

PROJECT STATUS REPORT for the Community Preservation Committee

Project Name: Assabet River Multi-use Bridge & Trail Project Number: 8-19; 9-21; 05-FY25

Date: May 7, 2025 Interim Status Report Final Status Report*

1. What percentage of the project has been completed? Between 25% and 35% of the design work on the bridge has been completed.

2. Describe work completed to date:

2021-2022: The consultant team completed did the Preliminary Design and MassDOT require Bridge Type Studies.

2021: The site survey, wetland delineation, and geotechnical borings were completed.

2022: The Project Need Form (“PNF”) and Project Initiation Form were submitted to the State for consideration for construction funding on the Transportation Improvement Program (“TIP”).

2023: The Metropolitan Planning Organization Project Review Committee approved the PNF for inclusion in the list of future projects in the TIP.

2023: MassDOT approved the Bridge Type studies and the design evolution for the project.

2024: The consultant submitted and MassDOT approved the 10% Design Submission

2025, March: The project was submitted to the State to be programmed for a funding year in the FY26-FY30 TIP.

3. What key project milestones have been reached?

As noted above, the key project milestones are the acceptance of the Project Need Form and approval by MassDOT of the Bridge Type studies and the design evolution for the project.

Acceptance of the PNF means that the project is recognized and found eligible by the State for construction funding through the TIP.

The approval of the Bridge Type studies and the design evolution allowed the project to move forward in the MassDOT process.

4. Expenditure Report:

a. What is the date your project began or will begin spending CPC funds? The project began in July 2020 and has proceeded to spend down some of the funding in CPA Project 8-19 and 9-21. Not all of the funds have been expending because the Town has received a total of 3 MasTrails grants since 2020 and those funds are used first because they are required to be expended within the year. It is anticipated that all of the remaining CPA funds from all three CPA grants will be expended in FY26 and FY27.

b. Attach a detailed Expenditure Report.

c. In a brief narrative, account for the amount of CPC funds expended to date: All the CPA funds expended to date have been to pay for work by the consultant team.

5. Describe remaining work and projected timeline:

- 2025 May-Oct: Complete 25% Bridge and Trail Design (engineering/architecture/landscaping/lighting) and submit to MassDOT 25% Design Submission

- 2025 Aug-Sept: Final Geotechnical Investigations – As part of MassDOT’s Bridge Type Studies approval, they are requiring the Town perform two additional soil borings, which need to be completed when the water levels in the Assabet River are low.
- 2026 Spring: MassDOT 25% Design Public Hearing
- 2026 Summer: Following the 25% Design Public Hearing and approval of the 25% Design by MassDOT, the consultant will begin the Environmental Permitting, which includes filing a Notice of Intent with the Concord Natural Resources Commission, a State MEPA Expanded Environmental Notification Form and Environmental Impact Report, a DEP Chapter 91 License for a navigable waterway and Water Quality Certification, and Federal NEPA application, Army Corps Section 404 Form, Water Quality Data Form and Programmatic Section 4(f) Evaluation.
- 2026 Fall: The consultant will submit to MassDOT the 75% Design Submission.
- 2027-2028: The consultant will complete the final design, final environmental permitting, easement acquisitions, if needed, and submit to MassDOT the 100% Design Submission. Town staff will complete necessary amendments to the two existing Conservation Restrictions.
- 2028-2030: The advertisement date for construction will be determined on the project’s placement for funding the TIP.

6. Describe your outreach efforts.

The most recent outreach effort was done on March 10, 2025. The Town Planner and the consultant team held two public information sessions to provide an update on the project’s progress. The sessions included a really cool video simulation of the bridge once completed. Both can be found on the Project’s webpage: <https://www.concordma.gov/2398/Assabet-River-Bridge-Trail>

7. What is the expected project completion date? The project covered by these CPA funds will be completed in 2028.

Name of person who completed this form: Elizabeth Hughes, Concord Town Planner

Date: May 7, 2025

Contact Information /Email Address: ehughes@concordma.gov

*For Final Status Reports, please include representative Before, During and After Photographs of your project, if applicable.