

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

ENF

Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
 Executive Office of Environmental Affairs
 EOEA No.: 13970
 MEPA Analyst: *Briony Angus*
 Phone: 617-626-1029

The information requested on this form must be completed to begin MEPA Review in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.

Project Name: SECTION 97A WATER MAIN EXTENSION		
Street: Bennington Street		
Municipality: East Boston, Revere	Watershed: Boston Harbor Basin	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42d-23m-37s to 42d-23m-19s Longitude: 70d-59m-39s to 71d 00m-00s	
Estimated commencement date: 11/07 NTP	Estimated completion date: 11/08	
Approximate cost: \$ 2,059,000	Status of project design: 50 %complete	
Proponent: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority		
Street: 2 Griffin Way		
Municipality: Chelsea	State MA	Zip Code: 02150
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Roy Perry, Project Manager		
Firm/Agency: MWRA	Street: 2 Griffin Way	
Municipality: Chelsea	State: MA	Zip Code: 02150
Phone: (617) 305-5767	Fax: (617) 371-1621	E-mail: r.perry@mwra.state.ma.us

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes X No

Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) X No

Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) X No

Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:

- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(B)) Yes X No
- a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09) Yes X No
- a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes X No
- a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes X No

Identify any financial assistance or land transfer from an agency of the Commonwealth, including the agency name and the amount of funding or land area (in acres): None

Are you requesting coordinated review with any other federal, state, regional, or local agency?
 Yes (Specify _____) X No

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals: Orders of Conditions, Revere, Boston; NPDES General

Stormwater Permit for Construction; Street Occupancy Permit , Boston Transportation Dept.; Street Opening Permit Boston Public Works Dept.; Grant of Location, Boston Public Improvement Commission; Boston Water and Sewer Commission Approval.

Which ENF or EIR review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03):

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input type="checkbox"/> Rare Species | <input type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| X ACEC | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical & Archaeological Resources |

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total	State Permits & Approvals
LAND				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superseding Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Chapter 91 License <input type="checkbox"/> 401 Water Quality Certification <input type="checkbox"/> MHD or MDC Access Permit <input type="checkbox"/> Water Management Act Permit <input type="checkbox"/> New Source Approval <input type="checkbox"/> DEP or MWRA Sewer Connection/ Extension Permit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i> MWRA 8(m); MBTA License Massachusetts Highway Department
Total site acreage	3.8			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	3.8	0	3.8	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		0		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Maximum height (in feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A	
TRANSPORTATION				
Vehicle trips per day	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A	
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GPD water withdrawal	N/A	N/A	N/A	
GPD wastewater generation/ treatment	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	0	0.6	0.6	

CONSERVATION LAND: Will the project involve the conversion of public parkland or other Article 97 public natural resources to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97?

Yes (Specify _____) No

Will it involve the release of any conservation restriction, preservation restriction, agricultural preservation restriction, or watershed preservation restriction?

Yes (Specify _____) No

RARE SPECIES: Does the project site include Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools, Priority Sites of Rare Species, or Exemplary Natural Communities?

Yes (Specify _____) No

HISTORICAL /ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES: Does the project site include any structure, site or district listed in the State Register of Historic Place or the inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth?

Yes (Specify _____) No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?

Yes (Specify _____) No

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN: Is the project in or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

Yes (Specify Rumney Marsh) No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project description should include (a) a description of the project site, (b) a description of both on-site and off-site alternatives and the impacts associated with each alternative, and (c) potential on-site and off-site mitigation measures for each alternative (You may attach one additional page, if necessary.)

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) is planning to construct a new 3000-foot watermain 16-inches in diameter in Bennington Street in Revere and East Boston as shown on Figures 1.0 and 1.1. The reason for filing the ENF is because a small portion of Bennington Street in which the proposed water pipe will be located, is within the Rumney Marsh/Belle Isle Marsh Area of Critical Environmental Concern. The new Section 97A watermain extension will begin in Bennington Street near the Belle Isle Marsh Inlet and end at MWRA Meter 99 adjacent to the MBTA Bridge over the Blue Line. The new 97A pipeline extension begins at the termination of the Section 97A pipeline that was constructed in 1998 as a part of the water supply project for the Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant. This new pipeline for the Northern High Service area will provide a redundant supply to Meter 99, which is presently supplied by a 16-inch unlined cast iron watermain, Section 55, which was constructed in 1931. The new pipeline connection to Meter 99, which serves Orient Heights, will also provide, through a pressure-reducing valve, an emergency connection point to the Boston Water and Sewer's low-pressure water distribution system, which serves part of East Boston and Logan Airport.

The project is part of the MWRA's Integrated Water Supply Improvement Program to improve the reliability and quality of the water supply, and to meet the stringent requirements of the federal Safe Water Drinking Water Act. This ten-year program includes \$1.7 billion in expenditures in five critical areas:

- Enhanced water protection measures
- Water treatment improvements
- Transmission system improvements

- Covered distribution storage
- Pipeline rehabilitation

The project area is located along a corridor with open space and a developed urban area that consists of single and multi family residences, the Suffolk Downs Race Track and the Suffolk Downs MBTA Blue Line station. The open space area abutting Bennington Street consists of wetlands and the Belle Isle Marsh Reservation under the jurisdiction of the Department of Conservation and Recreation. A large amount of the open space is part of an Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Approximately 250 ft. of the proposed pipeline in the street near Belle Isle Inlet are within the A2 flood zone which is the 100 year flood plain.

The MWRA conceptually studied several alternative routes and dismissed from further consideration those with significant impacts or technical difficulties involving construction. The remaining alternatives, shown on Figure 1.0 and in the table below, warranted additional investigation.

Section 97A Alignment Alternatives	Status
Alternative 1- <u>Location</u> : Bennington St. and MBTA bridge <u>Construction</u> : cut-and-cover excavation w/ MBTA Bridge crossing Alternative	Preferred
Alternative 2- <u>Location</u> : Bennington St., new easement (esmt.) in wetlands, Walley St. <u>Construction</u> : cut-and-cover along Sec.16 alignment, costly and risky pipe jacking under MBTA tracks, cut-and-cover through wetlands and Walley St.	Dismissed
Alternative 3- <u>Location</u> : Bennington St., existing MWRA esmt., Walley St. <u>Construction</u> : cut-and-cover along Sec. 16, costly and risky pipe jacking under MBTA tracks and T station platform, cut-and-cover esmt. and Walley St.	Dismissed

Of the alternatives, Alternative 1 is considered to be the preferred alternative. This alternative is located within Bennington Street right-of-way where there are existing pipes both active and inactive. The pipeline construction will use the cut-and-cover method and will cross the existing MBTA bridge. Where the pipe crosses the bridge it will be located between the bridge beams and will not be visible to the public. Negative impacts to wetlands and the high construction costs and construction risks associated with pipe jacking beneath the MBTA transit system are eliminated with Alternative 1.

It is anticipated that the construction will utilize one side of the paved road and the grassed area between the curb and sidewalk. A shallow trench will be excavated, pipe installed and the site backfilled and paved within a short period of time. If necessary, pedestrian traffic will be safely relocated on adjacent sidewalks. All impacts associated with Alternative 1 are temporary and during construction only. Once the project is completed the site will be restored to pre-existing conditions. The pipeline route does not encroach upon areas of open space, as the pipeline will be



Legend

- Existing Meter
- Proposed Pressure Reducing Valve
- MWRA Water Pipes in Service
- MWRA Water Pipes Out of Service
- Alternative Pipe Routes
- Area of Critical Environmental Concern

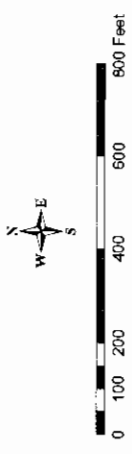
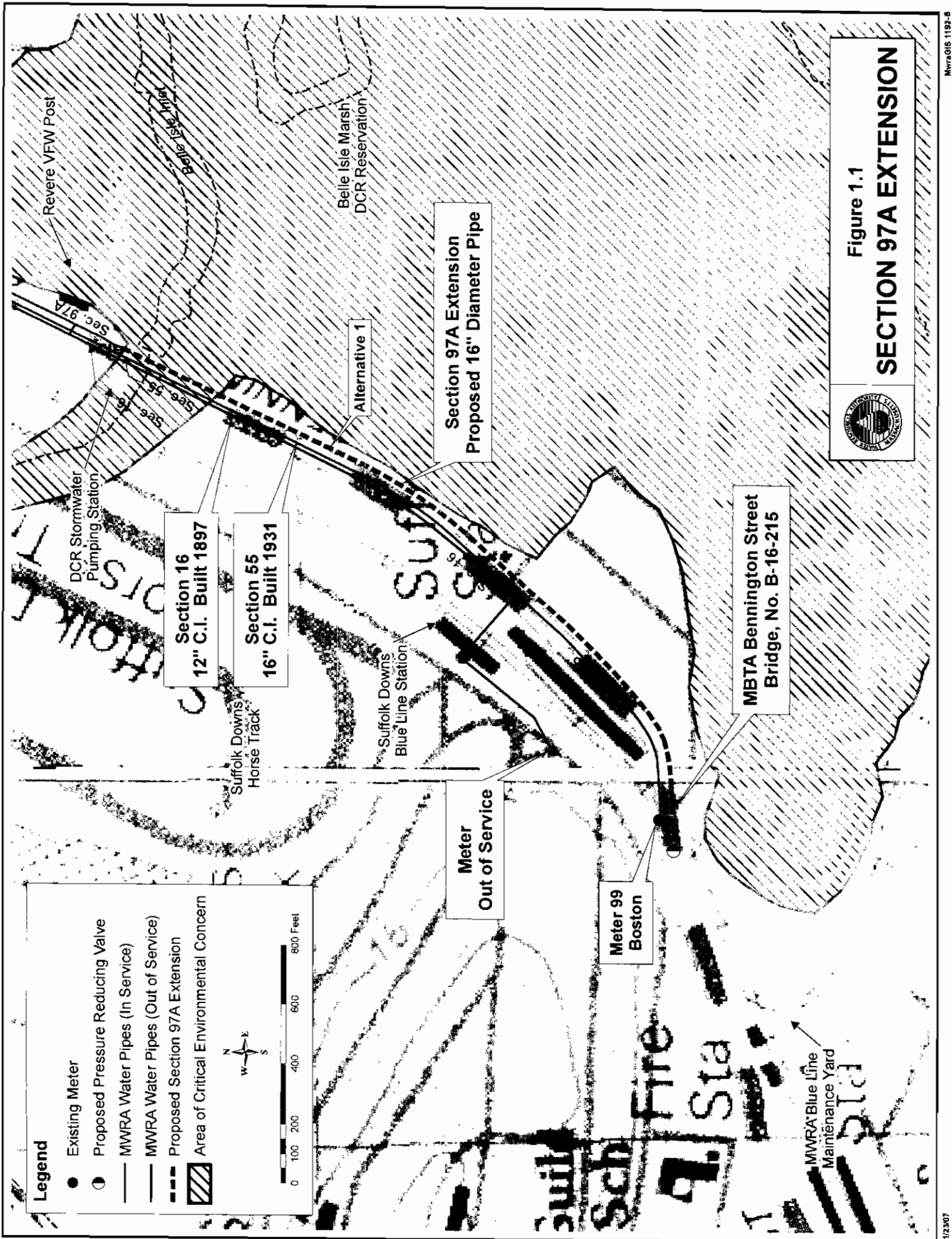


Figure 1.0
SECTION 97A EXTENSION



Legend

- Existing Meter
- Proposed Pressure Reducing Valve
- MWRA Water Pipes (In Service)
- MWRA Water Pipes (Out of Service)
- - - Proposed Section 97A Extension
- ▨ Area of Critical Environmental Concern

0 100 200 400 600 800 Feet

N
W E S

Figure 1.1
SECTION 97A EXTENSION

