

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ENF

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs ■ MEPA Office

Environmental Notification Form

<i>For Office Use Only</i>	
<i>Executive Office of Environmental Affairs</i>	
EOEA No.:	12901
MEPA Analyst:	Nick ZAVOLAS
Phone: 617-626-	1030

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: Fall River Bicycle Path/Alternative Transportation Facility		
Street: Westport to Britland Park along Watuppa Secondary Track right-of-way		
Municipality: Fall River	Watershed: Narragansett Bay	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 4616300 N 323500 E	Latitude: 41°41'N	Longitude: 71°7'30"W
Estimated commencement date: March 2004 Construction of Phase 1	Estimated completion date: September 2004 Construction of Phase 1	
Approximate cost: Phase 1 \$400,000 Phase 2: \$2,000,000	Status of project design: Phase 1: 25% design approved by MHD	
Proponent: City of Fall River		
Street: One Government Center		
Municipality: Fall River	State: MA	Zip Code: 02722
Name of Contact Person From Whom Copies of this ENF May Be Obtained: James Hartnett		
Firm/Agency: City of Fall River	Street: One Government Center	
Municipality: Fall River	State: MA	Zip Code: 02722
Phone: (508) 324-2561	Fax: (508) 324-2564	E-mail:

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))	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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 - Transportation Enhancement 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: **Required:**
Order of Conditions, Fall River Conservation Commission; Category I ACOE Section 404 Programmatic General Permit; Chapter 91 License; NPDES – No permits have been filed at this time.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands, Waterways, & Tidelands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water | <input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater | <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Order of Conditions <input type="checkbox"/> Superceding Order of Conditions <input checked="" 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	4.52			
New acres of land altered		0.23		
Acres of impervious area	0	2.14	2.14	
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		3,052 sf		
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		2,106 sf Land Under Waterbody 53,636 sf Riverfront Area 2,602 cf Bordering Land Subject to Flooding 1,070 ft Bank		
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		N/A		
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	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Parking spaces	N/A	20	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

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

In compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., will coordinate its review with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for potential project impacts to National/State Register listed or National Register eligible historic properties in compliance with federal Section 106.

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.*)

Project Description

The City of Fall River, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway), proposes to construct a bicycle path/alternative transportation facility from the Westport municipal boundary to Britland Park in Fall River, a distance of approximately 2.18 miles. The majority of the project will be within the former Watuppa Secondary Track right-of-way (ROW) currently owned by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation and Construction (EOTC). The purpose of the project is to promote safer bicycle and pedestrian travel within the City of Fall River, provide bicycle and pedestrian access to several city facilities, create a bicycle path/alternative transportation facility for recreational and transportation uses, enhance the public recreational opportunities that currently exist in Fall River and the surrounding region, and provide a link in a regional network of bicycle facilities. MassHighway is funding the project with Transportation Enhancement Funds. The City of Fall River is coordinating the design of the project and right-of-way acquisition. MassHighway will review and approve the project design, advertise for construction bids, and oversee the actual construction work.

Phase 1 of the project begins at the Westport/Fall River municipal boundary and then generally follows the former Rail Road (RR) ROW to the Brayton Avenue Extension, the second phase would proceed along the RR ROW to Britland Park. Impacts to wetlands have been avoided or minimized by designing the proposed bicycle path/alternative transportation facility within the former RR ROW. Where wetland impacts could not be avoided, mitigation in the form of replacement wetland (for lost bordering vegetated wetland) will be provided.

Descriptions of the project and the design issues associated with it are provided in Attachment A – Project Narrative. Typical cross sections are included as Attachment B. Total project impacts from all phases of developed path have been estimated and are presented on page 2 of this ENF.