

Town of Acton

John S. Mangiaratti

Town Manager

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# MassDOT Commits to Funding the Completion of the Design for Acton's Kelley's Corner Improvement Project

ACTON -- Town Manager John S. Mangiaratti is pleased to announce that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) has committed to funding the remaining design costs for the project. The town funded the cost of the design through the 25% phase.

On April 1, Acton Town Meeting overwhelmingly supported appropriating town funds for the project, with an 89 percent affirmative vote solidifying Acton's commitment to seeing the project through to completion.

MassDOT has committed to expending additional funding to pay for the infrastructure design costs and responsibilities beginning July 1. The town will still be responsible for acquisition costs along portions of Main Street and Community Lane, but will no longer

bear the remaining design costs.

The project remains on schedule for construction in 2022 under the supervision of MassDOT. The approximately \$15 million in construction costs will be funded through the Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization Transportation Improvement Program and MassDOT.

Kelley's Corner was first identified as an area in need of improvement in the 1970s, and the planned work will improve safety, accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists and storm water management while reducing traffic congestion.

"We're beyond grateful to MassDOT, the Boston MPO and our state senator and representatives for their ongoing support of this project," Town Manager Mangiaratti said. "I am proud of the work of our staff and thankful for the efforts of volunteers who supported extensive community outreach efforts. The town looks forward to continuing to work collaboratively with residents and our partners with the state to continue and ultimately complete this transformative work."

"I am proud of the additional financial support from the state, because is an indication of our community's commitment to the health and safety of all residents through the redesign process," Rep. Gouveia said. "Thank you to all in our town who participated in and led countless hours of visioning work to create a plan the whole town can rally behind."

"Kelley's Corner is an economic and social hub in Acton, but new infrastructure is needed to increase pedestrian safety and improve traffic flow," said Rep. Benson. "As a longtime supporter of the plan to improve Kelley's Corner, I thank MassDOT for seeing the importance and value in funding the further design costs of this project."

"I'm grateful to MassDOT for recognizing the strong support from the people of Acton for the Kelley's Corner improvement project, and that they have committed to paying for the full study of the project," said State Sen. Eldridge. "As State Senator, I have worked closely with the entire Acton legislative delegation over the past four years to secure the \$15 million commitment from MassDOT, and this additional boost of state funds is a testament to the overwhelming vote in favor of the project at Acton Town Meeting, and the impressive work and outreach by Acton Town Manager John Mangiaratti, the Acton Board of Selectmen, town staff, and many transportation advocates in town."

"MassDOT is pleased to participate in this important project," said Highway

Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. “The proposed improvements are a reflection of MassDOT’s commitment to encouraging healthy and sustainable transportation options and will help the community reach their goal of making Kelley’s Corner a walkable town center.”

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