



*Town of Chatham*  
*Department of Public Works*  
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CHATHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
AGENDA REPORT

TO: Honorable Board of Selectmen  
Jill R. Goldsmith, Town Manager

FROM: Jeffrey Colby, DPW Director

DATE: August 13, 2014 (For the BOS meeting of August 19, 2014)

SUBJECT: Consider Mitchell River Bridge – Traffic Management Plan

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The reconstruction of the Mitchell River Bridge is tentatively scheduled to begin by the end of August. The reconstruction of the bridge will result in a change to traffic patterns as Bridge Street will be closed to thru traffic for the duration of the project. The project completion date is scheduled for June 2016. MassDOT has developed a Temporary Traffic Control Plan for the project (see attachment). In addition, Town staff has developed a Traffic Detour Plan for the project (see attached). Key Town staff recently met to discuss these two plans and any additional items that may be necessary as part of a comprehensive Traffic Management Plan for the Mitchell River Bridge reconstruction. The following items are additional elements for this plan.

Project Information & Schedule Updates:

Project updates and schedule changes will be distributed using the Town website, press releases, Channel 18, the Chamber of Commerce, the Police Department Twitter feed, and the Town's Swift 911 system.

Sign Management:

A number of signs will be installed by the bridge construction contractor as part of the project. Signage is planned for as far away as the Rotary and Shore Road that indicates the bridge is closed as well as appropriate detours to take to avoid the closure. MassDOT will also have an on-site project representative that will be able to deal with any construction related issue, including detour and signage issues. Chatham DPW will also utilize the two Town owned variable message boards to supplement the signage, particularly for the early weeks of the project and during the summer season.

Turning Areas at Bridge Closure Points:

Occasionally vehicles may need to turn around on Bridge Street at the bridge closure locations. Adequate turning areas will be posted at both the east and west approaches so that vehicles can turn around as necessary.

Supplemental Police Detail:

A supplement police detail officer will be posted at both the Stage Harbor/Bridge Street intersection and the Main Street/Bridge Street intersections for the first week during working hours. This officer will be able to assist motorists in appropriate ways to travel to their destinations given the bridge closure.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is respectfully recommended that the Board:

- Accept the proposed Traffic Management Plan for the Mitchell River Bridge reconstruction project.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please contact Jeffrey Colby, at [jcolby@chatham-ma.gov](mailto:jcolby@chatham-ma.gov).

*Attachments*

Mitchell River Bridge Project – Traffic Detour Plan.

Mitchell River Bridge – Temporary Traffic Control Plan (MassDOT).