

Public Facilities Committee Agenda Addendum

City of Newton In City Council

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

7:00 PM Room 204

Referred to Public Facilities and Finance Committees

#229-16

Taking of a temporary construction easement for the Elliot St Bridge Project HIS HONOR THE MAYOR recommending that the City Council acquire temporary construction easement through an eminent domain taking in the private lands of 393-396 and 404-406 Elliot Street, a distance of 135′ ±, and award damages to be determined to Chatham Properties. [06-20-16 @11.26 AM}

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah J. Crossley, Chair

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you need a special accommodation, please contact Jini Fairley, at least two days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov, or 617-796-1253. For Telecommunications Relay Service dial 711.

City of Newton



Setti D. Warren Mayor

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449

June 20, 2016



Mayor Setti D. Warren City of Newton 1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton Centre, MA 02459

RE:

Taking a Temporary Construction Easement

Elliot Street Bridge Rehabilitation

Dear Honorable Mayor Warren:

As you know, the City of Newton and Town of Needham are undertaking the rehabilitation of the Elliot Street Bridge, with the actual work to commence in early July. This repair work is of critical importance to both municipalities, as is the need to complete the rehabilitation of the bridge this construction season.

In order to access the abutments to the bridge on the Newton side, the contractor will need to cross over private property located at ##393-396 and ## 404-406 Elliot Street. These properties are residential rental units owned by Chatham Properties, LLC. A map showing the temporary construction easement is attached to this letter.

The City's Law Department has been working with the property owner to secure that owner's voluntary agreement to allow the temporary construction easement. That process, however, has taken much longer than anticipated. Many of the property owner's requests have been agreed to by the City (such as no storage of construction equipment or materials other than safety fencing and erosion control overnight; having the property owner added to the contractor's insurance coverage; and restoring the property to its original condition at the end of construction activities). However, there are still a few outstanding issues and at this time, the property owner has not agreed to give the City a temporary construction easement.

The City's contractor must have access to the bridge abutments on the Newton side, and there is no alternative "work around" that would allow the construction to go forward without the temporary construction easement over a maximum 20 ft. wide strip of land as shown in the attached map.

Bavid A. Olson,

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Now You Cally Cally

The City will continue negotiations with the property owner, but in the event that those negotiations are unsuccessful, I am requesting that the City take the necessary temporary construction easement as shown in the attached map using eminent domain. The City Council will need to act on this request at its July meeting in order to keep the rehabilitation of the Elliot Street Bridge on schedule.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James McGonagle

Commissioner Public Works

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