	4446		
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DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2011

AT

BROADMEADOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

7:00 PM

FOR THE PROPOSED

I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project Bridge V Contract Project No. 603711 Project Management

IN THE TOWNS OF NEEDHAM & WELLESLEY, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY DIVISION

FRANCIS A. DEPAOLA, P.E. ACTING HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR

> THOMAS F. BRODERICK, P.E. ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER

I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING Project File No. 603711

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassDOT to discuss the final design contract for the proposed I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project in Needham & Wellesley, MA.

WHERE: Broadmeadow Elementary School 120 Broad Meadow Road Needham, MA 02492

WHEN: Wednesday, June 1, 2011 @ 7:00 PM

- **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed bridge & roadway construction project. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.
- **PROPOSAL:** The final design contract includes six bridge locations and approximately 3.5 miles of I-95 roadway reconstruction. The roadway work on I-95, just north of the Needham Branch RR Bridge and continues to just north of Route 9, includes the installation of an additional 12 foot travel lane and 10 foot shoulder in each direction toward the median. A new interchange with I-95 will be constructed at Kendrick Street. New collector/distributor roads in each direction between Highland Avenue and Kendrick Street are proposed. Modifications to the I-95/Route 9 interchange are also proposed. The bridge modification locations include Kendrick Street over I-95, a new ramp bridge at Kendrick Street, Highland Avenue over I-95, MBTA RR over I-95, I-95 over Central Avenue, and also I-95 over Route 9 in Wellesley. The work also includes noise barrier construction, stormwater management improvements, new sign installations, bicycle accommodation on the bridges over I-95 and ADA compliant access on the sidewalks.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts 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 Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer, MassDOT, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, ATTN: Project Management Section, Project File No. 603711. 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/

FRANCIS A. DEPAOLA, P.E. ACTING HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS F. BRODERICK, P.E. ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER

Boston, Massachusetts



Deval L. Patrick, Governor Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor Jeffrey B. Mullan, Secretary & CEO Luisa Paiewonsky, 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 Luisa Paiewonsky

Luisa Palewonsky Highway 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: SAFEGUARDING THE PROPERTY OWNER

If your property, or a portion of it, must be taken by the State for a highway in the interest of all people of the Commonwealth, your rights are fully protected under the law. Below are some answers to questions you might ask.

Who Contacts Me?

Representatives of the Right of Way Bureau of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Highway Division. They will explain the impacts and your rights as protected under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 79.

What is the Fair Price for My Property?

Every offer is made to insure that an equitable value is awarded to you for the property, or to appraise the "damage" to the property as a result of the acquisition. MassDOT appraisers, independent appraisers, MassDOT "Review Appraisers" and a Real Estate Appraisal Review Board may all contribute in arriving at an award of damages. The State also pays a proportionate part of the real estate tax for the current year for fee takings, and interest from the date the property is acquired to the payment date on all impacts.

Must I Accept the Departments Offer?

No. If, after the figure established as a market value has been offered to the owner, the owner feels he or she is not being offered a fair prices, he or she has the right within three years to appeal to the courts. Pending a court decision, he or she can be paid on a "pro tanto" basis (or "for the time being") that in no way prejudices the court appeal.

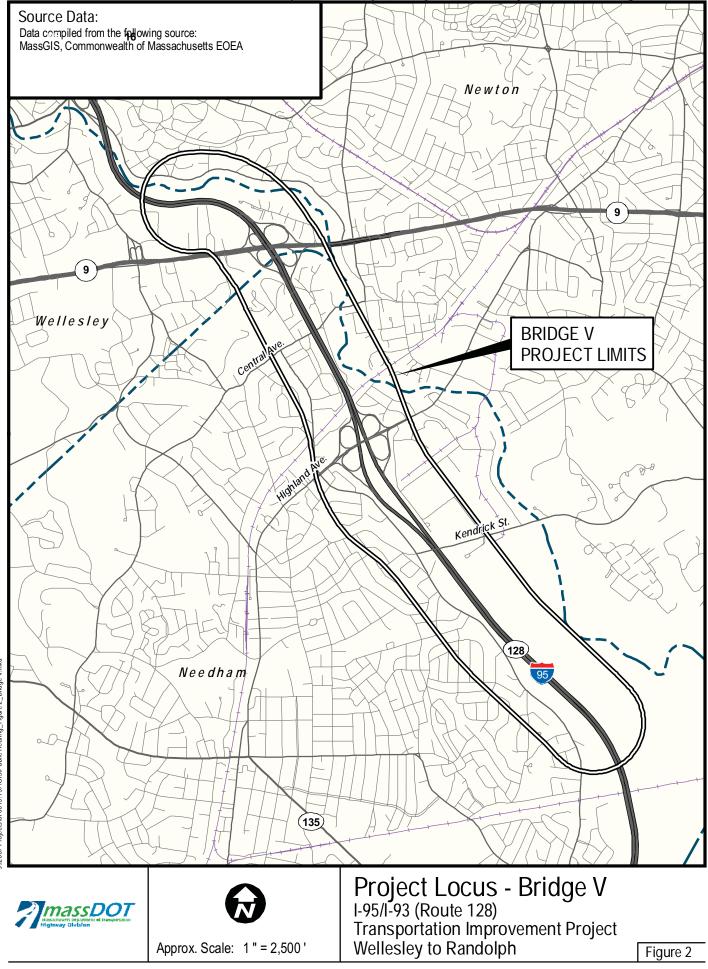
What Will Happen to My House?

The owner will have the opportunity to buy back his or her house, provided he or she has a location to which it can be moved; and the proper permits for its renewal. If the owner does not wish to repurchase, the house will be advertised for bids. The highest bidder, who must also have a location and permits for removal, will be awarded the house. Otherwise, the structure will be slated for demolition.

What Happens if I Must Relocate?

In addition to the market value of the property, the Department pays certain relocation benefits for both owners and tenants of acquired residences and businesses who meet eligibility requirements. Assistance in relocation is also provided. Department brochures are available for details on these benefits.





J32007 Projects/070013.157/GIS/Public Hearing_Figure 2_Bridge V.mxd

PROJECT LOCATION

The proposed project represents the last and most northerly segment of the overall I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project (formerly called the "Route 128 Add-a-Lane") improvements that extend from Route 24 in Randolph to just north of Route 9 in Wellesley. This section of I-95/Route 128 is the last remaining section that has a six lane cross section. Completion of this project will result in I-93/ I-95 providing a consistent eight-lane cross section from Route 3 in Braintree to I-93 in Woburn. The final design contract includes six bridge locations and approximately 3.5 miles of I-95 roadway reconstruction. The roadway work on I-95 for this contract begins just north of the Needham Branch RR Bridge and continues to just north of Route 9 (See Figure 2), which includes the installation of an additional 12 foot travel lane and 10 foot shoulder in each direction toward the median. A new interchange with I-95 will be constructed at Kendrick Street. New collector/distributor roads in each direction between Highland Avenue and Kendrick Street are proposed. The collector roads will provide safer weaving movements between the interchanges and provide improved traffic movements to and from the adjacent business park. Modifications to the I-95/Route 9 interchange are also planned. The bridge locations include Kendrick Street over I-95, a new ramp bridge at Kendrick Street, Highland Avenue over I-95, MBTA RR over I-95, I-95 over Central Avenue in Needham, and also I-95 over Route 9 in Wellesley.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of the I-95/I-93 Transportation Improvement Project is:

- To add an additional travel lane in each direction which will restore a functional breakdown lane for both the northbound and southbound barrels,
- To relieve traffic congestion along the corridor,
- To reduce diversion of traffic to parallel local routes,
- To provide safety improvements to the interchanges, and to
- To replace the functionally obsolete and structurally deficient bridges.

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

The proposed project will add a new 12-foot travel lane and 10-foot shoulder in both the northbound and southbound direction of I-95. This will improve roadway capacity and emergency response time, allow safe refuge for disabled vehicles, increase clear zones, and provide for temporary snow storage.

Included in this contract is a new diamond style interchange at Kendrick Street at the New England Industrial Park. This interchange will provide for a better distribution of traffic and more direct access to destinations in the area, alleviating congestion on Highland Avenue. Additionally, due to the proximity of the Highland Avenue interchange to the north, a Collector-Distributor (C-D) road is proposed for both the northbound and southbound traffic flows.

The I-95 Interchange with Route 9 is being reconfigured from a full cloverleaf style to a partial cloverleaf. The proposed modifications are primarily intended to improve safety through the elimination of substandard weave areas. The new configuration will also facilitate replacement of the I-95 bridges over Route 9. Two existing loop on ramps to I-95 will be eliminated:

- The Route 9 westbound to I-95 southbound on ramp loop located in the northwest quadrant of the interchange will be eliminated. The westbound-to-southbound movement will be completed through the use of dual left-turn lanes to be constructed on Route 9 westbound connecting to the existing eastbound-to-southbound on ramp via a new signalized intersection on Route 9.
- The Route 9 eastbound to I-95 northbound on ramp loop located in the southeast quadrant of the interchange will also be eliminated. That movement will be completed through the use of dual left-turn lanes to be constructed on Route 9 eastbound connecting to the existing Route 9 westbound to I-95 northbound on ramp via a new signalized intersection on Route 9.

A proposed auxiliary lane will be constructed in each direction between the Route 9 and Highland Avenue interchanges to improve the acceleration and deceleration movements.

BRIDGE STRUCTURES

The existing structures being replaced, rehabilitated or removed include:

- Kendrick Street over Route I-95/128, Needham: The existing 2-span bridge will be replaced with a wider new 2-span bridge to accommodate the new Kendrick Street interchange.
- **Highland Avenue over Route I-95/128, Needham:** The existing two separate single span bridges over I-95 NB and SB will be replaced with one new 3-span bridge on a new alignment slightly south of the existing bridges,
- **MBTA Newton Upper Falls Branch Railroad over Route I-95/128, Needham:** The existing 2-span railroad bridge will be removed and provisions for a future bridge at this location will be provided including a new pier foundation in the median of I-95.
- Route I-95/128 over Central Avenue, Needham: The two existing single span bridges will be modified. The open median between the two bridges will be closed in and each bridge will be widened to accommodate the new auxiliary lanes between Route 9 and Highland Avenue.
- **Route I-95/128 over Route 9, Wellesley:** Both existing 2-span bridges will be replaced with one wider 2-span bridge on a slightly revised alignment.

Additionally, a new bridge is included as part of the preferred alternative that will carry the new northbound I-95 on-ramp from Kendrick Street over the I-95 northbound off ramp (Collector/Distributor C-D Roadway).

IMPACTS AND BENEFITS

Wetland Impacts and Mitigation: Impacts include filling Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and an intermittent stream channel. Both off-site and on-site wetland replacement areas are being proposed to mitigate these impacts. The mitigation would primarily be constructed in the loop ramps and in the median between Kendrick Street and Highland Avenue.

Stormwater Management: The project includes the construction of stormwater BMPs in conformance to current MADEP and MassDOT stormwater management polices.

Noise Impacts and Mitigation: Noise barriers have been found to be reasonable and feasible for four locations within the project limits. If the immediate abutters agree, then they will be included as part of the construction contract. The four locations are:

- Reservoir Street: This barrier would be located along the NB side of I-95 beginning adjacent to the Off Ramp from I-95 NB to Rte. 9 EB. It is approximately 1,100 feet long.
- Saint Mary Street: This barrier would be along the SB side of I-95 beginning adjacent to the On Ramp from Rte. 9 EB and continuing south for approximately 1,750 feet.
- River Park Street: This barrier would also be along the SB side of I-95 beginning approximately 600 ft. north of Central Ave and continuing south 2,150 feet stopping adjacent to Crawford Street, just a little north of where the existing MBTA RR Bridge crosses I-95.
- Hunting Road: This barrier would begin just south of Highland Avenue and extend south along I-95 SB to approximately 400 feet south of Kendrick Street. There would be a break in the barrier at Kendrick Street.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Three lanes of traffic on I-95 plus the active breakdown lanes will be maintained during the peak hour travel times through construction. Traffic on Kendrick Street, Highland Avenue and Route 9 and access to on/off ramps would be maintained with lane restrictions and temporary roadway segments.

BICYCLE ACCOMMODATION

Proposed bicycle accommodation over I-95 will be provided for both the Kendrick Street and Highland Avenue Bridges. The proposed shoulder widths can be found on the attached bridge cross sections.

RIGHT OF WAY IMPACTS

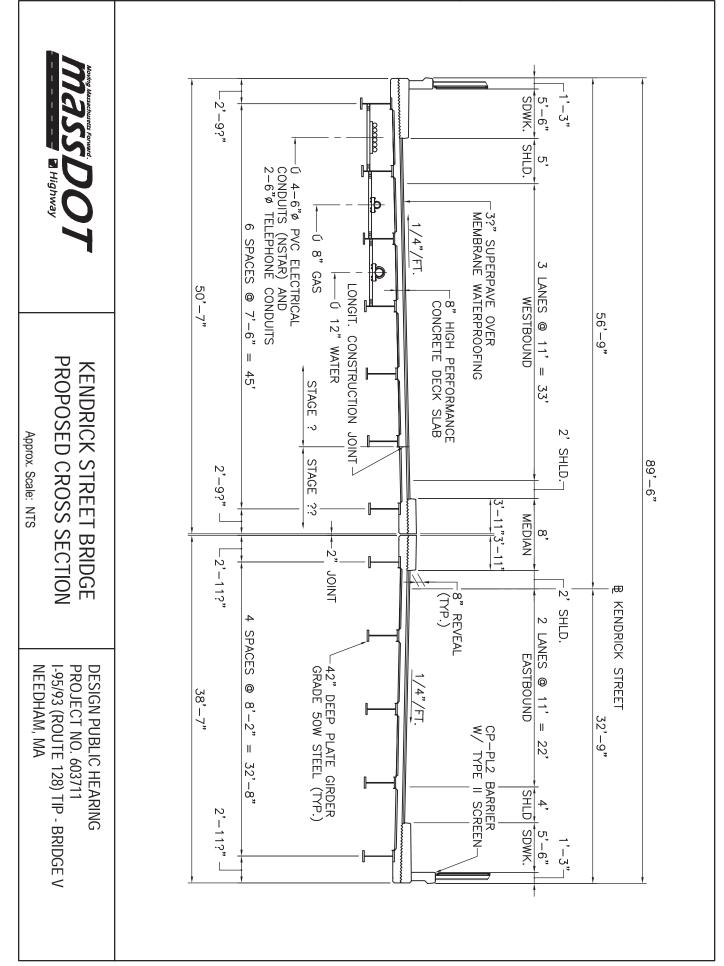
The proposed project requires a number of partial permanent takings and temporary easements from commercial, residential and public properties. One residential property on Kendrick Street has been acquired.

PROJECT COST

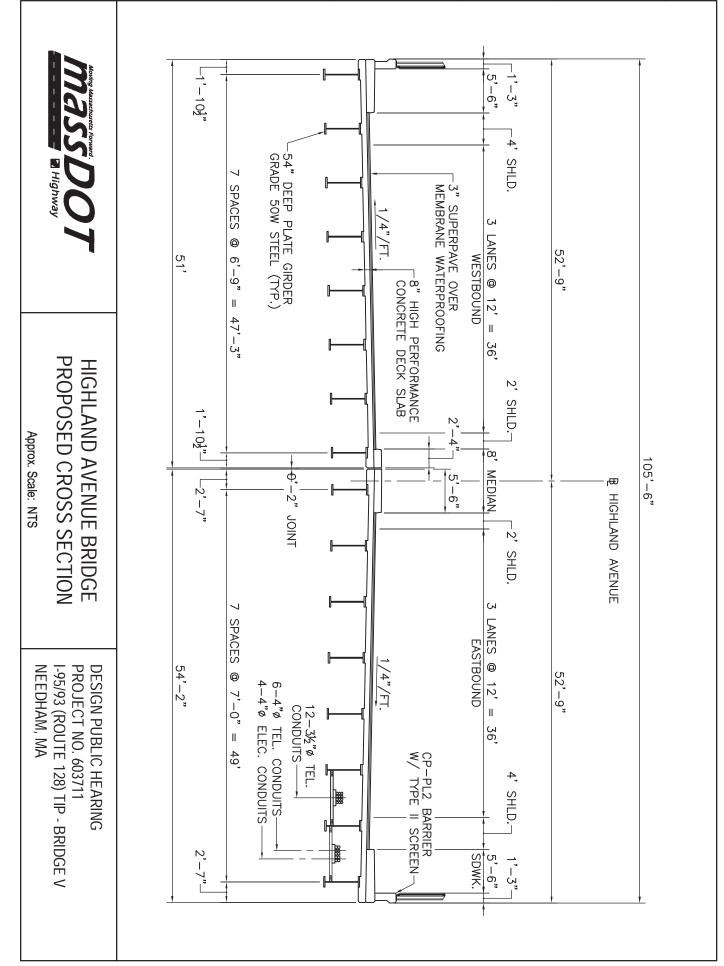
The current total participating construction cost is approximately \$125 million.

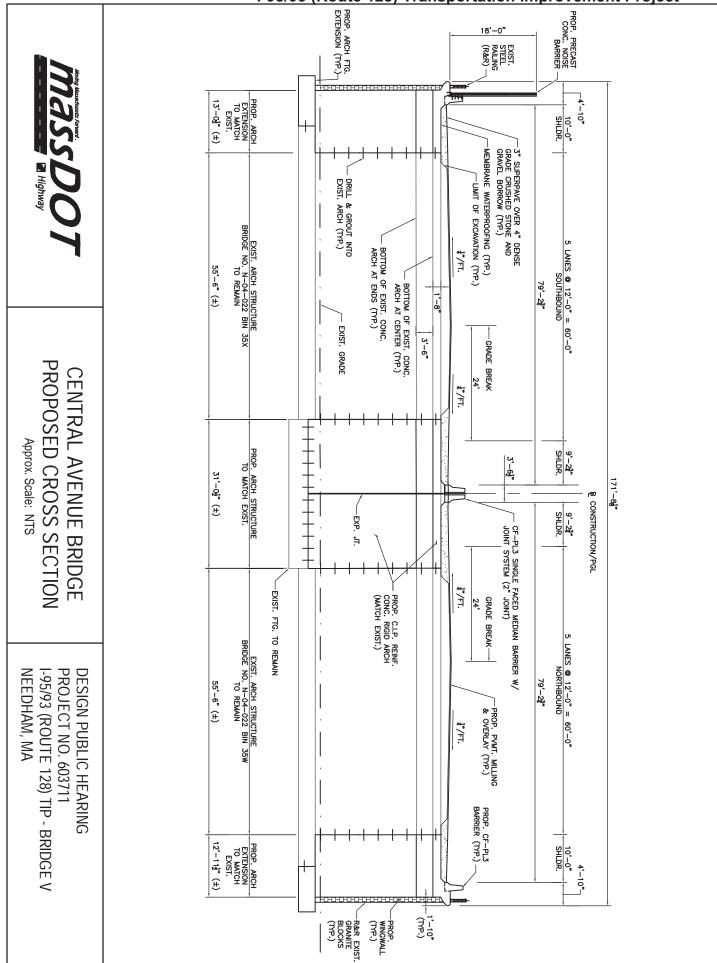
PROJECT SCHEDULE

Construction will take approximately 4.5 years and is estimated to begin in 2013. Currently the project is finishing the 25% design phase.

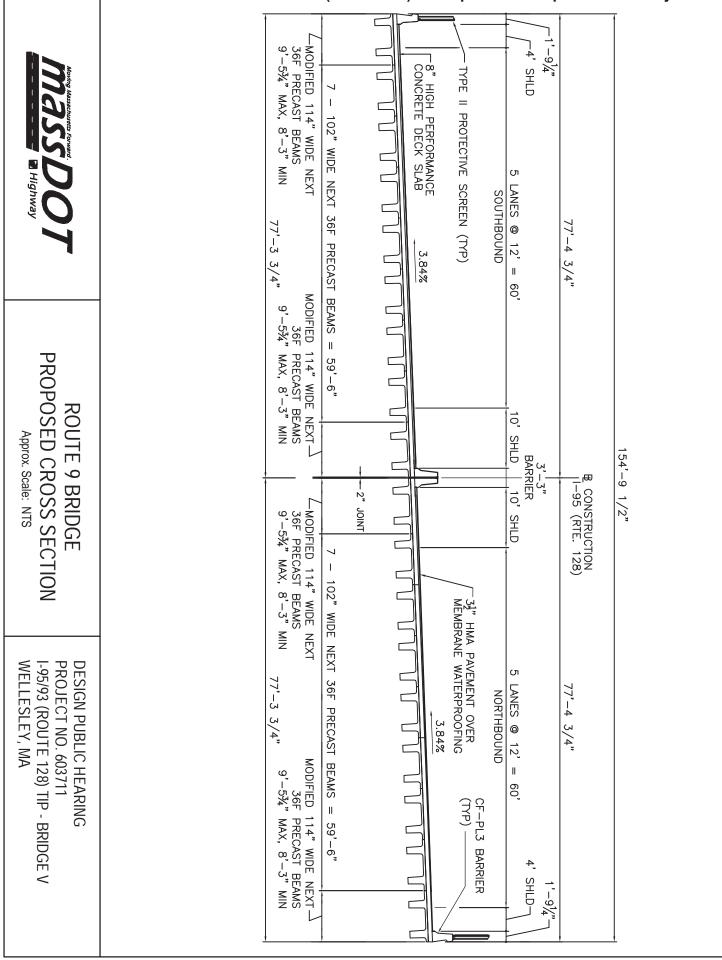


I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project





I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project



I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY DIVISION

FEDERAL AID PROJECT

NEEDHAM & WELLESLEY, MA

I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project Bridge V Contract Project File No. 603711

This sheet is provided for your comments. Your input is solicited and appreciated. Please return your sheet, with comments, to a staff member at the meeting, or mail to:

> Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer MassDOT, Highway Division 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116-3973 Attn: Project Management

The final date for receipt of written statements and exhibits for inclusion into the official hearing transcript will be ten (10) days after the Public Hearing. **Please type or print legibly.**

Name		Title	
Organization			
Address			
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Please Fold and Tape	
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Thomas F. Broderick, P.E. Acting Chief Engineer MassDOT, Highway Division 10 Park Plaza Boston, MA 02116-3973

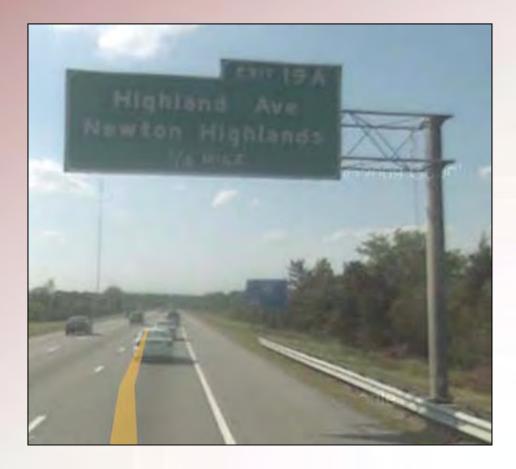
RE: Public Hearing I-95/93 (Route 128) Transportation Improvement Project; Bridge V Contract NEEDHAM/WELLESLEY Project File No. 603711 Project Management

I-95 Add-A-Lane



I-95 Add-A-Lane (Kendrick to Route 9)

Clint Schuckel Associate City Engineer November 3, 2010





I-95 Add-A-Lane

"Add a Lane" Overview



- Reconstruct
 - 14.3 miles of I-95 (widen to 8 full lanes) from Route 24 in Randolph to Route 9 in Wellesley
 - 22 bridges
- Cost= \$344 million (Source: BostonGlobe, April 2010)
- Sequence: from south (Rte 24) to north (Rte 9)
- Start: 2003
- Projected completion: 2016

I-95 Add-A-Lane

Needham/Wellesley Section Overview "Bridge V" or "Contract 5"

Reconstruct

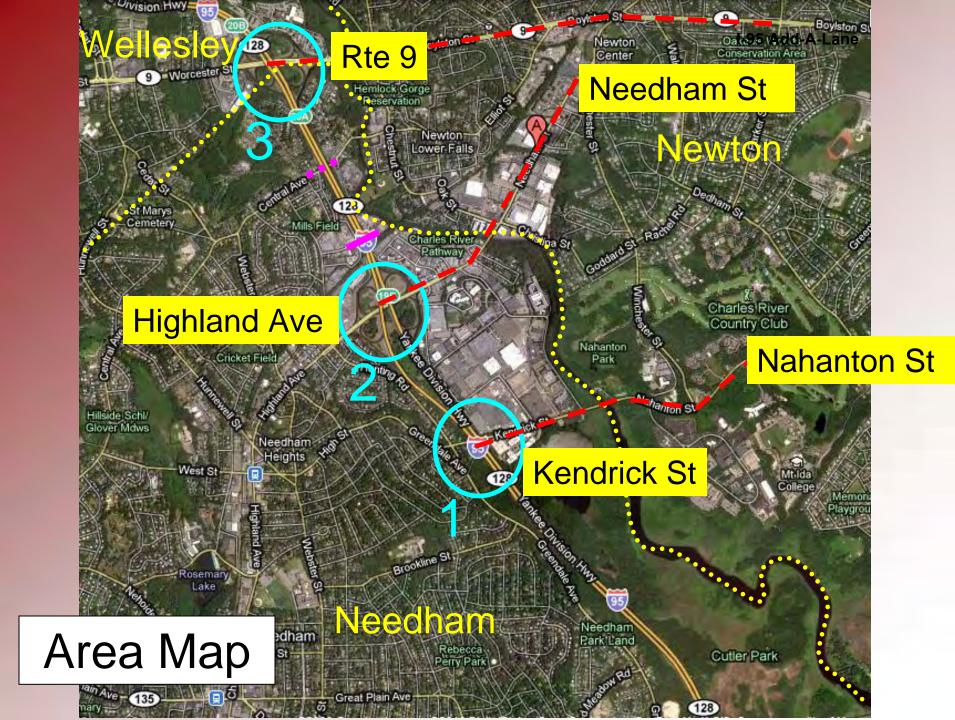


- 3.3 miles of I-95 (widen to 8 full lanes)
- 3 interchanges (Kendrick, Highland, Route 9)
- MBTA bridge (center pier only)
- Central St overpass (becomes Elliot St in Newton)
- Estimated construction cost: \$127 million
- Designer: Jacobs/HDR, McMahon (traffic)
- Estimated start date: Fall 2012 or 2013
- Estimated completion: 2016

Add-a-Lane Trivia

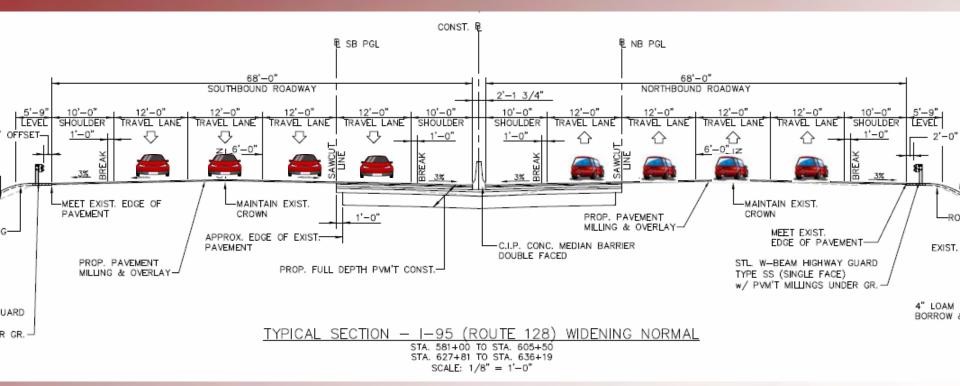
Route 128 is known as "America's _____ Highway" or the "_____ Division Highway"

- A. Oldest...Patriot
- B. Minuteman...Long
- C. Technology...Yankee
- D. Revolutionary...American League East



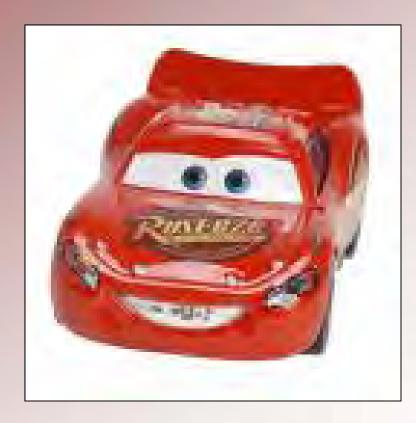


Existing I-95 lanes



Add-a-Lane Trivia

Name this character and state what he shares with this presentation...



Turns allowed

< @>>

Turns not allowed 50 m

8

E E AL PA

FF FREE

٩.

89

I-95 Add-A-Lane

Kendrick St

I-95 Add-A-Lane

Kendrick St

Exit To Highland Ave

FRE

Enter From Highland Ave

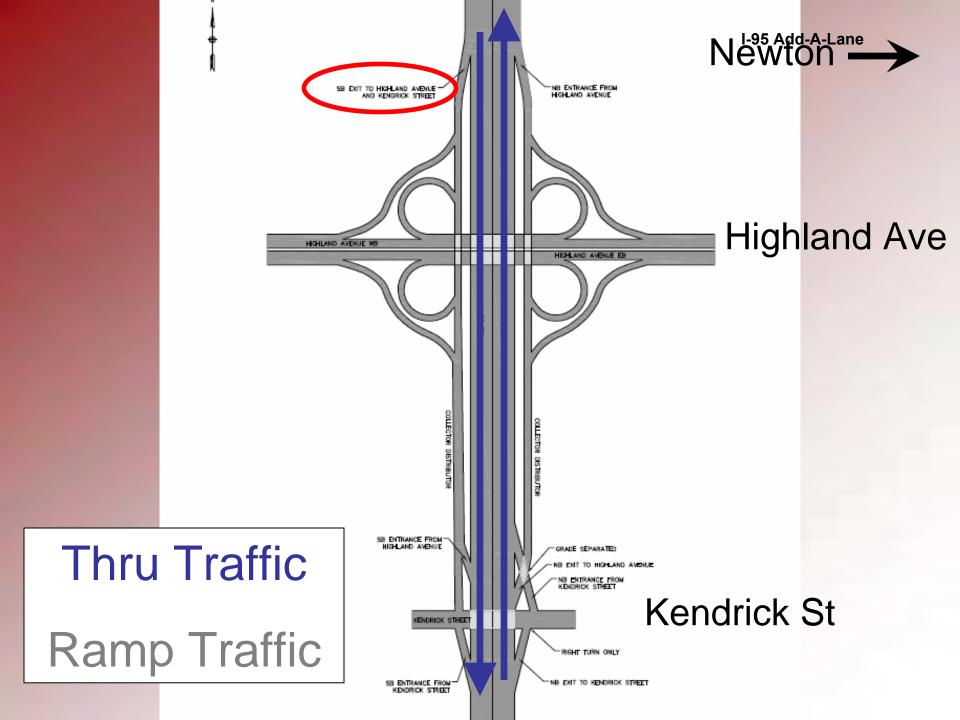
(es)

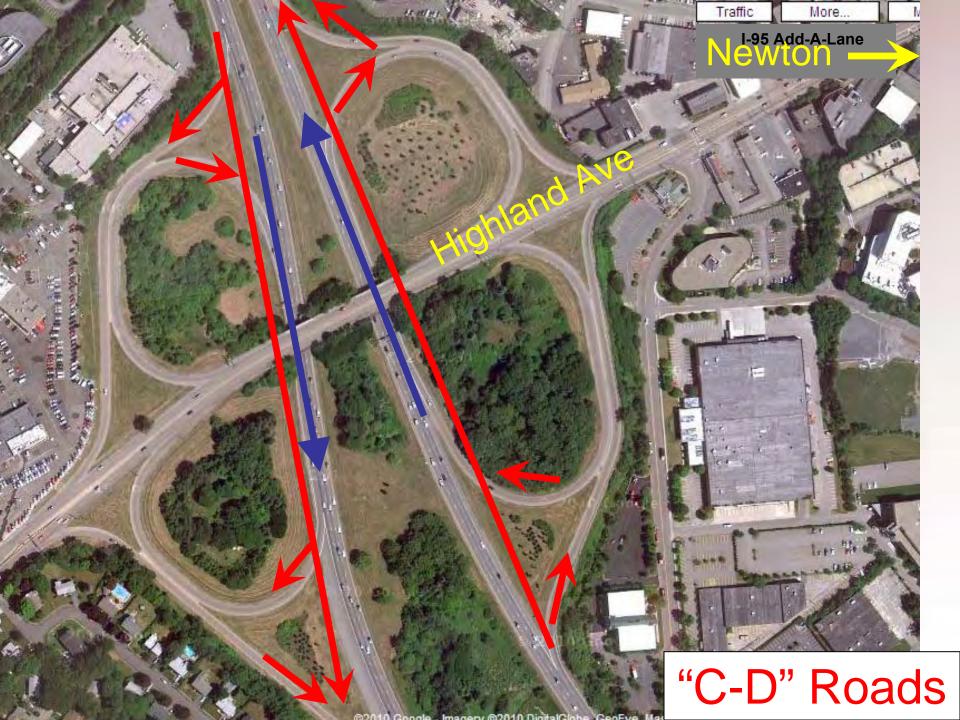
Exit/Entrance Ramps Change

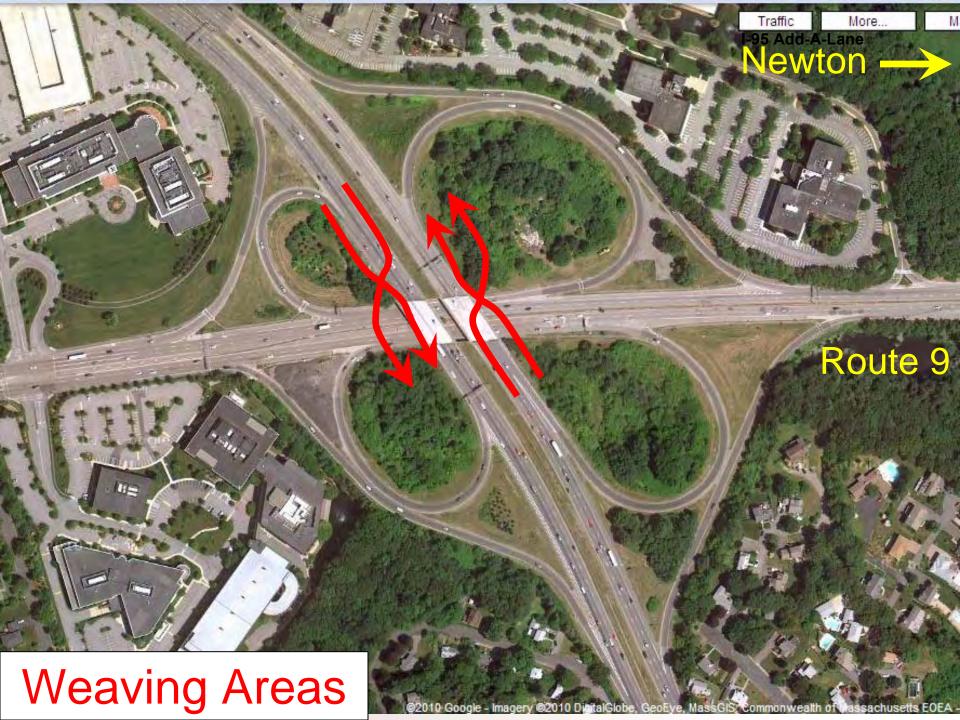
Enter From Kendrick St Exit To Kendrick St

Godole - Imagery @2010 Div talGlobe, GeoEve, Mass

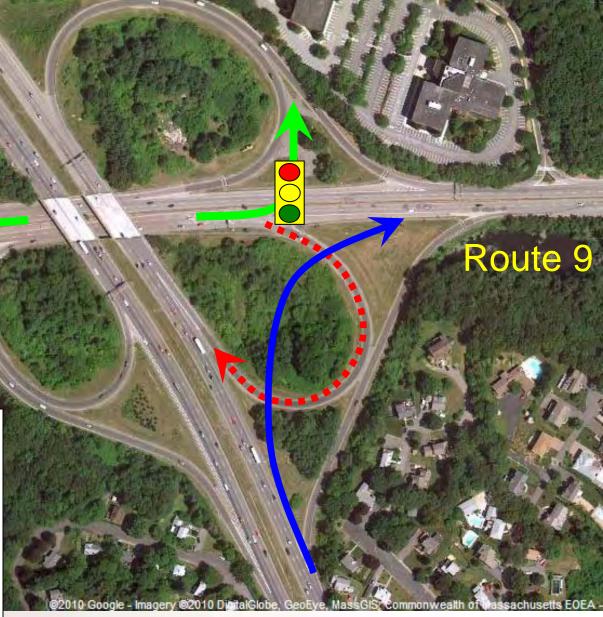






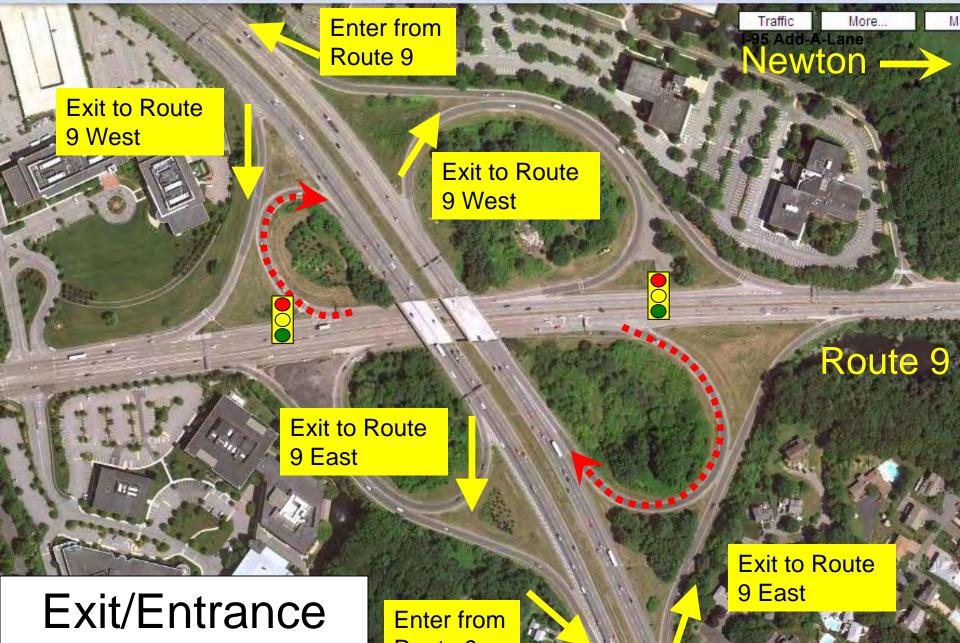






More.

Add-A-Lane



Ramps Change

Route 9

Google - Imagery @2010 Digital

Rte 9: Partial cloverleaf improve on/off weave

Newton Lower Falls

Charles

kline St

Great Plain Ave

Rebecca

Perry Parkic

Uvision Hwy

St Marys Cemetery

Hillside Schl/ Glover Mdws

ellesle

9 Worcester St

128

Cricket Field

West St

Roseman

BO

135

Needham Heights

eednam

May St

Mills Field

Oa co.5 vactor-A-Lane Conservation Area

<u>ewto</u>

Highland Ave: Full cloverleaf with Collector-Distributor roads to improve on/off weave

> Kendrick St: Partial diamond (new)

hanton St

Needham Park'Land

Cutler Park

128

128

Construction Staging

- Four lanes maintained on I-95 during weekday daytime hours
- Many details still to be determined, e.g., night work
- Impacts to Kendrick St, Highland Ave, Central St, Route 9?
- Impacts to Highland Ave, Needham St reconstruction?

Add-a-Lane Trivia

 The average number of vehicles per day (both directions) on I-95 near Newton is approximately:

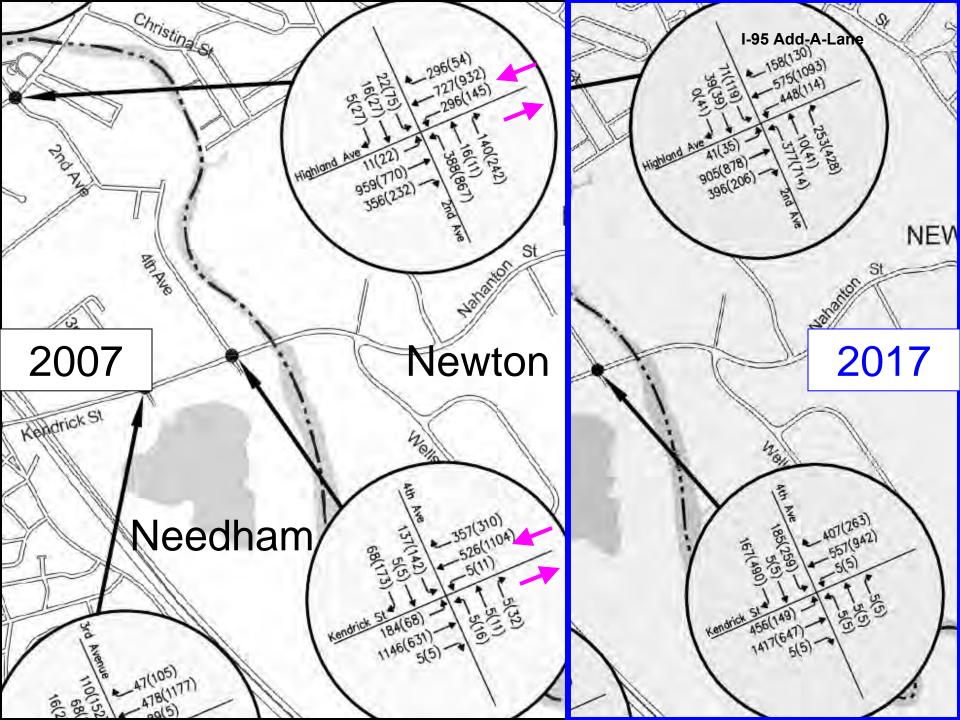
- 25,000
- 50,000
- 100,000
- 150,000

Traffic Forecasts



I-95 Add-A-Lane

- Study forecasts traffic volumes in 2017
 - CTPS December 2003 study
 - 1% per year "background" growth over 10 years
 - Northland + NE Business Center
 - I-95 daily traffic increases 50% from 2007 to 2025
 - Waltham development
 - Westwood Station
- Forecasts include BOTH new development AND Kendrick St I-95 access



AM Peak Hour Difference: 2007 to 2017 (vehicles/hour)



108

Traffic

-95 Add-A-Lane

PM Peak Hour Difference: 2007 to 2017 (vehicles/hour)



+206

Traffic

-95 Add-A-Lane

Northland /

I-95 Add-A-Lane

+2,500,000 sf

Development traffic New access traffic

Summary



- Over the next 10 years, new development
 - AND new I-95 access at Kendrick St will impact:
 - Nahanton St
 - Winchester St
 - Needham St
- Looking ahead…
 - Understand MassDOT traffic projections & analysis
 - Participate in MassDOT hearings, etc.
 - Coordinate Needham St, Highland Ave projects
 - Monitor NE Business Center projects (up to 2.5 million sf)
 - Monitor changes via annual traffic counts
 - Seek State funds for Nahanton St mitigation

	2007		2017		DIFFERENCE		
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
WB Highland @ 2nd Ave	1319	1131	1181	1337	-138	206	FROM NEWTON
EB Highland @ 2nd Ave	1121	1087	1229	1425	108	338	TO NEWTON
WB Kendrick @ 4th Ave	888	1425	969	1210	81	-215	FROM NEWTON
EB Kendrick @ 4th Ave	1288	805	1607	911	319	106	TO NEWTON

City of Newton



Setti D. Warren Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449

Date: June 16, 2011

To: Larry Cash, MassDOT Project Manager

From: David F. Turocy, Commissioner of Public Works

Subject: City of Newton Comments on I-95 Project # 603711, 25% Design Hearing

On behalf of Mayor Setti Warren, I submit the following comments and concerns regarding the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) I-95 "Add-a-Lane" project, located in Wellesley and Needham. The City of Newton supports MassDOT's efforts to improve safety throughout the corridor by eliminating travel in the breakdown lane, creating standard width breakdown lanes on both sides of the highway, and by improving merging areas at the existing Highland Avenue and Route 9 interchanges. However, there are elements of the projects which generate some concerns which the City asks MassDOT to address as the design moves forward. The concerns listed below are representative of the testimony provided by the four City officials who spoke at the MassDOT design public hearing on June 1: Chief Operating Officer Robert Rooney, Alderman Cheryl Lappin, Alderman Deborah Crossley, and Associate City Engineer, Clint Schuckel.

1. The City is concerned that the peak hour traffic projections for the Kendrick Street-Nahanton Street corridor may underestimate the future traffic volumes resulting from the cumulative effect of ten years of annual growth in vehicle traffic, new development in Needham's New England Business Center, and new highway access.

At a minimum, the project's traffic study should be expanded to the following intersections in the City of Newton:

- Nahanton Street at Wells Avenue;
- Nahanton Street at Winchester Street;
- Nahanton Street at Dedham Street; and
- Dedham Street at Brookline Street.

The study should examine at least three traffic scenarios: 1) existing, 2) the project's current traffic projections, and 3) a "worst case" scenario in which future traffic increases to a level where mitigation measures (e.g., signalization, geometric improvements, etc.) are required to maintain an acceptable level of service at each of the four intersections above. The City would collaborate with the State's traffic consultant, McMahon Associates, on the methodology and the peak period traffic volumes requiring improvements.

For each of the three conditions, the proposed traffic study would identify the most cost-effective intersection improvements and estimated costs. Based on the study findings, the City requests that MassDOT create a reserve fund within the project budget that is dedicated for future traffic monitoring and mitigation at the above four locations should the peak period volumes reach the thresholds established for Condition 3. This fund would be available for up to two years following project completion, during which time the monitoring program would determine if the traffic thresholds have been met to require the study's recommended mitigation.

2. Please explain how the sequencing of this project will intersect with other projects in the area, including but not limited to, the Route 9 improvements associated with the Chestnut Hill Square project and the Needham Street/Highland Avenue reconstruction project.

3. For the Kendrick Street and Highland Avenue interchanges, it appears that while additional vehicle travel lanes are provided to accommodate increased traffic, accommodations for bicycles are limited to striped four foot shoulders. Vehicles utilizing the bridges are both maneuvering to access/egress the interstate and traveling at speeds often exceeding 40 miles per hour. This condition necessitates greater design considerations to provide safe bicycle accommodations such as raising the elevation of the bicycle lane to that of the sidewalk throughout the project limits. Utilizing curbing will provide added protection from errant vehicles and will help to keep roadway detritus off the bicycle lane, another key factor in bicycle crashes.

4. The location of pedestrian crosswalks at the Highland Ave on-ramps to I-95 (northbound and southbound) are currently located too far down the ramp. The result is that a pedestrian attempting to cross has limited sight distance to on-coming traffic due to the ramp curvature and adjacent property obstructions such as shrubs, guardrail, and signage. Given the speeds vehicles travel approaching these on-ramps combined with the limited sight distance, the distance a pedestrian can achieve crossing the ramp is estimated to be the mid-point of the roadway before a vehicle reaches the crosswalk; a potentially very dangerous situation. Therefore, greater sight distance of approaching ramp traffic needs to be provided at the curb line of the crosswalk.

5. As the City of Newton is directly downstream along the Charles River, which is immediately adjacent to the Add-a-Lane project and the likely destination of roadway runoff, the City respectfully requests that MassDOT copy the City Engineer, Lou Taverna (<u>ltaverna@newtonma.gov</u>), on all stormwater management plans, analyses, and related documents that are submitted to the Towns of Needham and Wellesley.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. I look forward to working with MassDOT on these issues, and to the successful completion of the Add-a-Lane project.

Cc: Robert Rooney, Chief Operating Officer Alderman Cheryl Lappin Alderman Deborah Crossley Lou Taverna, City Engineer Clint Schuckel, Associate City Engineer