

Environmental Justice Screening Form

Project Name	Intersection Improvements and Related Work at Central Street, Route 27 (Canton Street) & Tosca Drive Stoughton, MA
Anticipated Date of MEPA Filing	October 2022
Proponent Name	Massachusetts Department of Transportation – Highway Division (MassDOT)
Contact Information (e.g., consultant)	Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) 181 Ballardvale Street Wilmington, MA 01887 Samuel Campbell scampbell@gpinet.com 978-570-2989
Public website for project or other physical location where project materials can be obtained (if available)	https://www.stoughton.org/engineering-department/news/design-public-hearing-tosca-drive-intersection-improvements https://www.mass.gov/event/stoughton-central-streettosca-drivecanton-street-intersection-improvements-project-2019-10-09t183000-0400-2019-10-09t203000-0400
Municipality and Zip Code for Project (if known)	Town of Stoughton, MA 02072
Project Type* (list all that apply)	Transportation—Roadways / Transit
Is the project site within a mapped 100-year FEMA flood plain? Y/N/ unknown	No
Estimated GHG emissions of conditioned spaces (click here for GHG Estimation tool)	The Project does not propose the construction of buildings.

Project Description

1. Provide a brief project description, including overall size of the project site and square footage of proposed buildings and structures if known.

The Project proposes traffic and safety improvements at the Central Street, Route 27 (Canton Street), and Tosca Drive intersection in the Town of Stoughton, Massachusetts. The total length of the Project is 0.4 miles. The Project proposes to install two (2) traffic signals and change the shape of the intersection to make it easier for large vehicles to make right-turns from Canton Street onto Central Street. These changes at the intersection will result in the removal of the western tip of Frederick H. Pye Memorial Park. The Project also proposes to abandon Old Central Street, remove the pavement, and include half of the abandoned roadway as part of Frederick H. Pye Memorial Park. The remaining half of the abandoned roadway will be given to the neighboring property. The Project will also tighten the right turn from Central Street onto Canton Street causing vehicles to turn more slowly and improving safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. The Project proposes to install new sidewalks with wheelchair ramps, new crosswalks so pedestrians can access the park and cross roadways safely, “share-the-road” markings for bicyclists, and new parking spaces to provide easier access to Frederick H. Pye Memorial Park.

2. List anticipated MEPA review thresholds (301 CMR 11.03) (if known)

- 11.03(1)(b)(3) – Conversion of land held for natural resources purposes in accordance with Article 97 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to any purpose not in accordance with Article 97.
- 11.03(6)(b)(2) – Construction, widening or maintenance of a roadway or its right-of-way that will cut five or more living public shade trees of 14 or more inches in diameter at breast height

3. List all anticipated state, local and federal permits needed for the project (if known)

Anticipated Federal Approvals:

- Massachusetts Historical Commission / MassDOT Cultural Resources Unit – Chapter 254 / Section 106 Review (consultation completed on 11/6/2018)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service / MassDOT Wildlife Section – Section 7 Review
- NEPA – De Minimus Determination for 4(f) property
- National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits – Stormwater Construction General Permit – Construction Related Activities
- NEPA – Categorical Exclusion Checklist

Anticipated State Approvals:

- MEPA – Expanded Environmental Notification Form (EENF)
- Massachusetts Legislature / MassDOT Right of Way – Article 97 land transfer (signed into law on 5/27/2022)

4. Identify EJ populations and characteristics (Minority, Income, English Isolation) within 5 miles of project site (can attach map identifying 5-mile radius from [EJ Maps Viewer](#) in lieu of narrative).

Within a 5-mile radius there are EJ populations characterized as:

- Minority
- Income
- Minority and Income
- Minority and English Isolation
- Minority, Income, and English Isolation

See map attached.

5. Identify any municipality or census tract meeting the definition of “vulnerable health EJ criteria” in the [DPH EJ Tool](#) located in whole or in part within a 1 mile radius of the project site.

Stoughton, Sharon, and Canton do not exhibit any vulnerable health EJ criteria.

6. Identify potential short-term and long-term environmental and public health impacts that may affect EJ Populations and any anticipated mitigation.

The Tosca Drive, Central Street, Route 27 (Canton Street) intersection is used heavily by industrial and commercial vehicles. Improvements to the roadways will improve safety for drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians at the intersection. It is not anticipated that the project will result in any short-term or long-term health impacts as a result of the project. The project will improve traffic operations at the intersection resulting in a reduction in green house gas emission and improvement in air quality. The project will also improve the public's ability to safely access and utilize existing areas of open space.

Fredrick H. Pye Memorial Park is subject to protection under Article 97 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as well as regulation under Section 4(f) of the US DOT Act. The project proposes to remove fifteen (15) public shade trees within the existing town and county roadway layouts, seven (7) of which have a diameter at breast height (DBH) of 14' or greater. The cutting of public shade trees may have impacts to local heat conditions directly within the Project limits. To mitigate the removal of the public shade trees, the Project proposes to plant ten (10) trees; four (4) along Tosca Drive, three (3) within Fredrick H. Pye Memorial Park, and three (3) within the new open space area that will be created west of Canton Street. All trees within the Project limits that are proposed to remain will have tree fencing and/or trunk protection.

Construction may temporarily affect the BAT Route 14 bus route if detours are necessary, but long-term impacts are not expected. Two (2) bus stops are located on the south side of Central Street (eastbound) and one (1) on the north side of Central Street (westbound). The Project does not anticipate extended construction periods to occur, and detours will be facilitated during construction only when needed and only during non-peak daytime hours for short-term periods. Short-term exhaust fumes and noise may result from construction vehicle activity during project construction, but these impacts will be short in duration. Proposed improvements to sidewalks and the addition of crosswalks and shared-use path space will provide safe alternative modes of transportation within the Project limits and may reduce overall vehicular traffic in the area, reducing vehicular exhaust fumes and noise long-term.

7. Identify project benefits, including "Environmental Benefits" as defined in 301 CMR 11.02, that may improve environmental conditions or public health of the EJ population.

The Project proposes easier access to the underutilized Fredrick H. Pye Memorial Park with the installation of shared-use paths, crosswalks, parking spaces, and upgrades to the existing intersections. This will allow the community to access the open space safely and recreate at their leisure. The Central Street, Route 27 (Canton Street), and Tosca Drive intersection is considered a high crash intersection and relies entirely on STOP signs to delegate traffic. With the installation of fully actuated traffic signals and other roadway improvements, the motoring public, bicyclists, and pedestrians will be able to travel safely along the corridor and utilize the otherwise road-locked park.

8. Describe how the community can request a meeting to discuss the project, and how the community can request oral language interpretation services at the meeting. Specify how to request other accommodations, including meetings after business hours and at locations near public transportation.

Members of the public interested in scheduling a meeting to discuss the project should contact

MassDOT and the design consultant for this project, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc (GPI). The contact information for these organizations is provided below.

Alex Lamarche, MassDOT Environmental Analyst	Samuel Campbell, GPI Environmental Scientist
Address: 10 Park Plaza Boston, MA 02116	Address: 181 Ballardvale Street, Suite 202 Wilmington, MA 01887
Email: alex.g.lamarche@state.ma.us	Email: scampbell@gpinet.com
	Phone: 978-570-2989

**MEPA Project Types [Note: this list can be omitted when circulating this form.]*

Article 97	Marijuana
Agriculture	Marine Industrial
Airport	Master Plan – Development
Aquaculture/Shellfish	Master Plan – Urban Renewal Plan
Beach/Coastal Nourishment	Other (Specify)
Coastal Infrastructure	Recreation
Commercial - Office/Lab/R&D	Regulations
Commercial - Hotel	Remediation
Commercial - Warehouse	Residential
Commercial- Retail	Resiliency
Dam Removal	Solid Waste
Dam Repair/Replacement	Transportation – Roadways/transit
Dredging	Transportation - Trails
Ecological Restoration	Wastewater – Treatment/conveyance
Energy Generation	Wastewater - CWMP
Energy Storage	Water Supply - New Source
Energy Transmission	Water Supply – Treatment/conveyance
Industrial	
Institutional - Educational	