

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
 Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office

**Environmental Notification Form**

*For Office Use Only*

EEA#: 15930

MEPA Analyst: Alex Steysky

*The information requested on this form must be completed in order to submit a document electronically for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.*

Project Name: **RECONSTRUCTION OF ROUTE 187 FROM 425 FEET SOUTH OF SOUTH WESTFIELD STREET TO ROUTE 57 (0.3 MILES)**  
 (MassDOT Project #600513)

Street Address: **Route 187**

Municipality: **Agawam, MA**

Watershed: **Connecticut River**

Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:

Latitude: **42.051920°**

Longitude: **-72.675754°**

**18T 692337.49 m E 4658154.64 m N**

Estimated commencement date: **TBD**

Estimated completion date: **TBD**

Project Type: **Highway Reconstruction**

Status of project design: **100% complete**

Proponent: **Town of Agawam, Department of Public Works**

Street Address: **Public Works Municipal Annex, 1000 Suffield Street**

Municipality: **Agawam**

State: **MA**

Zip Code: **01001**

Name of Contact Person: **Gene F. Crouch**

Firm/Agency: **VHB**

Street Address: **101 Walnut Street**

Municipality: **Watertown**

State: **MA**

Zip Code: **02471**

Phone: **617-607-2783**

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E-mail:

**GCrouch@vhb.com**

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

Yes  No

If this is an Expanded Environmental Notification Form (ENF) (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) or a Notice of Project Change (NPC), are you 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

(Note: Greenhouse Gas Emissions analysis must be included in the Expanded ENF.)

Which MEPA review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

**11.03(6)(b)2.b. – Construction, widening or maintenance of a roadway or its right-of-way that will cut five or more living public shade trees of 14 or more inches in diameter at breast height.**

Which State Agency Permits will the project require?

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:  
Construction funding from Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage	2.98		
New acres of land altered		0.55	
Acres of impervious area	1.44	0.55	1.99
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		150 (Temporary)	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0	
<b>STRUCTURES</b>			
Gross square footage	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of housing units	N/A	N/A	N/A
Maximum height (feet)	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Vehicle trips per day	9,889 (2016)	0	9,889
Parking spaces	0	0	0
<b>WASTEWATER</b>			
Water Use (Gallons per day)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Water withdrawal (GPD)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Wastewater generation/treatment (GPD)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of water mains (miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Length of sewer mains (miles)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Has this project been filed with MEPA before? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # <u>11790</u> ) <input type="checkbox"/> No			
Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input type="checkbox"/> No			

## GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION – all proponents must fill out this section

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Describe the existing conditions and land uses on the project site:

The project limits along Route 187 extend along South Westfield Street from 425 feet south of South Westfield Street/Pine Street intersection to just short of the relocated Route 57. The overall project length is approximately 1,800 linear feet (0.35 miles). The project area currently lacks sidewalks and site conditions result in inadequate sight distances for drivers.

South Westfield Street – Pine Street (Route 187) is classified as an Urban Minor Arterial to the intersection of Pine Street, then South Westfield Street travels southeast (at an unsignalized intersection) as an Urban Collector. Within the project limits, South Westfield Street is a two-lane roadway, with one lane in each direction and no bicycle accommodations (shoulders are around 1- to 2-feet). The roadway has a vertical and horizontal curve that will be improved as part of this project; which includes widening and lowering the roadway from STA 12+50 to STA 17+50. There are no other intersecting roadways within the project limits. The surrounding area is mostly residential in nature with adjacent farmlands and a few businesses.

Describe the proposed project and its programmatic and physical elements:

The proposed project consists of roadway improvements in the Town of Agawam, Massachusetts between the Route 57 interchange and just south of the intersection of Pine Street/ South Westfield Street. The project is approximately 1,800 linear feet and begins approximately 750-feet south of the Route 57 interchange; approximately 150-feet of the side street at the Pine Street intersection is included as part of this project. Proposed improvements include reconstruction of the roadway to allow for 11-foot travel lanes and 5-foot bicycle lanes, constructing enhanced pedestrian crossings; full depth reconstruction to improve the vertical and horizontal alignment near the intersection of Pine Street and South Westfield Street; installing new traffic markings and signage; constructing new continuous sidewalks with ADA-compliant features along the project limits; replacing the drainage system and adding a detention basin.

Describe the on-site project alternatives (and alternative off-site locations, if applicable), considered by the proponent, including at least one feasible alternative that is allowed under current zoning, and the reasons(s) that they were not selected as the preferred alternative:

**No Build Alternative:** This alternative was rejected because it would not address the substandard traffic operations, or unsafe pedestrian conditions caused by interrupted sidewalks and the lack of pedestrian crosswalks and pedestrian pushbuttons. Under this alternative the roadway would continue to have poor drainage conditions, perpetuating ponding and erosion. Poor sight distance in the project corridor would also not be addressed.

**Roadway Reconstruction:** Under this alternative, the roadway would be replaced with no modifications to horizontal or vertical roadway alignment. Sidewalks would not be constructed, and shoulders would not be widened to provide bicyclist access. This alternative was rejected because it did not address substandard sight distance, inadequacies in the drainage system from poor roadway grades, pedestrian safety, or bicyclist access.

**Roadway Reconstruction with Shoulder Widening:** This alternative was selected to create safer roadway conditions for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists and alleviate ponding and erosion created by the existing poor drainage. The proposed 11-foot-wide travel lane and 5-foot-wide shoulder meets the MassDOT bicycle accommodation directive of a 16-foot-wide shared travel lane and shoulder to safely accommodate bicyclists on the roadway.

Summarize the mitigation measures proposed to offset the impacts of the preferred alternative:

During construction, there will be impacts to traffic operations from the presence of construction equipment and workers. A Traffic Management Plan will be implemented to minimize delays and control traffic movement. Signs will be installed prior to entering the construction zone to alert drivers of the ongoing work and provide direction for travel lanes.

Mitigation in the form of an erosion and sedimentation control program and stormwater management plan is proposed. The project will involve temporary activities within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands associated with modifying drainage structures and associated outfalls, no mitigation is proposed.

If the project is proposed to be constructed in phases, please describe each phase:

The project will not be constructed in phases.

An ENF was filed with MEPA (EEA No. 11790) in 1998 which included roadway improvements for 3.3 miles of Route 187. The section of Route 187 that is the subject of this ENF was part of that earlier project. The original project was eventually abandoned due to issues related to acquisition of new right-of-way (ROW) for stormwater management measures. The original project included a new stormwater drainage system and needed stormwater basins for control and treatment of runoff. After significant effort, new ROW for stormwater basins could not be identified and secured and the larger project was abandoned. This shorter project although part of the larger project could stand alone and the Route 187/Pine Street intersection needed improvement. Since the existing project is so different from the original design and well more than 5 years has elapsed, a new ENF was prepared for this portion of the original larger project.

**AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN:**

Is the project within or adjacent to an Area of Critical Environmental Concern?

- Yes (Specify: \_\_\_)  
 No

If yes, does the ACEC have an approved Resource Management Plan? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No;

If yes, describe how the project complies with this plan.

Will there be stormwater runoff or discharge to the designated ACEC? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No;

If yes, describe and assess the potential impacts of such stormwater runoff/discharge to the designated ACEC.

**RARE SPECIES:**

Does the project site include Estimated and/or Priority Habitat of State-Listed Rare Species? (see [http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhESP/regulatory\\_review/priority\\_habitat/priority\\_habitat\\_home.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/nhESP/regulatory_review/priority_habitat/priority_habitat_home.htm))

- 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: The project limits are adjacent to: AGA.220 (528 South Westfield Street), AGA.222 (683 South Westfield Street), AGA.221 (544 South Westfield St))  No

If yes, does the project involve any demolition or destruction of any listed or inventoried historic or archaeological resources?  Yes (Specify: \_\_\_\_\_)  No

**WATER RESOURCES:**

Is there an Outstanding Resource Water (ORW) on or within a half-mile radius of the project site? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No;

No; if yes, identify the ORW and its location.

(NOTE: Outstanding Resource Waters include Class A public water supplies, their tributaries, and bordering wetlands; active and inactive reservoirs approved by MassDEP; certain waters within Areas of Critical