

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: *13661*
 MEPA Analyst: *Nick ZAVOLAS*
 Phone: *617-626-1030*

ENF Environmental Notification Form

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: Transportation Improvement Project		
South Washington Street/North Boundary Road		
Street: South Washington Street/North Boundary Road & Bay Street		
Municipality: Norton/Taunton	Watershed: Taunton River	
Universal Tranverse Mercator Coordinates: 19 323385E 4647777N	Latitude: 41.96°N	Longitude: 71.13°W
Estimated commencement date: Dec. 1, 2005	Estimated completion date: July 30, 2006	
Approximate cost: \$870, 000	Status of project design: 100 % Complete	
Proponent: Town of Norton		
Street: Town Hall, 70 E Main Street		
Municipality: Norton	State: MA	Zip Code: 02766
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Gene F. Crouch		
Firm/Agency: Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.	Street: 101 Walnut Street	
Municipality: Watertown	State: MA	Zip Code: 02471
Phone: (617) 924-1770	Fax: (617) 923-2336	E-mail: gcrouch@vhb.com

- 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 301CMR 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):
A \$1,030,385 Public Works Economic Development (PWED) grant has been received for this project.

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:
Norton and Taunton Conservation Commission Order of Conditions

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

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 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 checked="" 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	3.9 ±			
New acres of land altered		0.33 ±		
Acres of impervious area	3.36 ±	0.45 ±	3.81 ±	
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	1610	0	1610	
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)	N/A	N/A	N/A	

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

None of the land within the project area is subject to a restriction that requires a release.

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

Small portion of the Project site is within a Priority Habitat of Rare Species. A request has been submitted to the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program to determine what species is present within the project area and if the project has the potential to impact the species.

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

The project area contains one building included in the Inventory of Historic and Archaeological Assets of the Commonwealth (Inventory): the Butts House at 198 South Washington Street in Norton (MHC # NRT.144). The project area also includes two recorded archaeological sites: 19-NR-42 (recorded 1976) and 19-NR-43 (originally recorded 1939; destroyed in 1942 per Inventory form).

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: **Canoe River Aquifer**) 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 project site is 4,255 linear feet in length consisting of South Washington Street and North Boundary Road within the boundaries of Norton and Taunton, Massachusetts. In addition, the intersection at Bay Street and Industrial Park Road in Taunton will be improved. These roadways provide access to the South Washington Commerce Center in Norton.

South Washington Street (Norton) and North Boundary Road (Taunton) are south of, and run parallel to Interstate Route 495 (Figure 1). It is a 27 to 37 foot wide roadway which runs northwest and southeast from Route 23 in Norton to Miles Standish Boulevard in Taunton. The posted speed limit along this roadway is 30 miles per hour. Currently, the roadway contains no sidewalks. The roadway is owned and operated by the Town of Norton and City of Taunton. Commercial and industrial buildings exist along its corridor. The roadway is somewhat curvy and fairly level with topography ranging from 74 feet to 86 feet (NAVD 1988 datum). A variety of vegetational communities, including forested uplands, open upland, grassy areas, open detention ponds, and an intermittent stream, exist along the roadway corridor. Four wetlands are along the side project alignment, but there will be no impact to wetland resource areas.

The proposed project along South Washington Street and North Boundary Road consists of minor improvements to an existing roadway, including pavement reclamation, widening portions between 4 and 6 feet, establishing two 12-foot travel lanes and two 6-foot paved shoulders, adding a 5.5 foot wide sidewalk along the southern side, adding granite edging and curbing and improving the existing stormwater management system. The existing 31±-foot roadway cross section will increase to a consistent 36 feet. The project will improve the safety of the roadway and provide a sidewalk for pedestrians and paved roadway shoulders for bicyclists. The stormwater management system will also be improved by reconstruction and installation of new deep sump catch basins or reuse of existing deep sump catch basins.

The project also includes minor intersection improvements to the Bay Street intersection with Industrial Park Road in Taunton. The northwestern corner of the intersection will be widened by reducing the size of the existing traffic island. In addition, existing guard rail on the inside of the corner will be removed with minor filling along the inside of the corner. This will open up the turning lane and allow easier access for truck traffic. The existing roadway width at this intersection will not be changed.

The purpose of the project is to provide improved vehicle access and safety to the Norton Commerce Center Industrial Park in Norton along South Washington Street and North Boundary Road, and to improve truck access at Bay Street. Construction of a new roadway to provide the same vehicle access would require significantly greater impacts to land, transportation and environmental interests and was not considered a reasonable alternative. The proposed improvements were designed to minimize impacts and still achieve the project goals of improved access and safety.