



City of Cambridge
Department of Public Works

Owen O'Riordan, Commissioner

147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, MA 02139
theworks@cambridgema.gov

Voice: 617 349 4800

TDD: 617 499 9924

January 16, 2018

To: Louis DePasquale
City Manager

From: Katherine F. Watkins, City Engineer

Re: Awaiting Report 17-116, dated October 23, 2017
Gore Street

In response to the council order regarding Gore Street, staff report the following:

GORE STREET SEWER CONSTRUCTION:

A new city sewer main will be constructed on Gore Street, between O'Brien Highway and Medford Street in Somerville. Construction is expected to begin in March 2018 and continue through the 2018 construction season. Following the sewer construction, the City will reconstruct the streets and sidewalks; replace the over 100-year 8" water main; and work with Eversource Gas to replace their over 100-year old 6" gas main. All of this work will be permitted and overseen by the Department of Public Works.

The new sewer main is being constructed by Divco West to service the sewer flows from the Cambridge Crossing (North Point) development. The contractor constructing the new sewer main on Gore Street, J. Derenzo, anticipates beginning construction later this year and will have 2 to 3 crews on Gore Street.

During sewer construction, Divco West will implement a Construction Mitigation Program to manage construction, mitigate parking impacts and respond to questions or concerns. They will be reaching out to abutting property owners to schedule pre-construction surveys and can be reached at mitigation@csl-consulting.com or by phone at **617-866-8971**. For more information, please visit the project website www.npconstruction.info.

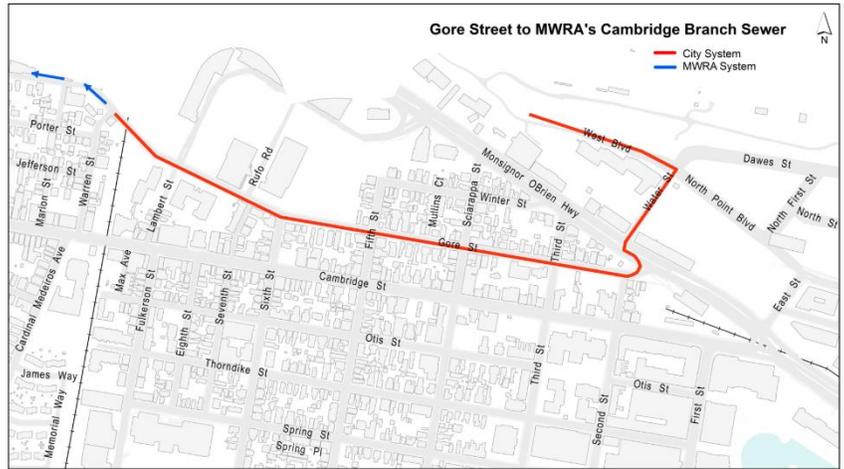
PERMITTING PROCESS:

All of the sewage flows in Cambridge are sent to Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) interceptors and ultimately to the MWRA Deer Island Facility for treatment. The MWRA approves new sewer connections to their system; as well as significant new sewer flows. The MWRA evaluates these connections and sewer flows based on their ability to manage their regional system; while also maintaining their commitment to reducing combined sewer overflows (CSOs) to the Charles River and other waterbodies.

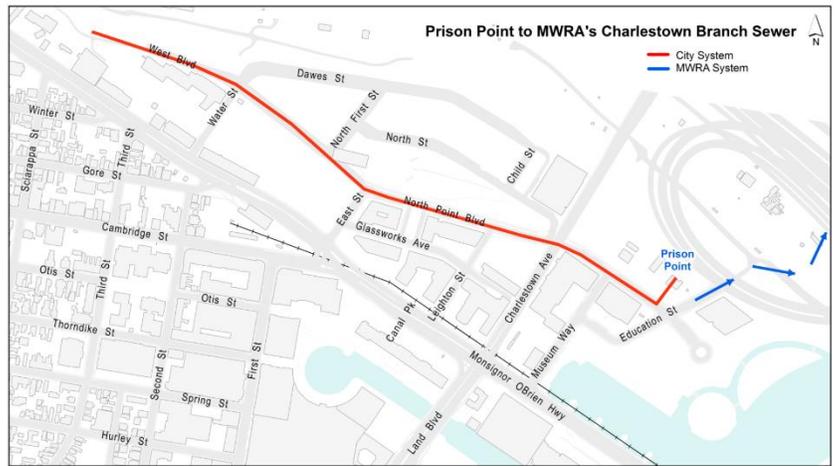
Attachment: 2018 Gore StreetFINAL (003) (CMA 2018 #13 : Gore Street project update)



The permitting for the Cambridge Crossing project, including how to provide utility service, has been on-going for nearly 20 years. Cambridge Crossing submitted a state Environmental Notification Form in 2001 and the State Executive Office of Environmental Affairs' (EEA) issued a certificate on the project on December 16, 2002. As part of that submission, sewage from Cambridge Crossing was to be directed to the MWRA's Cambridge Branch Sewer along Gore Street.



The City and the developer requested that the MWRA evaluate the feasibility of directing flows to the Charlestown Branch Sewer via the Prison Point Facility, as it would be a more direct connection to the MWRA interceptor system. Unfortunately, the MWRA was unable to approve the use of the Charlestown Branch Sewer and Prison Point. There were two main issues that they identified. The first is that Prison Point is a wet weather facility and is not intended for significant dry weather sewer flows. The proposed flows could *exceed their dry weather pumping capacity* and compromise the MWRA's ability to meet their discharge requirements associated with their EPA permit. The other issue is that the MWRA system has *dry weather capacity* issues downstream of Prison Point in the Charlestown Branch Sewer and cannot support the additional flow. For these reasons, the MWRA would not approve the Charlestown Branch Sewer via Prison Point connection as an alternative to the Cambridge Branch Sewer via Gore Street alignment for the new city sewer main.



Residents have inquired about Msgr. O'Brien Highway as an alternative to Gore Street. Two O'Brien Highway routes have been identified;

1. Water Street to Msgr. O'Brien Highway to Sciarappa St to Gore St to Medford St
2. Water Street to Msgr. O'Brien Highway to Medford St

There are some concerns specific to each alternative, but overall neither alternative is viable. Both routes

- increase the length of the new city sewer main (25% to 35%). This will significantly

- increase the construction duration and impacts; as well as the long-term maintenance requirements.
- require a significant portion (25% to 85%) of city infrastructure to be located on a high-volume state controlled roadway.
 - This will increase the construction impacts on the community, as work hours will be limited (further increasing the duration of the construction) and traffic disruption will be significant.
 - It also compromises the City's long-term maintenance of the city infrastructure. The City doesn't control the right-of-way and would need state permits for future construction. Significant traffic management plans would be required for future maintenance and construction and the state would limit the hours of access; hindering our ability to maintain and operate the system.

In addition to these concerns, the first alternative (Water St to Msgr. O'Brien Highway to Sciarappa St to Gore St to Medford St) does not significantly decrease the impact on residential streets, as Gore St is still used for a portion of the route and Sciarappa St is impacted. The second alternative (Water St to Msgr. O'Brien Highway to Medford St) requires the majority of the City's sewer main to be located in Somerville, which is not appropriate for construction impacts nor long-term operations and maintenance. Therefore, Msgr. O'Brien Highway is not a viable route for this City infrastructure.

GORE STREET RECONSTRUCTION:

Following the completion of the sewer work, the street and sidewalks on Gore Street will be reconstructed. This is an opportunity to incorporate improvements into Gore Street; sidewalks, crosswalks, street trees, improved access to the park, etc. Divco West will be funding these improvements (\$2,700,000) and the design and construction of these will be managed by city staff. The City will be hosting a community design process in the fall of 2018 to work with residents to determine what, if any, changes should be made to Gore Street. The enhancements will include:

- new Eversource gas main to replace the over 100-year old 6" main
- new water main to replace the 8" water main originally installed in 1874. The water work will include the replacement of any lead services.
- full-depth roadway paving
- fully ADA compliant sidewalks
- additional street trees

COMMUNITY MEETINGS:

The City and Divco West hosted a community meeting on September 28, 2017 to review the scope of the work, the anticipated schedule, and answer community questions. The presentation from that meeting is available on the city's website. Additional community meetings will be scheduled as construction progresses and to begin the community design process for the street and sidewalk improvements on Gore Street. Residents wanting to join the email distribution list for this project should email Dan Rivello (driviello@cambridgema.gov) or visit <http://bit.ly/GoreSt> to join.



MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY

Charlestown Navy Yard
100 First Avenue, Building 39
Boston, MA 02129

Frederick A. Laskey
Executive Director

Telephone: (617) 242-1000
Fax: (617) 788-1909
TTY: (617) 788-1101

November 27, 2017

Owen O’Riordan, Commissioner
Department of Public Works
City of Cambridge
147 Hampshire Street
Cambridge, MA 02139

Subject: NorthPoint Development Sewer Connection to MWRA System

Dear Commissioner O’Riordan:

This correspondence is in response to your telephone request seeking written confirmation that Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) would not approve a direct wastewater connection from the NorthPoint Development to MWRA’s Prison Point Facility. MWRA identified that the NorthPoint Development’s peak wastewater flow of up to 3.1 million gallons per day could compromise MWRA’s compliance with strict combined sewer overflow (CSO) treatment, volume and frequency requirements included in its federal court order and NPDES permit. As such, MWRA will not approve a connection from NorthPoint Development to MWRA’s Prison Point Facility.

MWRA understands that the NorthPoint developer and the City of Cambridge are moving forward with the design and permitting of a dedicated sanitary sewer serving the development, with direct connection to MWRA’s Cambridge Branch Sewer.

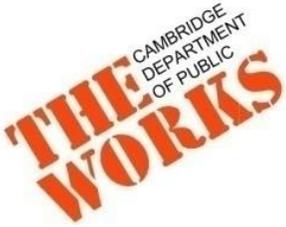
If I can be of further assistance, please call me at 617-788-4359. Thank you.

Yours truly,

Michael J. Hornbrook
Chief Operating Officer

Attachment: NorthPoint Cambridge-11272017 No Prison pt (CMA 2018 #13 : Gore Street project update)

cc: Carolyn Fiore, MWRA
David Kubiak, MWRA



January 23, 2018

UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION ON GORE STREET

Dear Neighbor,

The City of Cambridge, Eversource and DivcoWest, the developer of Cambridge Crossing (formerly NorthPoint), will be undertaking construction on Gore Street between Monsignor O'Brien Highway and Warren Street. This will entail selective excavation and exploratory work in January and February, followed by installation of the new sewer line and new gas line starting in March and lasting through the rest of 2018. Subsequently, and after a design process with Gore Street residents, the City of Cambridge will reconstruct the street and sidewalks. This is an opportunity to improve Gore Street, its sidewalks, crosswalks and street trees. The City will be hosting a community design process in the fall of 2018 to work with residents to determine what, if any, changes should be made to Gore Street.

CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

- DivcoWest will install a new sewer main
- Eversource will install a gas main to replace the over 100-year old 6" main
- The City of Cambridge will undertake a comprehensive planning process with Gore Street residents to plan and ultimately implement upgrades, including:
 - new water main to replace the 8" water main originally installed in 1874. This work will include the removal of any lead services to houses.
 - full-depth roadway paving
 - fully ADA compliant sidewalks
 - new street trees

SEWER MAIN CONSTRUCTION

The contractor for the sewer work, J. Derenzo, will begin preliminary layout and exploratory excavation work starting in January and February, and continue with sewer line installation during the rest of 2018. During the installation of the new sewer main, the contractor will have up to three crews on Gore Street, in order to complete the work as quickly as possible.

- Work hours will be **7 AM to 4 PM**, Monday through Friday.
- There will be noise and disruption from construction activities.
- **Weekly Updates will be sent out to an email distribution and posted on the project website (www.cxconstruction.info/gore-street). This will be the primary means of communication during the project. (send an email to migitation@csl-consulting.com or call 617-866-8971 if you wish to receive email updates)**
- Depending on the work planned, flyers may also be distributed to impacted residents.
- "No Parking" signs will be posted; please be sure to check dates/times.
- Roadway and driveway access will be maintained, but may be restricted at times.
- Pedestrian access and access into properties will be maintained at all times, but may be restricted in certain ways.
- Emergency vehicles will have access at all times and all city services will continue.

During construction, Divco will implement a Construction Mitigation Program to proactively evaluate each phase and respond to questions or concerns. They can be reached at mitigation@csl-consulting.com or by phone at 617-866-8971. For more information, please visit the project website www.cxconstruction.info/gore-street.

PRE-CONSTRUCTION SURVEYS

Pre-construction surveys will be available to all home owners on Gore Street prior to construction occurring. We will begin scheduling the pre-construction surveys immediately and anticipate the surveys to begin after January 15th. Formal letters detailing the survey process will be sent via certified mail, direct mail, and flyer the week of January 8th.

RODENT CONTROL

The project team has been working closely with the City inspector to identify any areas with rodent activity. Dave Power the local ISD inspector is available for individual inspections of private property, he can be reached at [617-349-6119](tel:617-349-6119)

PARKING OPTIONS

The project team is working to identify alternative parking for residents during construction. **For those residents that expect hardship around parking and transportation, please contact mitigation@csl-consulting.com or by phone at 617-866-8971 to discuss options during construction.**

In addition, the City is extending the wintertime \$50 per month parking in the City's First Street Garage to year-round for residents of Gore Street. This rate will remain in place for residents during the construction of Gore Street. Please use the form at -

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/~media/Files/Traffic/firststreetapplication.pdf?la=en> to sign up.

PHASES OF CONSTRUCTION AND COMMUNITY DESIGN PROCESS

In addition to the work by J. Derenzo described above, Eversource Gas will replace their 6" gas main, which is over 100 years old, and the City will undertake a contract for the replacement of the 8" water main. The City will be hosting a community process for the design of Gore Street, including the crossings, sidewalks and street trees. ***The City wants to work with the residents to evaluate what, if any, changes should be incorporated into the reconstruction of Gore Street. We anticipate beginning this community process in the fall of 2018.*** If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact Dan Riviello, Community Relations Manager, at 617.349.4825 or driviello@cambridgema.gov. To join the email distribution list for this project please email Dan or visit <http://bit.ly/GoreSt> to join.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience.

Sincerely,

Ed LeFlore
CSL Consulting

Katherine F. Watkins
City Engineer

January 23, 2018

Dear Neighbor,

The City of Cambridge and DivcoWest, the developer for the Cambridge Crossing (formerly North Point) Projects will be undertaking construction on Gore Street between Monsignor O'Brien Highway and Warren Street beginning in March 2018. The Construction will include a new sewer main, full-depth roadway paving, fully ADA complainant sidewalks and additional street trees.

While the nature and location of the work should not adversely impact nearby properties, DivcoWest is offering the property owners along Gore Street the opportunity to participate in a pre-construction survey of their homes completed by a third-party contractor. Pre-construction surveys are being conducted by Pre-Seis, Inc, starting January 22, 2018. These pre-construction surveys are consistent with standard protocols for utility projects throughout the City.

The pre-construction survey is intended to be of use to both homeowners and DivcoWest in the unexpected event of a claim for damages arising from work during the construction period. The pre-construction survey coupled with a subsequent post-construction survey will provide documentation with which to evaluate any potential claim. Without such pre-construction and post-construction surveys, it may not be possible to ascertain whether damage has been caused by the construction activities that are part of this project. If you choose to participate, a copy of the completed survey will be provided to you.

While we encourage you to participate in the pre-construction survey, the decision is entirely up to the individual homeowner. If you choose to participate, please call (617)- 866-8971 or email info@cxconstruction.info or return the form below before February 1, 2018, and we will schedule a surveyor to visit your home and perform the survey at your earliest convenience.

We will take every precaution to avoid unnecessary inconvenience during the process. Our goal is make sure there is no damage to your property as a result of construction activities. For all questions related to this project, or the pre-construction survey, please contact the CSL Consulting at info@cxconstruction.info or (617)- 866-8971. You can also visit our project website www.cxconstruction.info to sign up for weekly construction updates and to view additional project information.

Thank you
Ed LeFlore
CSL Consulting, LLC

 Please include this portion below in the self-addressed stamped envelope provided.

Please fill out the following information and also indicate either YES or NO. Return this portion in the self-addressed stamped envelope.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

- Yes**, I would like to participate in a pre-construction survey.
- No**, I do not want to participate in this survey. By indicating to not participate, I acknowledge that I have waived the option to have my home surveyed by a third-party inspector in connection with the construction activities described above.

Attachment: Gore St Pre Con Notice Final (003) (CMA 2018 #13 : Gore Street project update)