

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
 Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
 Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) Office

**Environmental Notification Form**

*For Office Use Only*

EEA#: 15814

MEPA Analyst: Anne Canaday

*The information requested on this form must be completed in order to submit a document electronically for review under the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, 301 CMR 11.00.*

Project Name: <b>Walker Street Reconstruction</b>		
Street Address: <b>Walker Street, Lenox, MA</b>		
Municipality: <b>Lenox</b>	Watershed: <b>Housatonic River</b>	
Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: <b>643726.42 m E, 4688943.77 m N (UTM Zone 18T)</b>	Latitude: <b>42° 21' 23.87"</b> Longitude: <b>73° 17' 48.3"</b>	
Estimated commencement date: <b>November 2018</b>	Estimated completion date: <b>June 2020</b>	
Project Type: <b>Roadway Reconstruction</b>	Status of project design: <b>100% Complete</b>	
Proponent: <b>Town of Lenox</b>		
Street Address: <b>6 Walker Street</b>		
Municipality: <b>Lenox</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>01240</b>
Name of Contact Person: <b>Steven A. Mack, P.E.</b>		
Firm: <b>Foresight Land Services, Inc.</b>	Street Address: <b>1496 West Housatonic Street</b>	
Municipality: <b>Pittsfield</b>	State: <b>MA</b>	Zip Code: <b>01201</b>
Phone: <b>(413) 499-1560</b>	Fax: <b>(413) 499-3307</b>	E-mail: <b>SMack@foresightland.com</b>

Does this project meet or exceed a mandatory EIR threshold (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

Yes  No

If this is an Expanded Environmental Notification Form (ENF) (see 301 CMR 11.05(7)) or a Notice of Project Change (NPC), are you requesting:

- a Single EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.06(8))  Yes  No
- a Special Review Procedure? (see 301CMR 11.09)  Yes  No
- a Waiver of mandatory EIR? (see 301 CMR 11.11)  Yes  No
- a Phase I Waiver? (see 301 CMR 11.11)  Yes  No

Which MEPA review threshold(s) does the project meet or exceed (see 301 CMR 11.03)?

**301CMR11.03(6)(b)(1)(b) – widening of an existing roadway by four or more feet for one-half or more miles, (6)(b)(2)(b) – cut five or more public shade trees of 14 or more inches in diameter at breast height, and (11)(b) – ENF and other MEPA Review if the Secretary so Requires. Any project within a designated ACEC, unless project consists solely of a single family dwelling.**

Which State Agency Permits will the project require?

**MassDEP Wetlands Notice of Intent**

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:

**Project scheduled for funding under the Transportation Improvement Program.**

10874  
June 1908

Summary of Project Size & Environmental Impacts	Existing	Change	Total
<b>LAND</b>			
Total site acreage	12.3 Acres ±		
New acres of land altered			
Acres of impervious area	5.5 Acres ±	1.9 Acres ± (New)	7.4 Acres ±
Square feet of new bordering vegetated wetlands alteration		2,128 SF ±	
Square feet of new other wetland alteration		0 SF	
Acres of new non-water dependent use of tidelands or waterways		Not Applicable	
<b>STRUCTURES</b>			
Gross square footage		Not Applicable	
Number of housing units		Not Applicable	
Maximum height (feet)		Not Applicable	
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>			
Vehicle trips per day	3,200	0	3,905
Parking spaces	0	0	0
<b>WASTEWATER</b>			
Water Use (Gallons per day)		Not Applicable	
Water withdrawal (GPD)		Not Applicable	
Wastewater generation/treatment (GPD)		Not Applicable	
Length of water mains (miles)	1.7 Miles ±	0.05 Miles ± (New) 0.3 Miles ± (Replaced)	1.75 Miles ±
Length of sewer mains (miles)	0.67 Miles ±	0.3 Miles ± (Replaced)	0.67 Miles ±
Has this project been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			
Has any project on this site been filed with MEPA before? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (EEA # _____) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No			

## **GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION – all proponents must fill out this section**

### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Describe the existing conditions and land uses on the project site:

*Walker Street is a two-lane, suburban roadway with residential homes, a golf course, and businesses located within the project area. The roadway pavement structure and surface drainage is in poor condition. There is an existing sidewalk used by pedestrians that runs along the southern portion of the road near Lenox Dale. There are two crosswalks located on Walker Street; the first located at the western side of the intersection with Lawton Street and Elm Street and the second is located west of the access drive to Tilloston Park. Sewer, drainage, gas, water, electric, and telephone utilities exist within the project area. The street is lined with trees of varying species, age, and health. The total length of the project is approximately 8,698 linear feet and the existing width varies from 24-28 feet.*

*The section of Walker Street included in this project falls within a small portion of the 100-year flood plain where the roadway crosses Woods Crossing Brook. There are also Bordering Vegetated Wetlands located in several areas along the roadway. From the intersection of East Street and Blantyre Road, Walker Street falls within the Upper Housatonic River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). Per the current Massachusetts Natural Heritage Atlas, there are no known habitats of rare wildlife, rare species, or certified vernal pools within the project limits.*

Describe the proposed project and its programmatic and physical elements:

*The proposed project involves the reconstruction of Walker Street from the intersection of Routes 7 and 20 to the intersection with Crystal Street near the Lee town line. Also, the Town and MassDOT have agreed to include the design of pedestrian accommodations at the intersection of Route 7/20 westerly along Walker Street to the existing sidewalk located at the easterly entrance to Kimball Farms. The total length of the project is approximately 8,698 feet (1.63 miles).*

*The work includes the reconstruction of the roadway to create a typical road width of 32 feet for the entire project length. The increase in roadway width will include 5-foot shoulders on both sides of the roadway for improved bicycle accommodations and 11-foot travelled ways. It is also proposed to reconstruct the existing sidewalks and construct additional sidewalks to provide pedestrian access for the entire length of the project. Some sight distance improvements are proposed at the intersection of East Street and Blantyre Road and Galway Court. Deteriorating and insufficient sections of the Lenox Dale drainage, water, and sewer systems are proposed to be replaced.*

*The proposed roadway reconstruction and sidewalk construction will impact several areas of Bordering Vegetated Wetland, altering approximately 2,128 square feet of BVW. The lost wetland area will be replaced by approximately 2,660 square feet of wetland replication areas. Portions of the wetland replication areas are located on private property for which easements will be obtained.*

*The existing 36" RCP culvert directing Woods Crossing Brook across Walker Street is proposed to be removed and replaced by a 60" Plastic (HDPE) pipe embedded with 6" of gravel borrow Type A and native cobbles. Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) retaining headwalls are proposed at the inlet and outlet of the new culvert. The replacement of the culvert will temporarily alter 20 linear feet of bank on the upstream side and 20 linear feet on the downstream side of Walker Street. The crossing shall conform to the Massachusetts River and Stream Crossing Standards to the maximum extent practicable. The hydraulic capacity cannot be increased due to downstream flooding impacts; therefore the Massachusetts Crossing General Standards are met to the maximum extent only.*

*The project construction phase is estimated at approximately 18 months. A detailed traffic management plan has been prepared and will be implemented to maintain at least one lane of traffic and minimize disturbance to the area. In addition, Housatonic Street and East Street may be used for local traffic.*

*The Town will be responsible for the continued operation/maintenance of the road and Town owned facilities.*

Describe the on-site project alternatives (and alternative off-site locations, if applicable), considered by the proponent, including at least one feasible alternative that is allowed under current zoning, and the reasons(s) that they were not selected as the preferred alternative:

***The alternative to improving Walker Street is to mill and overlay the existing roadway without adding bike lanes or new sidewalks. While this would be a financially cheaper option; this would be a temporary solution to the poor pavement conditions and would not increase the bike or pedestrian level of service.***

***The purpose of the project is to improve the road surface, safety, and drainage, as well as bicycle and pedestrian accommodations. There are no alternatives which provide these improvements without minor environmental impacts. The roadway and sidewalk improvements are necessary for the safety of vehicles, pedestrians, and bicyclists traveling along Walker Street.***

Summarize the mitigation measures proposed to offset the impacts of the preferred alternative:

***The project has been designed to avoid negative impacts to BVW, Bank, Floodplain, and ACEC areas. BVW alteration is proposed to be replaced at the same location or in close proximity to the proposed work in accordance with the general conditions set forth in 310 CMR 10.55 (4)(b), the plans, and any specific conditions deemed necessary by the Conservation Commission. Sedimentation and erosion controls are proposed between the work area and the downgradient BVWs to prevent impact from construction to the BVWs including but not limited to the use of compost filter tubes, silt fencing, staked straw bales, and sedimentation traps.***

***The approximately 2,128 square feet of wetland alteration will be replicated by creating approximately 2,660 square feet (approximately 125% of altered area) adjacent to a nearby wetland. The replication area will be prepared by stripping topsoil and excavating subsoil to approximately 18 inches below the grade of the adjacent wetland. This will establish a good hydrologic and hydraulic connection to the wetland. Wherever possible, suitable existing trees and shrubs in the replication area will be flagged for protection and allowed to remain.***

***Organic soil will be prepared from a combination of topsoil stripped from the replication area, mixed where necessary with organic matter, humus, and peat moss. This mixture will be placed 12 inches thick on the bottom of the replication area. The area will be seeded with a wetland seed mix and covered with a thin layer of straw mulch. The first and second growing seasons will be monitored to establish whether the replication area has achieved at least 75% coverage with native wetland vegetation. If necessary, additional plantings/seeding shall be added to meet the replication criteria (see Wetland Replication Plan for more details about the Wetland Replication Procedures).***

***The project has been designed to reduce and mitigate negative impacts to bank areas. Bank alteration is proposed to be replaced at the same location or in close proximity to the proposed work. The physical stability of the replaced bank will be improved in the future through the use of riprap under natural stream bed materials and other stabilization practices. The water carrying capacity of the existing channel within the bank, the groundwater quality, and the surface water quality will not be adversely affected. The bank's breeding habitat, escape cover, and food will not be adversely impacted. Approximately 40 linear feet of bank is proposed to be altered and 138 linear feet of bank is proposed to be replaced, therefore there is no cumulative permanent alteration and the proposed work shall not impair the capacity of the bank to provide important wildlife habitat functions. The proposed work will have no adverse effect on specified habitat sites or rare wetland or upland, vertebrate or invertebrate species, or on vernal pools.***

***Compensatory flood storage is proposed for the flood storage volume that will be lost as a result of the proposed project within Bordering Lands Subject to Flooding. As a result of the work 320 cubic feet of floodplain between elevation 1,091 and 1,092 is required, 400 cubic feet is provided and 1,370 cubic feet between elevation 1,092 and 1,093 is required, 1,400 cubic feet is provided. The compensatory flood storage is proposed in an area not previously used for flood storage and has unrestricted hydraulic connection to the Woods Crossing Brook.***

If the project is proposed to be constructed in phases, please describe each phase:

***No construction phasing is proposed.***

# UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAP



SCALE 1:1,500

**FORESIGHT LAND SERVICES, INC.**  
ENGINEERING • SURVEYING • PLANNING  
1496 West Housatonic Street  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

**Exhibit A-1**  
**Locus Map**  
**USGS Stockbridge QUAD, 1988 ed.**  
Source MassGIS

Walker Street Reconstruction