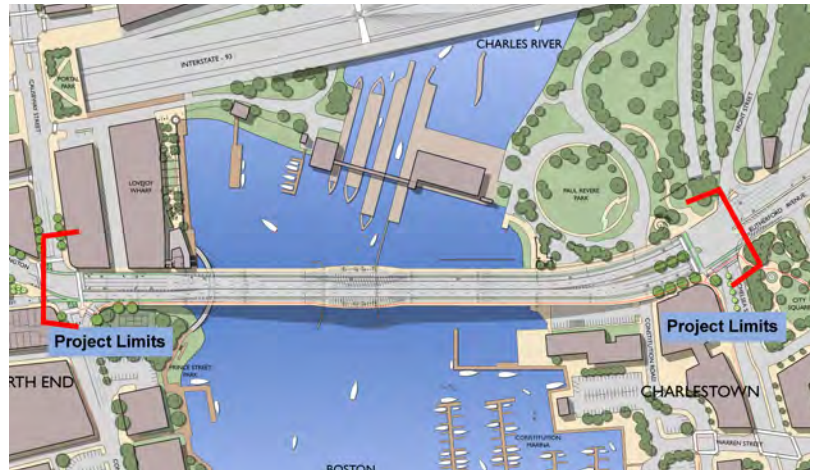




NORTH WASHINGTON STREET BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project Overview

The North Washington Street Bridge, also known as the Charlestown Bridge, is an essential connection between Charlestown and the North End. The Bridge is owned by the City of Boston, which currently spends between \$3 and \$5 million a year to maintain the functionality of the deteriorating structure. City of Boston and MassDOT acknowledge the historical significance of the bridge and attempts to rehabilitate and restore the structure were deemed imprudent and impracticable. It has been determined that the span must be replaced to ensure safety, accessibility, and long-term serviceability.



The need to replace the structure offers a unique opportunity to create a new link between the North End and Charlestown that will be livable, walkable, green and multimodal. The proposed design will provide improved vehicle, pedestrian, cycling, transit, and boat navigation facilities, while visually complementing the iconic Zakim Bridge. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is leading the project, in partnership with the City of Boston Public Works Department, Alfred Benesch & Company engineering consultants, and Rosales+Partners architectural consultants.

As of the 75% design, the proposed bridge will expand the currently narrow sidewalks to provide a safer and more pleasant environment for pedestrians, including architectural design elements, plantings, information plaques, lighting and improved treatments for the Freedom Trail. Separated cycle tracks on either side will create a safer connection across the Charles River for cyclists. Two vehicle lanes will be provided in either direction, in addition to a bus only lane in the southbound direction. The proposed design will also create a more open channel for boats, while maintaining flood control measures associated with the Charles River locks.



Next Steps

As of September, 2016, the 75% Design Public Information Meeting has been held. Community comments from the meeting will be incorporated to the fullest extent possible. The project will undergo the final design process, including environmental permitting and continued outreach to interested parties and stakeholders, throughout 2016. Construction of the project is anticipated to begin in 2017 or early 2018 and continue to 2020, using accelerated construction techniques. For more information, to join the stakeholder database, or to request a briefing, please contact Michael O'Dowd, Project Manager at Michael.O'Dowd@dot.state.ma.us or Nathaniel