



Town of Concord, MA

Concord Public Works (CPW)

Cambridge Turnpike Improvement Project (CTIP)

May 2016 Design Update

Background

The Town of Concord, Concord Public Works (CPW), and the Public Works Commission (PWC) are continuing with completion of the Cambridge Turnpike Improvement Project (CTIP), which will implement a comprehensive plan to address roadway deterioration from Lexington Road to Routes 2 and 2A (Crosby's Corner).

The primary focus of this project is to resolve chronic flooding of the roadway, while addressing safety and other public infrastructure issues to improve conditions for corridor users. A project objective is to integrate multi-modal uses of the corridor, including vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists in an aesthetically pleasing way that complements the community's character, and is sensitive to the environmental and historical resources that abound in the area.



Flood Plain Elevation Revision

A key part of the process was completed late last year regarding management of flooding and changes to the roadway. This was a revision to the official flood elevations for the area that are included Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood maps. A technical process successfully resulted in what is called a "Letter of Map Revision", or LOMR. This lowered the official elevations of the Base Flood Elevation (taken as the 100-year recurrence flood elevation). This allows the design and construction of the CTIP to be more reasonably and accurately described throughout the upcoming environmental permitting process for the improvements.



Significant work has been completed prior to the LOMR process, including site survey, initial evaluations of roadway and bridge alternatives, traffic studies and evaluations, conceptual intersection designs, and initial environmental permitting. The Town has received a so called 50% plan submission from its design engineering team which completes this phase of the project and has now retained CMA Engineers and awarded a design contract to advance the CTIP project through 100% design, project bidding and award. The Town is now moving ahead with the project development phase. Cost effectiveness for all components of the project is a key part of the final design development process.

During preliminary design, several subsurface geological conditions were identified that require further investigations and characterization to support final design. These further investigations are particularly necessary to determine cost-effective solutions at the Cambridge Turnpike crossings of Mill Brook on both ends of the project. Currently (May 2016) additional soil

borings are being completed to supplement existing information and to support engineering evaluations for these Mill Brook crossings.



Project Schedule

The anticipated project final design and permitting schedule extends through 2016 and early 2017, with project bidding planned for March and April 2017 which will allow construction to commence in summer of 2017, subject to receipt of all permitting. Construction will likely extend through 2017 and 2018.

Public review and input on the final development of the project is important to the Town and the design team. There will be several opportunities for public review of the project design as it's developed, and proceeds through the permitting process. We urge interested parties, whether they be residents of the area, users of the roadway, or at-large Concord residents to participate in these opportunities. Future specific notices for these meetings and opportunities will be broadcast here and elsewhere by the Town of Concord. Stay tuned!