



Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Richard A. Davey, Secretary & CEO
Frank DePaola, Administrator



August 7, 2013

Mr. Dennis Dunn
56 Holbrook Road
Weymouth, MA 02191

**SUBJECT: Quincy-Weymouth: State Route 3A (Washington Street) Q-01-001=
W-32-001 Bridge Replacement over Fore River, Project File No. 604382**

Dear Mr. Dunn:

I am writing to provide you with a response to the comment you submitted following the Design Public Hearing on May 16, 2013 regarding the Fore River Bridge Replacement project in the Town of Weymouth and the City of Quincy. Your comment and specific response is provided below.

1. COMMENT - In recognition of the neighborhoods affected by construction, I would like to see the sidewalks approaching the bridge landscaped with shade trees and planting areas.

RESPONSE – MassDOT has proposed landscaping to plant Deciduous and Evergreen Trees and Shrubs on bridge approach areas adjacent to the roadways, at the Rotary island area and in the park area adjacent to the approach roadways underneath the bridge. MassDOT has also proposed to plant perennials and ornamental grass as presented at the public hearing.

Should you have any further questions or comments regarding this project, please feel free to contact Ashish P. Patel, P.E., Project Manager, at 857-368-9289.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E.
Chief Engineer

Cc: Walter Heller, P.E. District 6 Highway Director
file



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August 7, 2013

Mr. Timothy Donovan
Fore River Bridge Neighborhood Association
11 Holmes Avenue
North Weymouth, MA 02191-2000

**SUBJECT: Quincy-Weymouth: State Route 3A (Washington Street) Q-01-001=
W-32-001 Bridge Replacement over Fore River, Project File No. 604382**

Dear Mr. Donovan:

I am writing to provide you with responses to the comments you submitted following the Design Public Hearing on May 16, 2013 regarding the Fore River Bridge Replacement project in the Town of Weymouth and the City of Quincy. Your comments and specific responses are provided below.

1. COMMENT - Glare and impact to motorists and mariners.

RESPONSE – Architectural Cladding (metal screen applied to the exterior of a structure for both protection and aesthetic purposes) for the Fore River Bridge project has been designed in accordance with the following design criteria:

1. Mesh opening: 2.5” X 0.4” minimum
2. Mesh open area: 55% to 60%
3. Wire diameter: 0.118” X 0.118” minimum

The metal screen is not solid. It is semi-transparent so MassDOT believes there will not be significant glare that could impact motorists or mariners as a result of the architectural cladding of the bridge.

2. COMMENT - Who pays for changes for lighting for the bridge?

RESPONSE - MassDOT will pay for changes for lighting for the bridge.

3. COMMENT - Snow removal procedures.

RESPONSE - White-Skanska (Design Build Contractor) will remove snow from the bridge roadway and sidewalks during construction of the Fore River bridge project. Once construction is complete, MassDOT will operate and maintain the proposed bridge.

4. COMMENT - 75 year old concrete and additional 100 year design life for bridge = 175 year old concrete.

RESPONSE - Considering the life cycle a cost of the bridge, MassDOT has determined that the design life of the entire bridge project is 75 years.

Ten Park Plaza, Suite 4160, Boston, MA 02116
Tel: 857-368-4636, TTY: 857-368-0655
www.mass.gov/massdot

5. COMMENT - % of vehicles using alternate roads?

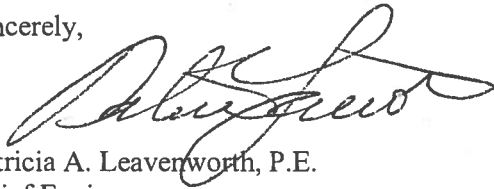
RESPONSE – Based on the traffic analysis model, MassDOT assumes a 32% diversion in the AM peak hour of 1988 vehicles for the westbound direction, which equates to approximately 628 vehicles using alternate roads. As for the eastbound direction, traffic analysis models assumes a 26% diversion in the PM peak hour of 1833 vehicles, which equates to approximately 473 vehicles using alternate roads.

6. COMMENT - Who pays for repairs for the alternate roads because of increased traffic volume?

RESPONSE – The local Municipality will be responsible for the roadway.

Should you have any further questions or comments regarding this project, please feel free to contact Ashish P. Patel, P.E., Project Manager, at 857-368-9289.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Leaverworth, P.E.
Chief Engineer

Cc: Walter Heller, P.E., District 6 Highway Director
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August 7, 2013

Mr. James McGrath- Assistant Town Engineer
Weymouth DPW
120 Winter Street
Weymouth, MA 02191

**SUBJECT: Quincy-Weymouth: State Route 3A (Washington Street) Q-01-001=
W-32-001 Bridge Replacement over Fore River, Project File No. 604382**

Dear Mr. McGrath:

I am writing to provide you with responses to the comments you submitted following the Design Public Hearing on May 16, 2013 regarding the Fore River Bridge Replacement project in the Town of Weymouth and the City of Quincy. Your comments and specific responses are provided below.

1. COMMENT - Will there be any intersection changes or improvements along the detour routes. For instance:
 - a. Green Street at North Street
 - b. Commercial Street at Jackson Square
 - c. Weymouth landing vicinity

RESPONSE – MassDOT has proposed traffic signal phasing and timing modifications along the most likely alternate routes. This may include pavement marking alterations, additional roadway loop detectors, additional signs and signal heads, emergency pre-emption receivers and confirmation strobes, as well as coordination of signals based on the traffic impacts to improve levels of service.

2. COMMENT - Any additional signage? I feel that additional speed limit signs would be helpful.

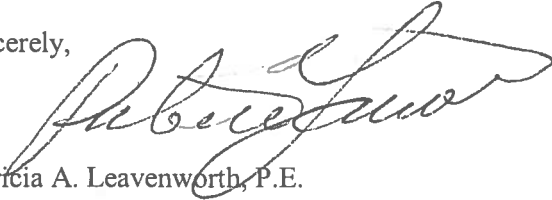
RESPONSE – MassDOT agrees that additional speed limit signs will be helpful and will be installed on the new bridge.

3. COMMENT - Timing of lights may need adjustment during this time.

RESPONSE - MassDOT agrees that signal timing changes may be necessary to improve levels of service along most likely alternate routes for better traffic operation. Signal timing adjustments will be coordinated with the communities and will be approved by the MassDOT.

Should you have any further questions or comments regarding this project, please feel free to contact Ashish P. Patel, P.E., Project Manager, at 857-368-9289.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Patricia A. Leavenworth', written in black ink.

Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E.
Chief Engineer

Cc: Walter Heller, P.E., District 6 Highway Director
file