

For Office Use Only
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

EOEA No.: 12755
MEPA Analyst: Dick Foster
Phone: 617-626-1026

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: Masterton Road Reconstruction		
Street: Masterton Road		
Municipality: Whately, MA	Watershed: Connecticut	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates:	Latitude: N 42° 25' 38.0" Longitude: W 72° 39' 23.7"	
Estimated commencement date: May 1, 2002	Estimated completion date: Nov 30, 2002	
Approximate cost: \$500,505	Status of project design: 50	%complete
Proponent: Town of Whately		
Street: 218 Chestnut Plain Road		
Municipality: Whately	State: MA	Zip Code: 01093
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: Steven G. Mason, P.E.		
Firm/Agency: Dufresne-Henry	Street: 278 Main Street, Suite 205	
Municipality: Greenfield	State: MA	Zip Code: 01301
Phone: (413) 773-3642	Fax: (413) 774-5820	E-mail: damson@dufresne-henry.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): Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, Small Town Road Assistance Program (STRAP) Grant - \$500,000.

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

List Local or Federal Permits and Approvals:
 Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act Order of Conditions
 Department of Environmental Protection

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

- Land
- Water
- Energy
- ACEC

- Rare Species
- Wastewater
- Air
- Regulations

- Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands
- Transportation
- Solid & Hazardous Waste
- 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 checked="" 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	6.37 acres			
New acres of land altered		0		
Acres of impervious area	0.46 acres	2.53 acres	2.99 acres	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		1172 sf		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0 sf		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		0 sf		
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	88	0	88	
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

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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

* A request for determination was sent to the Massachusetts Historical Commission (See Section 2: Agency Letters). Eric Johnson of the MHC stated on 25 Mar 02 that they will make a determination of project impacts after reviewing the more detailed plans in this ENF (via telephone conversation).

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 project is located in the town of Whately, Massachusetts, and consists of the reconstruction of the entire length of Masterson Road and its intersections at Dickinson Hill Road and Haydenville Road (see attached figure and site locus.) Masterson Road is a relatively new roadway, originally laid out by the County Commissioners in 1974. It has never been more than a narrow graveled way. There is an intermittent stream that crosses the road in a 36" CMP culvert. The road has experienced a substantial expansion in use and residential development since it was first created, thus requiring these improvements. Residential or agricultural uses exist along both sides of the road.

The construction will involve the vertical realignment and widening of most sections of the existing gravel roadway. The roadway width of 14' to 18' will be increased and paved to a uniform 22' width, for a length of 4,800 feet. The intersection of Masterson Road and Haydenville Road will be relocated approximately 130 feet westerly to increase sight distances to the curve in Haydenville Road. Approximately 650 feet of Dickinson Hill Road will be realigned and paved.

Catch basins, drainage manholes, and drain pipes will be installed along the road to improve drainage. The gravel surface has experienced severe erosion in the past. The new drain pipes will be integrated into to the existing drainage system. All areas will continue to drain to the same watersheds. The road will be re-graded in locations to improve storm water drainage and safety. A drainage detention basin will be installed at the intersection of Haydenville and Masterson Roads for storm water control in order to meet Massachusetts Stormwater Management Standards. Gabion retaining walls will be used to minimize the alteration of wetlands in areas where the increased width and height of the roadway may encroach on the wetlands. Berms, guardrails and subdrainage will be included in the road upgrades.

Alternatives were investigated for the intersection of Masterson Road and Haydenville Road. The intersection is being moved to increase sight distances. The alternatives included leaving the intersection where it was, relocating it approximately 130 feet westerly, and relocating it approximately 200 feet westerly. It was determined that relocating the intersection 130 feet westerly would increase sight distances to the curve in Haydenville Road, improving safety. Relocating the intersection 200 feet westerly was determined not to significantly increase safety, but would increase the amount of land disturbed and increase the size of the taking required and so was not pursued.

Several minor alternatives to the original design were developed to reduce the amount of wetlands impacted, to preserve stonewalls, and to preserve trees. These alternatives were adopted wherever possible to reduce the project's impacts on the existing conditions. The impact summary table located in the land section of this form reflects a large change in the roadways, parking, and other paved areas because, the road is presently gravel and will be paved.