

ENF Environmental Notification Form

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: **14288**
MEPA Analyst: **Holly Johnson**
Phone: 617-626-**1023**

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: Reclamation and Reconstruction of Route 62 (Old Boston Turnpike)		
Street: Route 62 (Old Boston Turnpike)		
Municipality: Town of Hubbardston	Watershed: Ware River	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 747872.34E 4703932.72 N	Latitude: 42.447530	Longitude: -71.984737
Estimated commencement date: Spring 2008	Estimated completion date: 2009	
Approximate cost: \$3,500,000.00	Status of project design: 25 -75 % complete	
Proponent: Mass Highway Department		
Street: 10 Park Plaza		
Municipality: Boston	State: MA	Zip Code: 02122
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Jessica Kenny		
Firm/Agency: MassHighway	Street: 403 Belmont Street	
Municipality: Worcester	State: MA	Zip Code: 01606
Phone: (508) 929.3703	Fax: (508) 799-9763	Email: jessica.kenny@mhd.state.ma.us

- Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?
 Yes No
- Has this project been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before?
 Yes (EOEA No. _____) No
- Is this an Expanded ENF (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) requesting:
- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8)) Yes No
 - a Special Review Procedure? (see 301 CMR 11.09) Yes No
 - a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes No
 - a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11) Yes 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):

MassHighway typically funds projects using 80% Federal Highway Administration funds and 20% MassHighway funds.

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:

**Town of Hubbardston Conservation Commission – Request for Determination or Notice of Intent
 FHWA Categorical Exclusion Checklist, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System**

(NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges for Construction Activities

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Energy | <input type="checkbox"/> Air | <input type="checkbox"/> Solid & Hazardous Waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 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 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 type="checkbox"/> Other Permits <i>(including Legislative Approvals) – Specify:</i>
Total site acreage	12.92			
New acres of land altered		0.85		
Acres of impervious area	11.23	0.85	12.08	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		N/C		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		N/C		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		N/C		
STRUCTURES				
Gross square footage	None			
Number of housing units				
Maximum height (in feet)				
Vehicle trips per day	1,800	N/C	1,800	
Parking spaces	None			
WATER/WASTEWATER				
Gallons/day (GPD) of water use	None			
GPD water withdrawal	None			
GPD wastewater generation/treatment	None			
Length of water/sewer mains (in miles)	None			

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

This project does not involve the acquisition or change in use of public parkland or Article 97 land. This project does require temporary easements onto the Department of Conservation and Recreation watershed land. In a letter dated May 21, 2008 (see attached letter), the Department of Conservation and Recreation granted seven easements to the Town of Hubbardston and its duly authorized agents to enter their lands. Parcels TS-1, TS-2 and TS-3 are temporary slope easements and exists for the life of the construction project. Parcel DS-1 is a

drainage and slope easement, for which the drainage portion of the easement allows access on a permanent basis. Parcels D-1, D-2 and D-3 are permanent drainage easements.

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 Estimated Habitat of Rare Species, Vernal Pools and Priority Sites of Rare Species) No

This project falls within habitat. A MESA information request is being prepared and will be filed with the Massachusetts Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program(MNHESP).
A copy of the ENF will be forwarded to MNHESP for their review and comment.

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 (See project record for full description) 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 _____) 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 proposed project involves the full-depth reconstruction or reclamation of a 4.1 mile segment of Route 62 (Old Boston Turnpike) in Hubbardston between the Princeton Town Line on the east and the Barre Town Line on the west. Route 62 is classified as a Rural Major Collector with an average daily traffic count of 1,800 vehicles. The purpose of this project is to improve travel conditions and safety in the corridor. Route 62's pavement is in poor condition and in need of repairs. This project has several Design Exceptions, including shoulder width, lane width and grade. The Design Exceptions are required because there would be significant environmental impacts and extensive costs to bring the roadway geometry and cross section to minimum standards. An Environmental Notification Form and MEPA review is required because the proposed work results in the cutting of five or more living public shade trees measuring 14 or more inches at breast height(301 CMR 11.03((6)(b)(2(b))). The proposed alternative includes adjusting the horizontal alignment as necessary within the existing highway layout to create a uniform 26-foot wide cross section for the entire length of the roadway, which will include widening sections of the existing paved roadway by a maximum of five feet on any given side as necessary, except at the intersection of Twin Hill Road as described below. New steel beam guardrails will be installed within the existing highway layout to replace and extend existing guardrails throughout the project area. All existing asphalt driveway aprons will be reconstructed.

Stone walls within the highway layout will be reset behind the layout line as necessary. A concrete-and-stone retaining wall will be removed from within the highway layout along the northerly side of the roadway at Station 53+50 Right adjacent to Asnacomet Pond. A new, two-foot high, dry-laid stone retaining wall will be constructed along the roadside from Sta. 83+60 to 85+80 Left just east of the

the roadway at Station 53+50 Right adjacent to Asnacomet Pond. A new, two-foot high, dry-laid stone retaining wall will be constructed along the roadside from Sta. 83+60 to 85+80 Left just east of the Ware River at the top of an embankment in front of a wooded wetland, and riprap will be laid down the embankment toward the wetland, to control erosion at that location.

Geometric improvements are proposed at the four-way intersection of Routes 62 and 68, at the T-intersection of Route 62 and Twin Hill Road, and at the four-way intersection of Route 62 and Barre Road, as follow:

1) At Route 68, the northwesterly and southwesterly corners of the intersection will be rounded by approximately five feet and eight feet respectively, to create a more perpendicular alignment. Asphalt berms will be constructed at the four corners of the intersection to better delineate the edge of pavement.

2) At Twin Hill Road, the roadway along Route 62 will be shifted southward by approximately fifteen feet into the existing graded shoulder area on the southerly side of the road. The northeasterly and northwesterly corners of the intersection will then be bumped out by approximately fifteen feet to create a more perpendicular alignment at the intersection. The Route 62 roadway will taper back to the existing edge of pavement within approximately 500 feet east of the intersection and approximately 300 feet west of the intersection. Minor strip takings of 1,310 sf and 895 sf will be required in previously graded roadside embankment areas along the southerly side of Route 62 to accommodate slope work and guardrail placement along the shifted roadway. A stone wall within the area of proposed widening on the southerly side of Route 62 at Sta. 105+50 +/- will be reset at the back of the new layout line. The bumped out area along the northerly side of Route 62 will be covered with loam and seeded with grass.

3) At Barre Road, new scored concrete islands will be constructed within the existing highway layout to better channelize traffic through the intersection.

The Y-intersection of Route 62 at Ed Clark Road, near the easterly terminus of the project, also may be realigned if funding is available. If this work is undertaken, the existing intersection will be eliminated and a new, perpendicular intersection will be constructed across an open drainage area within a triangular-shaped parcel immediately to the east of the intersection within the existing highway layout. Existing culverts at the location of the new intersection will be removed and new, extended culverts will be installed.

Major improvements to Bridge H-24-021, which carries Route 62 over the Ware River at Station 91+10, are not included in this project. Bridge H-24-021 is a two-span corrugated metal arch culvert constructed in 1950. The bridge and an adjacent 500-foot section of roadway along the Ware River basin will be improved under a separate contract as project #604636, which is scheduled to advertise on October 1, 2012. Under the present project, the bridge and this section of roadway will be resurfaced but will not be reconstructed or otherwise improved.

Easements

The Department of Conservation and Recreation granted seven easements to the Town of Hubbardston and its duly authorized agents to enter their lands. Parcels TS-1, TS-2 and TS-3 are temporary slope easements and exists for the life of the construction project. Parcel DS-1 is a drainage and slope easement, for which the drainage portion of the easement allows access on a permanent basis. Parcels

D-1, D-2 and D-3 are permanent drainage easements.

Environmental Resources within the project area

Drainage work in the project area includes repairing and/or replacing existing catch basins; repairing and extending existing cross culverts, including construction of new stone headwalls and stone pipe ends; and construction of new vegetated swales along the roadsides.

Work on this project also includes clearing and thinning roadside vegetation and removal of 100 or less trees within the Roadway layout. Trees will be removed throughout the entire Route 62 corridor. Trees to be removed have been identified as either obstructing vehicle operator's line of sight, posing as an impact hazard and/or which cause significant canopy in areas where icing conditions exist. A Public Hearing was held on May 5, 2008 and a tree hearing was held on April 23, 2008. All of the abutters expressed support for the project and no one objected to removal of the trees identified. Some abutters recommended removal of additional trees due to icing conditions at various locations

Work is proposed within Riverfront Area, a 100-year floodplain, and the 100-foot buffer zone to a Bordering Vegetated Wetland, areas regulated under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (WPA). All of the proposed work within the floodplain will occur within previously disturbed areas in and along the existing roadway. This project is considered a limited project under 310 CMR 10.53 (3)(d), and complies with the Wetlands Protection Act Regulations (310 CMR 10.00). A Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA) will be filed with the Hubbardston Conservation Commission in July 2008.