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METROPOLITAN WATER TUNNEL PROGRAM

NOTICE TO ABUTTERS

Needham

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) will be conducting field work to support a major Water Supply Tunnel Program in the Metropolitan Boston Area. The two proposed water tunnels will improve reliability for our water infrastructure and allow our aging existing water tunnel system to be rehabilitated without interrupting service.

As part of the design effort, MWRA has hired CDM Smith and other firms to perform geophysical survey in the Program study area. The geophysical survey will include non-intrusive seismic refraction survey to evaluate subsurface geologic conditions.

The seismic refraction survey will involve blocking of a narrow strip of sidewalk/walking trail, road or park, placing a line of small sensors on ground surface that are connected to a seismograph for data recording, and hitting the ground with a sledgehammer or weight. No excavation or heavy equipment will be used. At each location, the work is estimated to take about one to two days to complete.

MWRA has planned for geophysical survey activities along the walking trail in the Upper Charles River Reservation east/southeast of Highland Avenue. The work may reduce the trail width to 48-inch-minimum in some locations, but the trail will remain open to pedestrian and bike traffic.

Work is scheduled to begin the week of June 28, weather dependent, and occur between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Construction Zone Safety Plans, including local police details in certain locations, will be provided for traffic control, and ensuring worker and general public safety in each area.

If you have any concerns or questions, please contact:

Our Communication Team at the MWRA
via email at tunnels.info@mwra.com