

CRESCENT STREET (ROUTE 32) & CHESTNUT HILL AVENUE

INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS - ATHOL, MA

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Town of Athol in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT), proposes roadway realignment, intersection, pedestrian and bicycle accessibility, water/sewer, and stormwater drainage improvements to the intersection of Crescent Street (Route 32), Bridge Street, Silver Lake Road, and Chestnut Hill Avenue in the Town of Athol (Project #608723). Below is a map of the project area.



The project is needed due to the following existing deficient conditions:

- Poor pavement condition and severely deteriorating retaining walls on Route 32
- No marked shoulders for bicycle accessibility, or pavement markings and minimal traffic control signage at the three-way intersection
- Steep grade and substandard sight distance for traffic moving southbound from Crescent Street and/or westward from Chestnut Hill Avenue
- Narrow sidewalk with unmarked/faded crosswalks and non-Americans with Disabilities Act/Architectural Access Board compliant curb ramps and aged water and sewer system

Construction is anticipated to begin in early 2025 and end by spring 2026.
The proposed project consists of the following elements:



PAVEMENT REHABILITATION

- Full-depth reconstruction of pavement for the entire project area



BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN ACCOMMODATIONS

- Remark/add crosswalks at various street crossings
- ADA/AAB-compliant curb ramps installed at each proposed crosswalk location



SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

- Geometric modifications to improve the safety of the intersection by increasing sight distances and more formalized traffic control
- Two new retaining walls constructed to replace deteriorating walls
- Overhead flashing beacon at the main intersection of Bridge Street and Chestnut Hill Avenue
- Solid white edge line to define the outer edge of travel lanes and delineate a shoulder for bicycle accommodations
- Sidewalks constructed at a minimum width of five feet throughout the project for pedestrian accommodations; and removal/replacement of deteriorating or unneeded traffic signs, and installation of new signs conforming to FHWA regulation



STORMWATER AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS

- Install 22 deep-sump catch basins and replace/relocate 12 existing catch basins to improve stormwater quality treatment
- Install approximately 970 linear feet of new drainage pipe



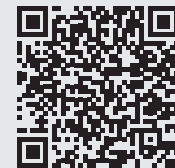
UTILITY REPLACEMENT

- Replace the existing water and sewer system
- Reroute water line along Crescent Street and along Chestnut Hill Avenue
- Reroute sewer line north of the proposed retaining wall

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Removal of 10 public shade trees, which will be replanted in Athol
- Approximately 5,000 sq ft of impacts to the Millers Riverfront Area (200-ft zone)
- Short-term effects during construction requiring detours and temporary closures
- Utility impacts (water and sewer) due to upgrading the infrastructure and utility pole relocation
- Due to construction activities, utility upgrades, and modifying the geometry of the Crescent St (Route 32) and Chestnut Hill Avenue intersection, right-of-way impacts will occur for 25 total properties predominantly through easements (permanent and temporary)

TO LEARN MORE



Public members interested in scheduling another meeting to discuss the project should contact the MassDOT Project Manager.

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