

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

**Environmental Notification Form**

*For Office Use Only*

EEA#: 16120  
 MEPA Analyst: PAGE CZEPIGA

*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: Montague City Road Roadway Flooding Protection Project		
Street Address: Montague City Road		
Municipality: Town of Montague	Watershed:	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: 42.59060N Longitude: 72.56971W	
Estimated commencement date: 2020	Estimated completion date: 2020	
Project Type: Flood Resiliency	Status of project design: 95 %complete	
Proponent: Town of Montague		
Street Address: One Avenue A		
Municipality: Turners Falls	State: MA	Zip Code: 01376
Name of Contact Person: Valerie Miller		
Firm/Agency: SWCA Environmental Con.	Street Address: 15 Research Drive	
Municipality: Amherst	State: MA	Zip Code: 01002
Phone: 413-658-2062	Fax:	E-mail: vmiller@swca.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: **No**

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)?  
**301 CMR 11.03(3)(b)1 b and d**

Which State Agency Permits will the project require? **A 401 Water Quality Certification form (WQC-BRP WW08) will be required in association with dredging greater than 100 cubic yards (cu) of sediment.**

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: **Montague received a federal grant from the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program to promote flood resiliency and complete this project.**

<b>Summary of Project Size &amp; Environmental Impacts</b>	<b>Existing</b>	<b>Change</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage			
New acres of land altered		0	
Acres of impervious area		0	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		14,699	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration <b>LAND UNDER WATER</b>		8,756	
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	N/A	N/A	N/A
Parking spaces	N/A	N/A	N/A
<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 type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" 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 site is associated with a portion of Montague City Road where an unnamed perennial stream and wetlands is present adjacent to the road. This stream and wetlands has filled with sediment over the years and now causes flooding. The flooding is a hazard to traffic and emergency vehicles have had to be re-routed during flood events. Photographs of the roadway are provided in Appendix A.

Describe the proposed project and its programmatic and physical elements:

The Town of Montague (Town) is permitting proposed road and drainage improvements for a section of Montague City Road. The work will occur between the former Pan AM Railways track and Montague City Road. See Figures 1 and 2 attached. Specifically, an unnamed perennial stream located adjacent to the road has been overflowing and causing flooding as a result of sediment and debris build up in the streambed. The flooding has caused Montague City Road to be closed on several occasions. The project proposes to remove the sediment and debris from the stream channel and to also remove the accumulated sediment from within the adjacent wetlands. In addition, two new catch basins will be installed and connected to the existing drain system. This will allow the stream to connect to its original floodplain, and restore the flood storage capacity of the wetlands.

This sediment build up in the unnamed stream was historically maintained by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, but the Town is now responsible.

The plan set prepared by Wright-Pierce, illustrating the proposed work, is presented in Appendix B.

Proposed impacts to Bank, Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) and Land Under Water (LUW) and additional resources are as follows:

- Impacts to Bank resource areas will include temporary impacts to 2,758 linear feet (lf) of bank.
- Impacts to Bordering Vegetated Wetland (BVW) will include the temporary impact to 14,669 sf of BVW, which is proposed to be restored at a 1:1 basis.
- Impacts to Land Under Water (LUW) will include temporary impacts to 8,756 sf of LUW.
- Impacts to Riverfront Area, will temporarily impact 735 sf of Riverfront Area.

The Town proposes to complete this project in 2020 and it is estimated that construction will take 3 months. A construction sequence has been developed for this project and is provided in Appendix C.

*NOTE: The project description should summarize both the project's direct and indirect impacts (including construction period impacts) in terms of their magnitude, geographic extent, duration and frequency, and reversibility, as applicable. It should also discuss the infrastructure requirements of the project and the capacity of the municipal and/or regional infrastructure to sustain these requirements into the future.*

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:

There were two alternatives to the proposed project scope. The first was to do nothing. However, this was not acceptable as the current flooding causes Montague City Road to be closed. This road closure causes the re-routing of emergency vehicles creating a safety issue for the public. The Town is undertaking this project as a resiliency project to improve the Town's road and stormwater system and maintain safety in the town.

The second alternative was to design a new stormwater infrastructure system within the right of way to the road. In doing so the project would need to try to maintain the same outfall approximately 1,500 linear feet down stream. This is not technically possible due to the existing relatively flat grades. In addition, the cost associated with a new stormwater system was beyond the Town of Montagues financial capabilities and grant amount.

**NOTE:** The purpose of the alternatives analysis is to consider what effect changing the parameters and/or siting of a project, or components thereof, will have on the environment, keeping in mind that the objective of the MEPA review process is to avoid or minimize damage to the environment to the greatest extent feasible. Examples of alternative projects include alternative site locations, alternative site uses, and alternative site configurations.

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

The purpose of this project is to prevent flooding onto Montague City Road. The proposed channel maintenance and subsequent restoration work will restore the natural channel width and adjacent BVW. BVW that that will be temporarily altered during the maintenance project, will be resorted in place. Work will consist of installing two catch basins and new cape-cod-berm at the "low point" of the existing pavement within Montague City Road. As part of the proposed project 14,669 sf of BVW will be temporarily impacted during the dredging and removal of the berm material. The BVW will be restored in place with no permanent loss of BVW or Bank. Sheet C-1 of the plan set provided has been revised to include the resource area plant list.

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

This will not be completed in phases.

**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 \_\_\_\_\_)  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;

if yes, identify the ORW and its location. \_\_\_\_\_

(NOTE: Outstanding Resource Waters include Class A public water supplies, their tributaries, and bordering