

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS**

**Minutes of Meeting  
July 25, 2016**

**PRESENT:** Christopher J. Gerstel, Vice Chairman  
Cynthia J. Chaston, Member  
David C. DiCicco, Member  
Michelle S. Geddes, Member  
Patricia M. Carey, Director

**ABSENT:** Matthew M. Toolan, Chairman  
Robyn G. Fink, Assistant Director

**GUESTS:** *Epsilon:* Mike Howard  
*Public Facilities-Construction:* Mike Retzky  
*Community Center of Needham:* Deb Whitney  
*YMCA Board Members:* Janet Jankowiak, Connie Kaufman  
*Town Meeting Member:* Ross Donald

Mr. Gerstel called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM in the Charles River Room of the Public Services Administration Building.

- 1. Minutes of Meeting of July 11, 2016:** Mrs. Chaston made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2016. The motion was seconded by Ms. Geddes. The minutes of July 11, 2016 were approved unanimously. Mr. Gerstel asked the Commission to consider moving the agenda item Commission Roles and Goals to the next meeting when all members would be present.
- 2. Director's Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report. Ms. Carey noted the strong attendance at Arts in the Parks and Children's Theatre. Mr. DiCicco asked Mrs. Chaston if she was directly involved with the choosing of the members of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Advisory Group. Mrs. Chaston noted that she and Conservation Commission Chairman Janet Bernardo have recommended possible members and there have been various forms of outreach to get interested members.
- 3. Program Report:** The Commission reviewed the written report. Mrs. Chaston commented on the front page story on Rosemary Pool swim lessons on the front page of the Needham Hometown Weekly.
- 4. Action Items**
  - A. Eversource Request:** Mr. Gerstel welcomed Mike Howard from Epsilon representing Eversource and reminded the Commission about the prior discussions.

Mr. Howard provided an update on the West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project, as seen in Appendix A. The plan is to seek a permanent easement of 20' through the property formerly known as the gravel pit off Greendale Avenue, as well as a 30' construction easement at the Fall Special Town Meeting. At this time, permission is sought to do geotechnical borings and test pits in three locations as noted on the plan, as well as an historical archaeological study in the same area as part of the permit process. Access to the site is being sought from nearby Avita, to reach the path behind their property which leads to the site. Mrs. Chaston asked what information would be gained from the tests. Mr. Howard explained that they are looking for any areas of refusal that would impact the design of the project. The borings are about 30' deep, and the test pits 4-6'. For the archaeological review, the pits are about 16 cm. The work would take 3-4 days, with a small crew, and equipment would be left on site for the duration. The crew would start in West Roxbury in August and move towards Needham. Updates on the schedule would be provided. Mr. DiCicco asked why the borings went so deep as the actual trench would be more shallow. Mr. Howard explained that it was a typical protocol for borings. Mrs. Chaston asked that photos be taken prior to the work to insure that the property is restored at the conclusion. Mr. DiCicco asked about the work hours, which will be within regular Needham construction hours. There is noise with the equipment, but not excessive. Mr. DiCicco asked if the easement would preclude any future uses of the property. Ms. Carey noted that it was part of the trail system, and did not have good access for other uses. Mrs. Chaston made a motion to approve the request of Eversource to do three borings and test pits as well as an archeological study of the proposed easement area on the property formerly known as the gravel pit in order to design the possible placement of an underground transmission line as part of the Eversource West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project. The motion was seconded by Mr. DiCicco and passed unanimously.

**B. Fall/Winter/Spring Program Fees:** Mrs. Chaston made a motion to approve the fees for 2016 Fall and 2017 Winter/Spring programs as recommended by the Director, Assistant Director and Recreation Supervisor and listed on Appendix B. The motion was seconded by Ms. Geddes. The Commission reviewed the program descriptions and the fee recommendations and asked for some clarifications. Mr. DiCicco asked to get additional information on registration numbers and a review of the expenses for the TGIF program. Ms. Carey will insure that registration data is included in upcoming fee reports. Mrs. Chaston asked if the Senior Exercise programs competed with other programs offered at Center at the Heights. Ms. Carey noted that several organizations offer programs at CATH, and that most were not directly supervised by the Council on Aging staff. Mr. Gerstel called for the vote, and the motion was approved unanimously.

**C. Special Event Requests – Needham Baseball and Softball:** Mr. Gerstel suggested discussing the two requests separately. Mr. DiCicco made a motion to approve the

request from Needham Baseball and Softball to hold tryouts for spring Little League at Mills Field from 8 AM – 5 PM on September 17, 18, 24, 25, October 1, 2, 15 and 16. Mrs. Chaston seconded the motion. Ms. Carey noted there were no conflicts, as these were dates typically on the fall permit for Needham Baseball and Softball. The motion was approved unanimously. Mr. DiCicco made a motion to approve the request of Needham Baseball and Softball to host the Columbus Day Baseball and Softball Tournament on Monday, October 10, 2016 from 7 AM to 6 PM at DeFazio Warner, McLeod, Asa Small, and Pollard Dolan Diamond. The motion was seconded by Ms. Geddes. Mr. DiCicco asked if a tournament fee would be charged. Ms. Carey noted that it was not an event directly related to the fall baseball and softball program, so a tournament fee would be charged under the Commission's policies. Mr. DiCicco asked that they be reminded that a representative of Needham Baseball and Softball be on site for all games, including those between non-Needham towns. Mr. Gerstel asked if the Pollard diamond would be ready for use. Ms. Carey noted that the sod would be placed within the next week so the fields will be ready for fall use. Mr. DiCicco asked that they be reminded that there is no parking on George Aggott Road for the event. Mr. Gerstel called for a vote, and the motion was passed unanimously.

**D. Commission Roles and Goals:** Mr. Gerstel asked that this agenda item be moved to the next agenda for a discussion with the full Commission.

## 5. Discussion Items

**A. Rosemary Recreation Complex Project:** Mr. Gerstel welcomed Public Facilities-Construction Project Manager Mike Retzky. *Design:* Ms. Carey reviewed current projects underway. Permit documents are being created for the Conservation Commission/DEP with a possible public hearing in August. Permit documents are being created for the Planning Board with a possible public hearing in September. The Design Review Board will review the concepts at their August 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. The solar consultant still needs to provide information to assist the Commission on the decision related to the roof structure over the multi-purpose room. The consultant for the lake sediment removal project is BETA and they have met with the MA Environmental Policy Act staff to coordinate all the needed filings. BH+A participated in the meeting to insure both projects move forward together. Mr. Gerstel provided an update on last week's Rosemary Pool Design Advisory Committee meeting. They discussed the decision to not open in 2017 and were in agreement that it was important to sacrifice the 2017 season in order to benefit the 2018 season. They reviewed the conceptual designs, including the option for removing the railings on the tiers and the roof line over the multi-purpose room. There was general support for insuring the roof line provided options for solar in the future. There was also support for the spray park/splash pad, and a brief discussion on insuring that the site and building are programmed for full use. Mr. Retzky stated

that the two roof options have gone under further review. The sloped roof can be built at a smaller cost, and has less long-term maintenance needs. It also provides the greatest option for solar panels if the roof is built solar ready. Mrs. Chaston noted that the Commission had asked BH+A about the difference in costs, but had been told it was not significant. Mr. Retzky discussed the budget and that it was important not to add components to the design. Mr. DiCicco noted his concern that some of the estimates changed between the December and April estimates, including the port-a-dam that would be needed if the lake cannot be drained for the project. Mr. Retzky said the only changes to design at this time are in finding ways to reduce costs. As an example, he noted that the option to create decking/seating below the tier walls was a cost savings vs. the installation of railings along all the tiers. Other municipal projects are tending to come in higher this year than last year, so the bidding environment will be a factor in the cost. Mr. DiCicco recommended removing the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the building if the estimates were too high. Mr. DiCicco asked if the estimate still included the contingency. Mr. Retzky stated that it did, but asked that additional amenities not be added to the project. Mr. Gerstel asked that BH+A provide more information on cost estimates at their next meeting with the Commission. Mr. DiCicco asked if there had been any design changes to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, with additions to the office space and reduction to the multi-purpose space. Mr. Retzky said there had been no changes to the building in the design, only to the tiers in an effort to remove the railings. *Funding:* Ms. Carey recommended the creation of a “gift catalogue” for individuals or organizations who are looking to support the facility. *Programming:* Mr. Toolan will provide an update on his recent meeting with Community Center of Needham at an upcoming meeting. *Marketing:* Ms. Carey is working on written information with the project scope and Summer 2017 to be sent out to pool patrons, boards and Town Meeting. She has started the process of planning the August celebrations for the final season of the current pool. Ms. Carey is also working on the closing plans, as a major clean-up will be needed to prepare the building for demolition and to move items into storage prior to construction. Mr. DiCicco stated that a contingency plan is needed if construction funds are not approved at May 2017 Town Meeting.

- 6. Topics for Future Agendas:** Mrs. Chaston asked if the Commission should be involved in the permits provided for road and bike races. Ms. Carey stated the Selectmen approved the requests based on input from DPW, Police, Fire and Park and Recreation. The Commission provides permission for any event that utilizes space that is permitted under their policies. Mrs. Chaston asked for a discussion at an upcoming meeting on special event requests process. Mrs. Chaston has visited the pool at numerous times and wondered how the Booth staff tracks the numbers of people visiting. Ms. Carey noted it was done manually. Mrs. Chaston feels that the numbers are undercounted, but Mr. DiCicco disagreed and felt that they were over-counted. Ms. Carey noted that the new facility would have an electronic format. Deb Whitney from Rosemary Pool Design

Advisory Committee asked when the next meeting of the advisory group would be held. Mr. Gerstel suggested the tentative date of August 10<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Whitney asked about information about the new project being posted at the pool. Ms. Carey reviewed the prior discussion on what is being developed.

- 7. Adjournment of Meeting:** Mr. DiCicco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Chaston and the meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia M. Carey, CPRP  
Director



4107/Baker to Needham/Parks&Rec

July 13, 2016

**PRINCIPALS**

Theodore A Barten, PE  
Margaret B Briggs  
Michael E Guski, CCM  
Dale T Raczynski, PE  
Cindy Schlessinger  
Lester B Smith, Jr  
Robert D O'Neal, CCM, INCE  
Andrew D Magee  
Michael D Howard, PWS  
Douglas J Kelleher  
AJ Jablonowski, PE  
Stephen H Slocomb, PE  
David E Hewett, LEED AP  
  
Samuel G. Mygatt, LLB  
1943-2010

**ASSOCIATES**

Dwight R Dunk, LPD  
David C. Klinch, PWS, PMP

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Patricia M. Carey, CPRP, Director  
Park and Recreation Department  
500 Dedham Avenue  
Needham, MA 02492

**Subject: Request to Perform Exploratory Geotechnical Borings and Test Pits on Gravel Pit Parcel, 0 Greendale Avenue, Parcel ID 1990150000400000; Eversource's West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project.**

Dear Ms. Carey:

As per our prior discussions with your office and the Needham Park and Recreation Commission (the "Commission"), enclosed is a figure depicting three geotechnical borings Eversource proposes to conduct on the above referenced municipal gravel pit parcel located generally between the Valley Road cul de sac and Greendale Avenue in the Town of Needham. As noted on the attached figure and as described in further detail below, Eversource is also proposing to conduct two to three exploratory test pits in the event obstructions are identified in the borings. The data collected from the geotechnical boring and test pit program will be used by Eversource to design the underground transmission line segment across the gravel pit parcel for the proposed "West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project."

For context, the enclosed Figure 1 depicts the three geotechnical borings and test pits with a conceptual layout of the underground transmission line across the gravel pit parcel. The geotechnical borings and related test pits will generally follow the approximate route of the proposed underground transmission line that will be the subject of a separate submittal to the Commission and Needham Town Meeting this fall, in order to obtain a permanent easement to install the transmission line. The referenced graphic also depicts the proposed overhead transmission line work, including conceptual structure locations, within Eversource's right-of-way ("ROW") before transitioning to underground transmission line construction on the gravel pit parcel.

Additional information describing the proposed geotechnical boring and test pit work that is the subject of this request is provided below. Refer to the attached site photographs for a depiction of the boring / test pit locations and access routes described herein.

### **Methodology & Equipment**

Eversource is proposing to conduct three geotechnical borings and related test pits on the gravel pit parcel in the approximate locations shown on the attached Figure 1 (see Borings #1, #2 and #3). For the geotechnical borings, a track-mounted hollow stem auger rig will likely be employed along with a utility pickup vehicle. Specifications of the proposed geotechnical boring equipment are included with this letter. A small excavator will be used for the test pit work. The borehole diameters at each location will have a diameter between approximately 6.25 inches. The boring will be taken to a depth of approximately 30 feet or to refusal, whichever occurs first. The holes will be backfilled with the cuttings. To progress the borings, pressurized water will be pumped into the borehole to drive cuttings to the soil surface. The water will be transported in a water tank mounted on the drill rig or support truck. The water and sediment-laden groundwater mixture brought up from the boring will be collected in the water tank where the sediment will be allowed to settle out. The water will then be recirculated into the borehole as needed until boring completion.

The related test pits will likely be excavated to a depth of approximately four to six feet +/- depending on the terrain and the reach of the equipment. The test pits will be backfilled to the pre-existing grade upon completion of the work.

There may be some limited hand trimming or removal of shrubs and saplings to access Boring #3 approaching Greendale Avenue and Boring 309N located within Eversource's easement at the location of the proposed transition structure. Borings #1 and #2 are located in upland fields devoid of woody vegetation. Upon completion of the work the Contractor will repair and restore to original condition any surfaces damaged or disturbed by the work. The spoils derived from the boreholes will be placed down the borehole. If there is any excess material it will be spread on the surface.

### Site Access

The Preferred Access Route for the equipment is from the north following the existing sewer line easement / pathway from the Avita Assisted Living Facility located at #880 Greendale Avenue, across the Needham Parkland and onto the gravel pit parcel. This route would also be used to reach the geotechnical boring that is proposed within Eversource's existing easement at proposed Structure 309N, just south of Boring #1. See attached Figure 1 for additional detail.

Alternatively, Eversource would consider bringing the equipment in from the south at the end of the Valley Road cul de sac via the existing pedestrian tunnel / municipal sewer easement that passes beneath the MBTA railroad tracks; OR from Greendale Avenue to the west. These alternatives would only be considered in the event Eversource is unable to obtain permission from the Avita facility to bring equipment in from the north. Greendale Avenue is the shortest, most direct route but it would potentially involve some minor clearing of woody vegetation (saplings, shrubs) to reach the test pit and boring locations and it would also be more disruptive to the adjacent residential properties located on either side of the route. Similarly, the Valley Road access route is also viable but this involves bringing equipment beneath the railroad tracks whereas it would be easier and more efficient to simply follow the sewer easement / existing pathway from the Avita property to the north.

The equipment will likely remain on site during the overnight hours in the vicinity of the borings and test pits.

### Schedule

The geotechnical boring and test pit work described herein is expected to take approximately 3 to 4 days to complete, assuming one boring/test pit completed per day. The work is scheduled to commence in the month of August upon receipt of a permit from the MBTA and landowner permission from the Avita facility.

Patricia M. Carey  
Park and Recreation Department  
July 13, 2016

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### Contact Information

The site contractor is:

Terracon  
Mr. Carl Tunberg  
310 South Street, Suite 5  
Plainville, MA 02762  
(508) 643-7100  
(c) (603) 856-4096

The project proponent is:

Eversource Energy  
Domenic Nicotera  
247 Station Drive, NE 250  
Westwood, MA 02090  
(781) 441-8233  
(c) (339) 987-7813

We look forward to discussing this request further with the Commission at its **July 25, 2016** public meeting. In the interim, should you have any questions or comments regarding this submittal please do not hesitate to contact me at (978) 461.6247 or via email at [mhoward@epsilonassociates.com](mailto:mhoward@epsilonassociates.com).

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
EPSILON ASSOCIATES, INC.



Michael D. Howard  
Principal

Encl.

CC: Mr. Domenic Nicotera, Eversource Energy  
Mr. Christopher Rodstrom, Eversource Energy

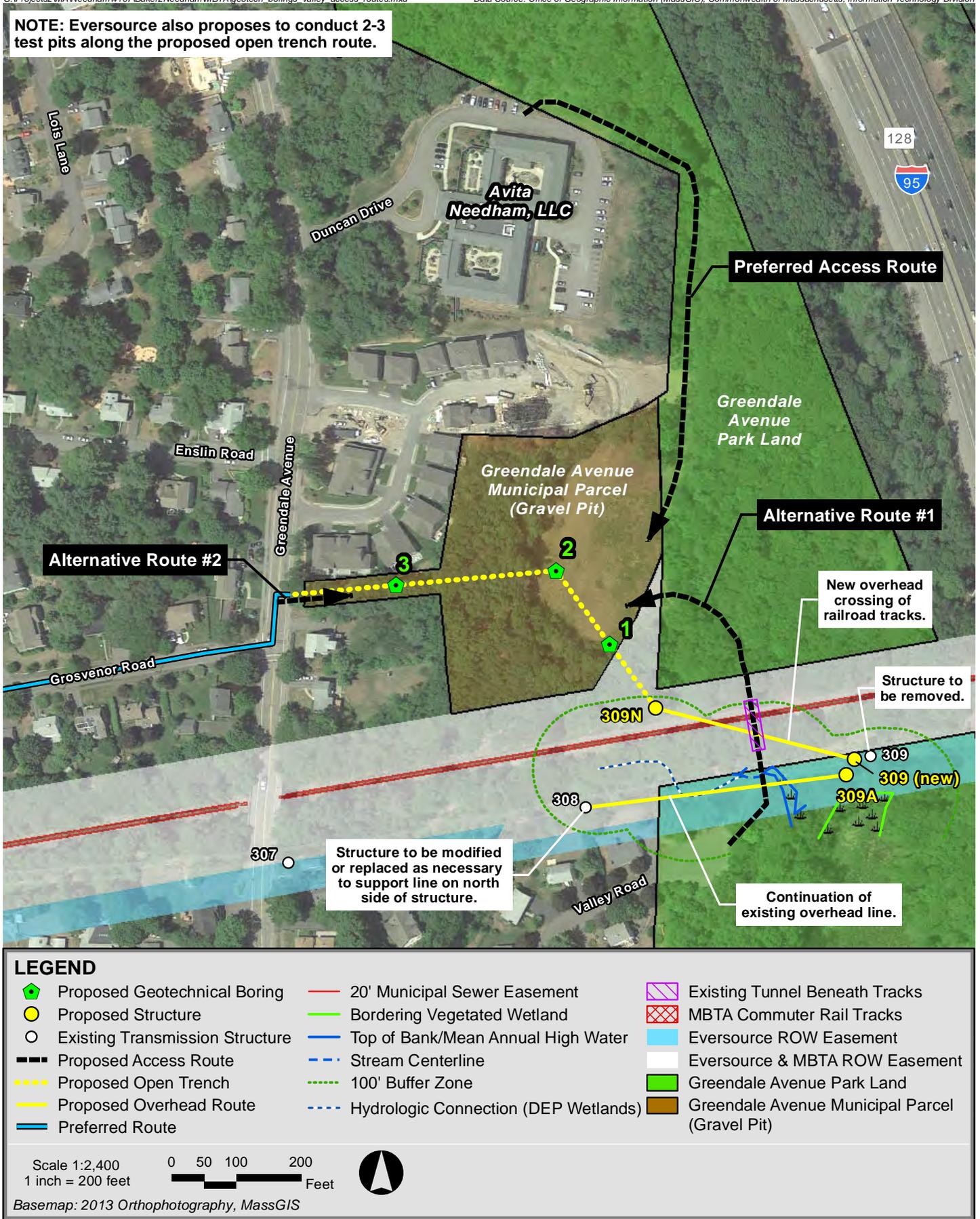
**Attachment A**

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Boring and Test Pit Location Map

**NOTE: Eversource also proposes to conduct 2-3 test pits along the proposed open trench route.**



**West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project**

**Attachment B**

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Site Photographs



View of existing gated access path following Needham sewer line easement from Avita Lifecare facility parking lot. This is the entrance point of the preferred access route for the geotechnical boring and test pit equipment.



Typical view of preferred access pathway / sewer line easement across Needham parkland parcel leading to the gravel pit parcel.



View of gravel pit parcel where Borings #1 and #2 will be conducted.



View of gravel pit parcel / parkland parcel where access will occur along this pathway / sewer line easement to reach boring location 309N on Eversource's easement.



View of alternate route onto gravel pit parcel from Greendale Avenue.



View of alternate route onto gravel pit parcel from Valley Road cul de sac via existing sewer line easement and pedestrian tunnel.

**Attachment C**

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**Drill Rig Specifications**

# Diedrich Drill, Inc.

## HEAVY DUTY RADIO REMOTE D-50 TRACK DRILL

### D-50 Specifications

Drilling Torque: 4316-9012 ft. lbs.  
Drilling Clearance with Mast Up: 20' 6"  
Optional Low Overhead Drilling  
Clearance: 12' 2-1/2"  
Front Winch: 20,000 lbs.  
Width/Length: 7' 7" by 15' 6-3/4"  
Ground Pressure: 3.2 to 3.8 psi

The track carrier uses the latest in hydrostatic drive technology resulting in a carrier with low maintenance and high reliability. The heavy duty tracks are 24-inch wide heavily reinforced rubber. The ground clearance is 16 inches throughout the carrier for easy traveling through mud, snow, sand, steep slopes and wooded areas. This unit uses two-speed motors which enable the rig to negotiate a 75% grade (with the 115HP engine) in low range and travel at 5.9 MPH in high range.



Diedrich Drill, Inc.

(800) 348-8809

Phone: (219) 326-7788 Fax: (219) 324-5962 Web Site: [www.diedrichdrill.com](http://www.diedrichdrill.com)

# 2016 Fall Fee Recommendations

Revolving Fund	Fall 2015 Winter/Spring 2016	Recommended Fall 2016 Winter/Spring 2017	Number of Classes	General Fund Deposit	Approved
Spooky Walk	\$3	\$3	1	N/A	\$3
Turkey Hunt	\$5	\$5	1	N/A	\$5
Kids Night Out	\$16	\$16	1	N/A	\$16
Ice Skating Lessons	\$55	\$55	8	\$5.00	\$55
Youth Tennis Lessons	\$60	\$60	5	\$5.00	\$60
Down on the Farm	\$57	\$60.00	6	\$5.00	\$60
Skateboard EDU	\$90	\$50	4	\$5.00	\$50
Ski and Snowboard	\$480 w/lessons \$435 w/o lessons	\$490 w/lessons \$445 w/o lessons	6	\$5.00	\$490 w/lessons \$445 w/o lessons
The Glass Bar (Glass Arts) - Youth	\$35	\$35.00	1	\$5.00	\$35
The Glass Bar (Glass Arts) - Adult	\$60	\$60.00	1	\$5.00	\$60
Youth Archery	\$98	\$100	4	\$5.00	\$100
Event-Full: LEGO	\$50	\$50	1	\$5.00	\$50
Event-Full: American Girl Create & Play	\$50	\$55	1	\$5.00	\$55
Terrier Dodgeball	\$135	\$135	5	\$5.00	\$135
TGIF Nights	\$10	\$10 (pre-registration) \$15 (at the door)	1	\$0.00	\$10 (pre-registration) \$15 (at the door)
Adult Golf Lessons	\$110	\$110	5	\$5.00	\$110
Adult Tennis Lessons - Outdoor	\$75	\$75	5	\$5.00	\$75
Adult Badminton	\$80	\$80	33	\$5.00	\$80
Adult Basketball	\$80	\$80	33	\$5.00	\$80
Senior Exercise	\$25	\$25	9	\$5.00	\$25
Senior Yoga	\$25	\$25	9	\$5.00	\$25
Senior Walking	\$30	\$30	74	\$5.00	\$30
Take a Hike	FREE	FREE	4	NA	FREE

General Fund	Fall 2015 Winter/Spring 2016	Recommended Fall 2016 Winter/Spring 2017	Number of Classes	General Fund Deposit	Approved
Adult Volleyball	\$30	\$30	30	\$30	\$30