



Charles D. Baker, Governor  
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor  
Stephanie Pollack, Secretary & CEO  
Thomas J. Tinlin, Administrator



April 4, 2017

The Honorable Walter F. Timilty  
The Honorable Peter Kocot  
Committee on State Administration & Regulatory Oversight  
Massachusetts State House  
Boston, MA 02133

**RE: H2662. An Act authorizing the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to acquire certain parcels of land in the town of Southborough**

Dear Senator Timilty and Representative Kocot:

Kindly accept this correspondence in support of House Bill HB2662. This request is in relation to a project scheduled for advertising in fiscal year 2017.

The proposed project consists of the resurfacing of Route 9 (Turnpike Road) from just west of White Bagley/Breakneck Hill Road to the Framingham/Southborough town line for a distance of 7,785 feet (1.47 miles). The proposed improvements include the reconstruction of existing sidewalks, construction of additional sidewalks, upgrades to guardrails and traffic signs and minor improvements to existing traffic signals at the intersections of Route 9 (Turnpike Road) at White Bagley Road/Breakneck Hill Road and Route 9 (Turnpike Road) at Oak Hill Road/Central Street.

Within the project area, Route 9 (Turnpike Road) generally runs in an east/west direction. Land use along Route 9 (Turnpike Road) is primarily comprised of commercial, office and retail use. This highway serves as a commuter route for motorists traveling between Boston and Worcester and points west. Locally, Route 9 (Turnpike Road) serves as an access to I-90 (Massachusetts Turnpike) directly to the east of the project area and I-495 directly to the west of the project area.

The improvements proposed for this project are intended to enhance safety conditions by providing additional pedestrian and bicycle amenities, including sidewalks and bicycle lanes which meet current ADA standards.

Several parcels of unimproved land owned by the Department of Conservation and Recreation are needed to complete the project. The parcels in question are affected in a de minimis nature. As these parcels are presently dedicated to an open space use consistent with Article 97, legislative approval is required for the diversion of use to a highway use.

This is an important project for Southborough. Federal funding in the vicinity of \$5 million dollars is available for FY17 as long as advertising for the project takes place prior to the September Federal Highway deadline. This project cannot be advertised without approval of H2662. MassDOT must issue a Certification that all Right of Way for the project has been acquired prior to advertising and this legislation is crucial to that effort.

I respectfully request adoption of the above referenced HB2662. Thank you for considering this request. Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,



**John Delleire**  
**Director, Right of Way Bureau**