Neponset River Greenway Public Hearing
May 2021
DCR Mission Statement
To protect, promote and enhance our common wealth of natural, cultural and recreational resources for the well-being of all

MassDOT Mission Statement
To deliver excellent customer service to people traveling in the Commonwealth by providing transportation infrastructure which is safe, reliable, robust and resilient. We work to provide a transportation system which can strengthen the state’s economy and improve the quality of life for all.
Neponset River Greenway Public Hearing
Project Team

Department of Conservation and Recreation
Project Proponent/Project Review

MassDOT
Responsible for Design Review and administering the Construction Process

Federal Highway Administration
Federally Funded Project

Design Team

BSC Group
Design Consultant – Trail design, Traffic Engineering and Permitting
Landscape Architecture – Crosby Schlessinger Smallridge
Structural Engineering – Lin Associates
Geotechnical Engineering - GZA
Agenda

• Project Background & Goals
• Site Analysis, Alternatives & Project Scope
• Project Impacts
• Environmental Permitting
• Project Schedule
• Questions & Comments
Neponset Reservation Master Plan -1996

- Create, preserve, and enhance the interconnected system of parks, nature reserves, and scenic roadways, specifically along the Neponset River

- Complete DCR’s vision from 1990s for a seven-mile shared-use path along the Neponset River and Dorchester Bay

- Provide a safe, recreational opportunities to users of all ages from commuters to families

- Improve vegetation and natural resources along the project corridor
Project Goals

1. Provide a safe greenway connection from Tenean Beach to Morrissey Boulevard

2. Create a new linear park with access to the waterfront

3. Create pedestrian and bike connections to Victory Road Park and make improvements to the park

4. Address climate resiliency

5. Improve the habitat value of the corridor
Neponset River Greenway Development

- **1999**: Pope John Paul Park
- **2010**: Truman Parkway – Northern Section
- **2015**: Truman Parkway – Southern Section
- **2017**: Blue Hill Ave to Central Ave
- **2022-2024**: Tenean Beach to Morrissey Boulevard (anticipated)
Project Description

1. Conley Street, Tenean Street to Tenean Beach ~ 500 LF
2. Conley Street to Victory Road, West of I-93 ~2,000 Linear Feet
3. Victory Road, Freeport Street to Victory Park ~450 Linear Feet
4. Victory Road to Morrissey Boulevard, East of I-93 ~1,700 Linear Feet
Site Conditions and Opportunities

Opportunities for safe and visible trail connections.

Opportunities to improve the corridor.
Site Conditions and Opportunities

Opportunity to address climate resiliency and stormwater management.

Opportunities to improve habitat value.
Alternatives Analysis

**Alternative 1:** Tenean Beach to Morrissey Boulevard via Freeport Street and Victory Road

- Does not provide an off-road bike and pedestrian connection from Tenean Beach to Morrissey Boulevard.
- Limited right-of-way available.
- Frequent curb cuts.
Preferred Alternative

1. Provide a safe greenway connection from Tenean Beach to Morrissey Boulevard.

2. Create a new linear park with access to the waterfront.

3. Create pedestrian and bike connections to Victory Road Park and make improvements to the park.

4. Address climate resiliency.

5. Improve the habitat value of the corridor.
Project Scope

- Shared-use path with a boardwalk over Dorchester Bay with overlooks for ocean views
- Civil engineering drainage improvements
- Provide plantings and site furnishings along project corridor
- Improved access to Victory Park
- Improved way-finding signage
Section/ Elevation

Proposed Roadway Section Conley Street
Looking West
Section/ Elevation
Adjacent to I-93 Looking North at Boston Bowl

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boston Bowl</th>
<th>Greenway</th>
<th>I-93 South</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>~30’ Wide</td>
<td></td>
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</table>
Section/ Elevation
Adjacent to I-93 Looking North
at 780 Morrissey Blvd

| 780 Morrissey | Greenway ~60’ Wide | I-93 South |
Section/ Elevation

Adjacent to I-93 Looking North at MassDOT Salt Shed
Section/ Elevation

Entry at Victory Rd showing rest area.
Section/ Elevation

Proposed Alternative 1 Roadway Section at Victory Road Looking East
Victory Road—Alternative 1
I-93 Off Ramp at Victory

Existing Roadway Crossing at Victory Road
Looking North
I-93 Off Ramp at Victory

Proposed Alternative 1 Roadway Crossing at Victory Road Looking North
Section/ Elevation

Proposed Alternative 2 Roadway Section at Victory Road Looking East

Greenway  | Victory Road  | Sidewalk
---|---|---
12’ | 30’ Curb to Curb Width | 8’
Victory Road – Alternative 2
Victory Road Looking West

Existing Roadway Crossing at Victory Road
Looking West
Victory Road Looking West

Proposed Alternative 2 Roadway Crossing at Victory Road Looking West
Section/ Elevation
National Grid Property Looking North

I-93 North | Greenway 30' Wide | National Grid Solar Array
Section/ Elevation
Boardwalk Section Looking North
Project Materials

*photo credit: Lee Toma
Right-of-Way Impacts
Right-of-Way Impacts

Legend:
- Existing Layout / Property Line
- Easement Granted on MassDot Layout for Bicycle and Pedestrian Use
- Long-term Lease for Greenway Use
- Temporary Construction Easement

1955 SHLO #4309
Right-of-Way Impacts
Temporary Construction Impacts

• I-93 off-ramp to Morrissey Boulevard to be reduced in travel lane width for construction purposes.

• Short-term closures to Conley Street and Victory Road sidewalks, and to Victory Road Park during construction of improvements.
Environmental Permitting

- MEPA/NEPA
- Chapter 91
- Notice of Intent
- 401 Water Quality Certification
- Pre-Construction Notification with USACE
Project Schedule

2020
- May 2020 25%/75% Design

2021
- May 2021 Design Public Hearing
- Summer 2021 100% Design

2022 - 2024
- Fall/Winter 2021/22 Plans, Specifications & Estimate
- Fall 2022 Begin Construction
Comment Forms & Contact Information

Opportunities to Submit Comments:

• Visit MassDOT website to access the Hearing Handout
  https://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings

  Click on the link to **Boston – Neponset River Greenway**

• Submit Comments during the Design Public Hearing

• MassDOT website also provides instructions for how to send comments by Online Comment Form, E-mail or Mail-in Form
MassDOT Website:

Comment on this project:
MassDOT provides three opportunities for official public comment on this project. All comments or questions received by the methods listed below must be postmarked/date stamped no later than ten (10) business days after the public hearing (June 16, 2021 for this project) and will become part of the Official Record. All comments or questions received after will be addressed, but will not be a part of the Official Record.

Submit your comments by:

- Filling out the online [Project Comment Form](#)
- Sending us an e-mail at [DOTHighwayDesign@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:DOTHighwayDesign@dot.state.ma.us)  Attention: Project File No. 608943
- Mailing your comments via US Mail to Patricia A. Leavenworth, P.E., Chief Engineer, MassDOT, Suite 6340, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116, Attention: Highway Design, Project File No. 608943
MassDOT Website – Online Project Comment Form:

**Boston - Neponset River Greenway Construction (608943)**
The proposed project includes construction of a shared-use path, from Tenean Beach to Morrissey Boulevard, a total distance of approximately 3,600 feet (0.7 miles).

1) Please enter your comment below:

Please do not place any personally identifiable information (name, phone, or email) within your comment.

2) Select any of the following topics that apply to your comment: (Select up to 3)

- Environmental
- Bike and pedestrian improvements
- Construction
- Roadway/Design
- Other Topic