



TOWN OF BROOKLINE
Massachusetts
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

March 19, 2021

Erin Chute Gallentine
Commissioner

Residents of Monmouth Court/Street
Residents adjacent Carlton Footpath
Precinct 1 Town Meeting Members
Brookline, MA 02446

Via email and hand-distribution

RE: CARLTON STREET FOOTBRIDGE REHABILITATION
Construction Access, Pedestrian Detours and Tree Removals

Dear Residents and Precinct 1 TMM:

The Carlton Street Footbridge Rehabilitation project has officially begun this month, as many of you in the neighborhood will have noticed the initial construction site mobilization underway at the Riverway Park side of the footbridge. In addition, you should have received notice of MassDOT's virtual Public Information Meeting (PIM) scheduled for this coming Wednesday, March 24th, 2021, at 6:00PM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85700975535?pwd=SnU3eXVkbW1wSy9MZlRRd3NRVlVzUT09> or join **Zoom Meeting ID: 857 0097 5535 – Passcode: 022516.**

In light of the upcoming PIM and recent finalization of construction access, sequencing and safety plans by MassDOT and their Contractor, Aetna Bridge Company, I wanted to bring to the neighborhood's attention (3) three construction operations that will affect those living both adjacent to the footbridge site as well as in close proximity, at Monmouth Court and Monmouth Street:

Construction Access

In order to safely access and install the new footbridge and ramp foundations at the northerly side of the MBTA Greenline tracks, the Contractor will need to enter the MBTA Right-of-Way (ROW) from Monmouth Ct where adequate space is available, free of utilities, and ground elevation is relatively level such that equipment and materials travel parallel to the tracks westerly to the footbridge site. This work is anticipated during the summer months of 2021. A construction gate will be located at the MBTA ROW.

Pedestrian Detours

Due to the unsafe proximity of construction operations to Carlton Footpath, the path will be closed to the public for the duration of the footbridge construction, estimated from June, 2021 – June, 2022. Pedestrian closure and detour signing will be set up at both the Carlton St and Monmouth Ct sides of the Carlton Footpath, directing pedestrians to a Monmouth St detour.

Tree Removals

While several heritage Oak trees were early on identified for preservation, and significantly influenced the geometry of the accessible ramps appended to the footbridge at both sides in order to accommodate their trunk and root systems, other trees were identified for removal, largely volunteers of various caliper. These tree removals are necessary in order to both remove and reinstall the historic footbridge and stairs, via a crane operation set up with an arm reaching from the Riverway Park side of the footbridge. Limited tree removal is anticipated between Monmouth Ct and the footbridge site, at the northerly side of the tracks, where the access path will follow the tracks at level ROW ground, leaving in place largely the volunteer tree screen along the hillside and fence bordering Carlton Footpath.

These items will be included in the PIM presentation and addressed by the Contractor, MassDOT, Kleinfelder Engineering and Brookline DPW Forestry. I look forward to joining you this coming Wednesday evening. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out to DPW Engineering's Bill Smith, the project's construction coordinator, at wsmith@brooklinema.gov or (617) 264-6480.

Respectfully,



Erin Gallentine
Commissioner of Public Works

CC: Bill Smith, Construction Project Coordinator, Brookline DPW