



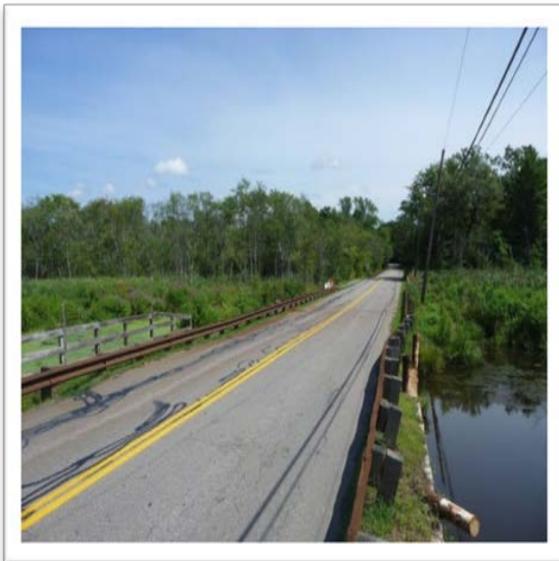
## Project Design and Upper Mill Brook Watershed LOMR Update – August 2015

### Background

Prior to the start of the Cambridge Turnpike Improvement Project (CTIP) design, Concord Public Works (CPW) recognized that the FEMA flood maps for the Cambridge Turnpike area were incorrect, depicting flood elevations that were overly conservative. A previous flood study performed by CPW in 2002 found a similar scenario in the lower Mill Brook watershed (from Main Street to the Concord River confluence).

CPW included a detailed flood study as part of the CTIP design team's scope of work. The flood study looked at the upper watershed of Mill Brook, from Main Street to Crosby's Pond. The project team's analysis determined that the upper Mill Brook watershed's FEMA 100 year flood elevation was 3.5' - 4.5' higher than the anticipated flood elevation. The process to correct the flood plain elevation with FEMA is known as a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). The following outlines the LOMR steps and Town status related to the LOMR filing for the upper Mill Brook watershed:

### Letter of Map Revision Timeline



- November 2013: The project team filed a LOMR application with FEMA in to incorporate the correct flood elevations into the FEMA FIS for the upper Mill Brook watershed.
- January 2014 – September 2014: CPW and the design team responded to comments and requests for additional information from the FEMA reviewers.
- October 2014 - The Town received agreement from FEMA reviewers on the Town's LOMR submittal.
- November 6, 2014 – CPW provided public notice in the Concord Journal to begin the statutory appeal period on LOMR proposal.
- March 31, 2015 - The Town received the Letter of Map Revision approval letter from FEMA.
- April 9, 2015 & April 16, 2015 – FEMA provided public notice in the Concord Journal to begin the statutory appeal period on LOMR approval.
- August 16, 2015 – The effective date of the LOMR approval.

## **Design, Permitting and Construction Update**

With the LOMR process nearing completion and the environmental resource areas clearly defined, the project design team can now revisit the project's existing design scope to evaluate and adjust for various changes which have occurred since the scope development in 2012, including the uncontrolled breach failure of the Crosby Dam resulting in a significant release of water. This dam breach took place on May 29, 2015 releasing the impounded waters known as Crosby's Pond.

Once the design scope is finalized, the project team will resume design and permitting efforts which will lead to the planned commencement of construction improvements over the 2016 and 2017 construction seasons.

**Link to FEMA LOMR Approval Letter** *(this is a large document that will take some time to download):*

[http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA\\_PublicWorks/FEMA%20LOMR%20acceptance%20documentation.pdf](http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_PublicWorks/FEMA%20LOMR%20acceptance%20documentation.pdf)

### **LOMR Questions**

For questions on the LOMR please contact Town Engineer William Renault at (978) 318-3210 or email at [wrenault@concordma.gov](mailto:wrenault@concordma.gov).

### **CTIP Public Involvement/Public Comment**

Concord Public Works, the Public Works Commission and the design team value the community's input and will continue to fine tune the final design to ensure it meets the project goals to the maximum extent possible. As the project progresses, updates and notices will be posted on CPW's website at [http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA\\_PublicWorks/cambridgetpk](http://www.concordma.gov/pages/ConcordMA_PublicWorks/cambridgetpk). Public meetings are scheduled at key points throughout the design process. Comments may be submitted at any time during the project by US Mail to CPW at 133 Keyes Road, Concord, MA 01742, or by email to [CTIPcomments@Concordma.gov](mailto:CTIPcomments@Concordma.gov). We encourage you to become actively involved and thank you for your interest and participation.