

Project Description

Name of project: Highland Street Improvement Project (HSIP)

Location: West Warren village area of Warren; Census Tract 7611, Block Group 2.

Type of project: Construction improvements to street and sidewalk surfaces, curbing, drainage and installation of 560 l.f. of new water main. (6B – Street & Sidewalk Project)

Description: The proposed HSIP is part of an ongoing strategy to revitalize the town's oldest neighborhoods and associated infrastructure. Highland Street is located in the West Warren village area of Warren. Improvements have occurred to adjacent streets including FY02/03 North, Chapel and Dean Streets, FY 2005 Main Street. FY 2009 provided for improvements to the neighborhood park. The Warren Senior Center, also located in West Warren, received much needed improvements and an expansion through the FY 2010 CDF. Lastly, construction bids will soon be sought for Pleasant Street (FY 2014), which runs alongside of Highland Street. Professional design plans and specifications for Pleasant Street and Highland Street were accomplished through the FY 2011 Warren CDF I program.

Deficient and outdated infrastructure created the need and demand for this project. Inadequate fire protection, drainage problems and the poor condition of the road and sidewalk surfaces, are the primary concerns for Highland Street. The street was poorly laid and it does not meet current public works standards. Half of the street was constructed at the turn of the 20th Century to accommodate housing growth in the heyday of the mill industry. The street was later lengthened and newer homes added in the 1970's. Consequently, storm water drainage was not properly accounted for and the street now suffers from the poor hydrology practices of the past. The sidewalk was not carefully planned or designed. Aside from its deplorable condition, it exists in various sections and does not adequately serve Highland Street residents. The road is in poor condition in large part due to the poor drainage conditions that exist. Lastly, the expanded development in the 1970's did not include the provision for an extended water line for fire protection or for potable water convenience. The above cited conditions have led town officials to first seek funds for design engineering services, which were completed through the FY 2011 CDF program. Physical improvements to Highland Street are now being sought through this proposed FY 2015 HSIP.

In summary, this project will result in the full reconstruction of approximately 1,100 feet of roadway, installation of 550 l.f. of new drainage piping, 560 l.f. of 8" ductile water pipe, one new hydrant, and rehabilitation of sidewalk surfaces. Curbing will be installed to help delineate sidewalks from road surfaces as well as to help control storm water drainage. Sidewalk ramps at all intersections are in need of repair and will be reconstructed to comply with 521 CMR (Architectural Access Board) standards for sidewalks, Massachusetts Highway Department (MHD) Wheelchair Ramp Standards, or the Federal ADA Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG).

National objective: The HSIP will benefit low and moderate income persons on an area-wide basis in accordance with 24 CFR part 570.483(b)(1) because the target area is 72% low and moderate income.

Community Development Strategy: This HSIP adheres to the town's strategy of targeted improvements. According to the 2010 U.S. Census, Warren now has an estimated population of 5,135 people. Realizing this inevitable statistic, the town developed a strategy that emphasizes improvements to the village centers where there exists a concentration of mixed-use properties and great need for improving housing, public facilities and infrastructure.

Estimated low to moderate income beneficiaries: 24 of 33 persons (Income Surveys)

Total CDBG dollars requested for this project (not including delivery costs): \$431,711

Raid
MAR 7 16 11:28AM

Postel
MAR 7 16 11:28AM

Laura J. Stockley