

**DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING**

**May 31, 2007  
7:00 PM**

**Bentley School  
25 Memorial Drive  
Salem, Massachusetts**

**for**

**Changes to the Intersection of  
North Street and Bridge Street**



**LUISA PAIEWONSKY  
COMMISSIONER**

**DAVID ANDERSON, P.E.  
ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER**



DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION  
MASSACHUSETTS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

**ECT**

BERNARD COHEN  
SECRETARY

LUISA PAIEWONSKY  
COMMISSIONER

Dear Concerned Citizen:

The Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway) is committed to building and maintaining a transportation infrastructure that is both safe and efficient for all who use our roadways, bridges, bicycle facilities and pedestrian paths, while maintaining the integrity of the environment.

As part of the design process for this project, we are conducting this public hearing to explain the proposed improvements, listen to your comments and answer any questions you may have. At the conclusion of the hearing, MassHighway will review all of your comments and, where feasible, incorporate them into the design of the project.

Unfortunately, new construction often creates inconveniences for the public. MassHighway places a great deal of emphasis on minimizing the temporary disruptive effects of construction.

MassHighway encourages input from local communities and values your opinions. Please be assured that we will undertake no project without addressing the concerns of the community.

Sincerely,



Luisa Paiewonsky  
Commissioner

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
MASSACHUSETTS HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**

A Design Public Hearing will be held by MassHighway in conjunction with the Division of Capital Asset Management and the City of Salem to discuss the proposed North Street Reconstruction project, in the vicinity of Bridge Street, in Salem, MA.

**WHERE:** Bentley School, Memorial Drive, Salem, MA 01970

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 31, 2007 @ 7:00 P.M.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed North Street Reconstruction project in the vicinity of Bridge Street. All views and comments made at the hearing will be reviewed and considered to the maximum extent possible.

**PROPOSAL:** The proposed project consists of changes to the intersection of North Street with Bridge Street, including reconfiguring ramp geometry and the installation of a traffic signal. This work is necessary to facilitate the construction of a new Judicial Center to be located on Federal Street.

A secure right-of-way is necessary for this project. Acquisitions in fee and permanent or temporary easements may be required. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is responsible for acquiring all needed rights in private or public lands. MassHighway's policy concerning land acquisitions will be discussed at this hearing.

Written views received by MassHighway subsequent to the date of this notice and up to five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing shall be displayed for public inspection and copying at the time and date listed above. Plans will be on display one-half hour before the hearing begins, with an engineer in attendance to answer questions regarding this project. A project handout is available on the MassHighway website listed below.

Written statements and other exhibits in place of, or in addition to, oral statements made at the Public Hearing regarding the proposed undertaking are to be submitted to David Anderson, P.E., Acting Chief Engineer, Massachusetts Highway Department, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116. Such submissions will also be accepted at the hearing. The final date of receipt of these statements and exhibits for inclusion in the public hearing transcript will be ten (10) days after this Public Hearing.

The community has declared that this facility is accessible to all in compliance with the ADA / Title II. However, persons in need of ADA / Title II accommodations should contact Angela Rudikoff by phone at (617) 973-7005 or email [angela.rudikoff@eot.state.ma.us](mailto:angela.rudikoff@eot.state.ma.us). Requests must be made at least 10 days prior to the date of the public hearing. In case of inclement weather, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHighway website <http://www.mass.gov/mhd>.

LUISA PAIEWONSKY  
COMMISSIONER

DAVID ANDERSON, P.E.  
ACTING CHIEF ENGINEER

Boston, Massachusetts

## **WHAT IS A PUBLIC HEARING?**

### **WHY A PUBLIC HEARING?**

To provide an assured method whereby the Commonwealth can furnish to the public information concerning the State's highway construction proposals, and to afford every interested resident of the area an opportunity to be heard on any proposed Federal Aid project. At the same time, the hearings afford the Commonwealth an additional opportunity to receive information from local sources which would be of value to the State in making its final decision as to which locations or design should be selected for further development.

### **WHY NOT A VOTE ON PROJECT PLANS?**

The hearings are not intended to be a popular referendum for the purpose of determining the design of a proposed improvement by a majority vote of those present. They do not relieve the duly constituted officials of The State Highway Department of the necessity for making decisions in State Highway matters for which they are charged with full responsibility.

### **WHAT DOES A PUBLIC HEARING ACCOMPLISH?**

It is designed to insure the opportunity for, and the availability of, a forum to provide factual information which is pertinent to the determination of the final location considered by the State to best serve the public interest, and on which improvement projects are proposed to be undertaken.

It is important that the people of the area express their views in regard to the proposal being presented, so that views can be properly recorded in the minutes of the meeting. These minutes will be carefully studied by the Massachusetts Highway Department and will be taken into consideration in the determination of the final location and design.

## **Changes to the Intersection of North Street Route 114 and Bridge Street Route 107 SALEM**

This Design Public Hearing is being held by MassHighway in conjunction with the Division of Capital Asset Management and the City of Salem to discuss changes to the proposed North Street Reconstruction project, in the vicinity of Bridge Street, in Salem, MA.

### ***Background***

As part of the analysis for the proposed J. Michael Ruane Judicial Center on Federal Street, a detailed traffic evaluation of the area was undertaken. The Study Area included 21 intersections, links between the intersections, and surrounding projects.

### ***Findings***

The removal of the easterly ramps between North Street and Bridge Street and the installation of a fully actuated traffic signals - at the intersection of North Street and Federal Street and at the intersection of the East Ramps and Bridge Street - mitigates the removal of the east ramps and provides improvements to the study area. Within the 21 intersection study area, improvements will result at 9 locations, with the remaining locations remaining the same. This project does not degrade traffic flow or pedestrian safety at any of the 21 intersections.

The installation of the traffic signal at North Street and Federal Street will also include improved pedestrian features, crosswalks, ramps, pedestrian signals, and will result in enhanced pedestrian circulation through the area.

### ***Objectives***

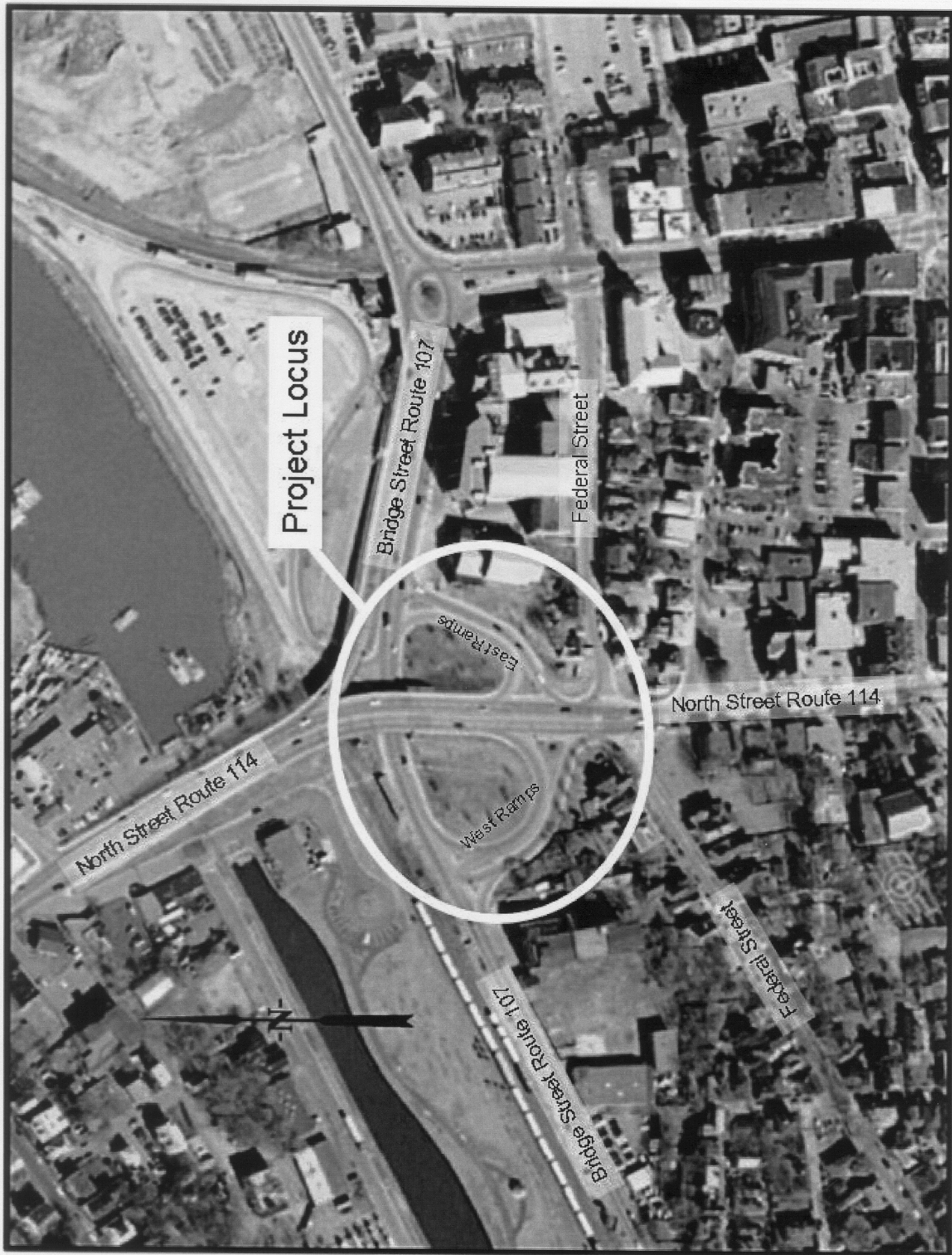
The objective of adding these traffic signals to the current North Street project currently under construction is to mitigate the removal of the easterly ramps which is required as a result of construction of the Proposed Judicial Center on Federal Street. The remainder of the North Street project will continue as proposed.

### ***Right of Way***

No Right of Way or easements are required for these additions.

### ***Maintenance of Traffic During Construction***

Vehicle and pedestrian traffic will be maintained through the project area during construction. Temporary lane closures or temporary relocations of pedestrian movements may be required during construction to facilitate certain construction activities. Efforts will be made to minimize any inconvenience to the public. Pedestrian and vehicular access to abutting properties will be maintained during construction.



Project Locus

Bridge Street Route 107

Federal Street

North Street Route 114

East Ramps

West Ramps

North Street Route 114

Federal Street

Bridge Street Route 107



**PLEASE FOLD AND STAPLE**

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**Stamp**

**Mr. David Anderson, P.E.  
Acting Chief Engineer  
Massachusetts Highway Department  
Transportation Building  
10 Park Plaza  
Boston, MA 02116-3973**

**ATT: Steve McLaughlin  
Room 6340**

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