

**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**HIGHWAY DIVISION**

**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** Thomas F. Broderick, P.E., Chief Engineer

**FROM:** Marie J. Rose, P.E., Director of Project Management

**DATE:** March 5, 2013

**RE:** **LENOX** – Reconstruction and Minor Widening on Walker Street  
Project File No. 606462  
PARS No. P606462P11

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Attached please find the Design Exception Report dated February 22, 2013 for the above referenced project. Attached is a letter from the District Office dated February 26, 2013 and a letter from the Complete Streets Engineer dated March 5, 2013 recommending approval of this request. This concludes the commitments and revisions discussed and requested through the Design Exceptions Committee Meetings.

Your signed and dated approval of the attached Design Exception Report is hereby requested.

MJR/rlk *rlk*  
Attach.

*Approved*  
*Thomas F. Broderick*  
*3/8/13*

**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE**

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**TO:** Marie Rose, P.E., Director of Project Management  
**THROUGH:** Peter Niles, P.E., District Highway Director *msj more for*  
**FROM:** Mark Moore, District Project Development Engineer  
**DATE:** February 26, 2013  
**SUBJECT:** **LENOX** – Reconstruction and Minor Widening on Walker Street  
Design Exception Report  
Project # 606462

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**ATTENTION** – Robert Kimungu, Project Manager

The District has reviewed the project's Design Exception Report originally submitted in May of 2012 and resubmitted February 2013 and concurs with its findings and recommends approval.

The functional classification of Walker Street in Lenox is that of a minor urban arterial. The scope of work for this project includes full depth reconstruction with minor widening for bicycle accommodations along Walker Street for approximately a mile and a half. Also included is reconstruction and construction of sidewalks and wheel chair ramps, drainage and associated safety features like guardrail, signs and pavement markings. Walker Street is an east-west connector between US Routes 7&20 and a section of Lenox referred to as Lenox Dale. Walker Street accommodates local and commercial traffic generated from quarries and mills.

The existing roadway is two lanes of varying widths from 10 to 14 feet and varying shoulders from 0 to 3 feet. The proposed design will provide consistent travel lane widths of 11 feet with a designated bike lane in the shoulder. The bike lane provided will meet only the absolute minimum width due to the adjacent wetlands and ACEC that extends along much of the corridor. All existing sidewalks and ramps will be upgraded for ADA compliance as well as those constructed new.

The proposed project design will meet all controlling criteria with the exception of the horizontal radius of two curves and the radii of one of these curves as it relates to compound curves. The recommended radii for this roadway and design speed is 765 feet based on a design speed of 40 mph, and the radii of the two curves cited for exception are 346.80 feet and 210.91 feet. These two curves occur at the limit of the project where the alignment ties back into the existing roadway at a three way intersection. Additionally, at this end of the project the speed limit is reduced to 25 mph, and the proposed radii of the two curves do meet a design speed for 25 mph, which is also at the low end of recommended design speeds for this type of facility. There is no accident data to support altering the horizontal alignment in this location which would have far reaching impacts to property, parkland, flood plain, as well as alterations or replacement of a bridge at the intersection. Proposed features incorporated within the project such as larger shoulders, consistent width travel lanes, sidewalks and wheel chair ramps along with improved pavement markings will benefit all users and provide a safer corridor. The

Design Exception report has provided appropriate documentation in support of the proposed design of this corridor while improving the safety of its users.

The District has viewed the road and has discussed the project with the town and its consultant. Considering the scope of the project and the many safety improvements being implemented along the corridor all parties are in agreement.

If you have any questions on this review, please contact Mark J. Moore at this office.

SMG/smg

cc ProjDevLen

ecc TrafLen, DUCELLEN, DesLen

## DESIGN REVIEW COMMENT AND RESOLUTION FORM

PROJECT NO.: 606462

DESCRIPTION: LENOX - Reconstruction and Minor Widening on Walker Street

DESIGNER: Foresight Land Services

SUBMITTAL: DER

REVIEW SECTION: Bicycle Pedestrian Accommodation Engineer (BPAAE)



DATE: March 5, 2013

REVIEWER NAME: Luciano Rabito, P.E.

NO.	SHEET OR ITEM	COMMENT	INITIAL ACTION	RESPONSE	QC REVIEW INITIAL	FINAL ACTION VERIFIED
COMPLETED BY REVIEWER			COMPLETED BY DESIGNER			BY REVIEWER
1	General	The designer is proposing a combination of 5' bike lanes adjacent to parking and curbing and 4' foot bike lanes where there is no curb. This is acceptable for bicycle accommodation. Therefore, the DER is approved.				
	Consultant Score: 7					