Project Update
West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project

Town of Needham Board of Selectmen Presentation

September 6, 2016

Agenda

- Review of Project Need & Benefits
- Overview of Proposed Transmission Line Route(s)
- Review of Route & Work Proposed on Municipal Gravel Pit Parcel
- Town Meeting Warrant & Easement Update
- Permitting Update
- Next Steps
- Schedule Update

West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project
Project Need & Benefits

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

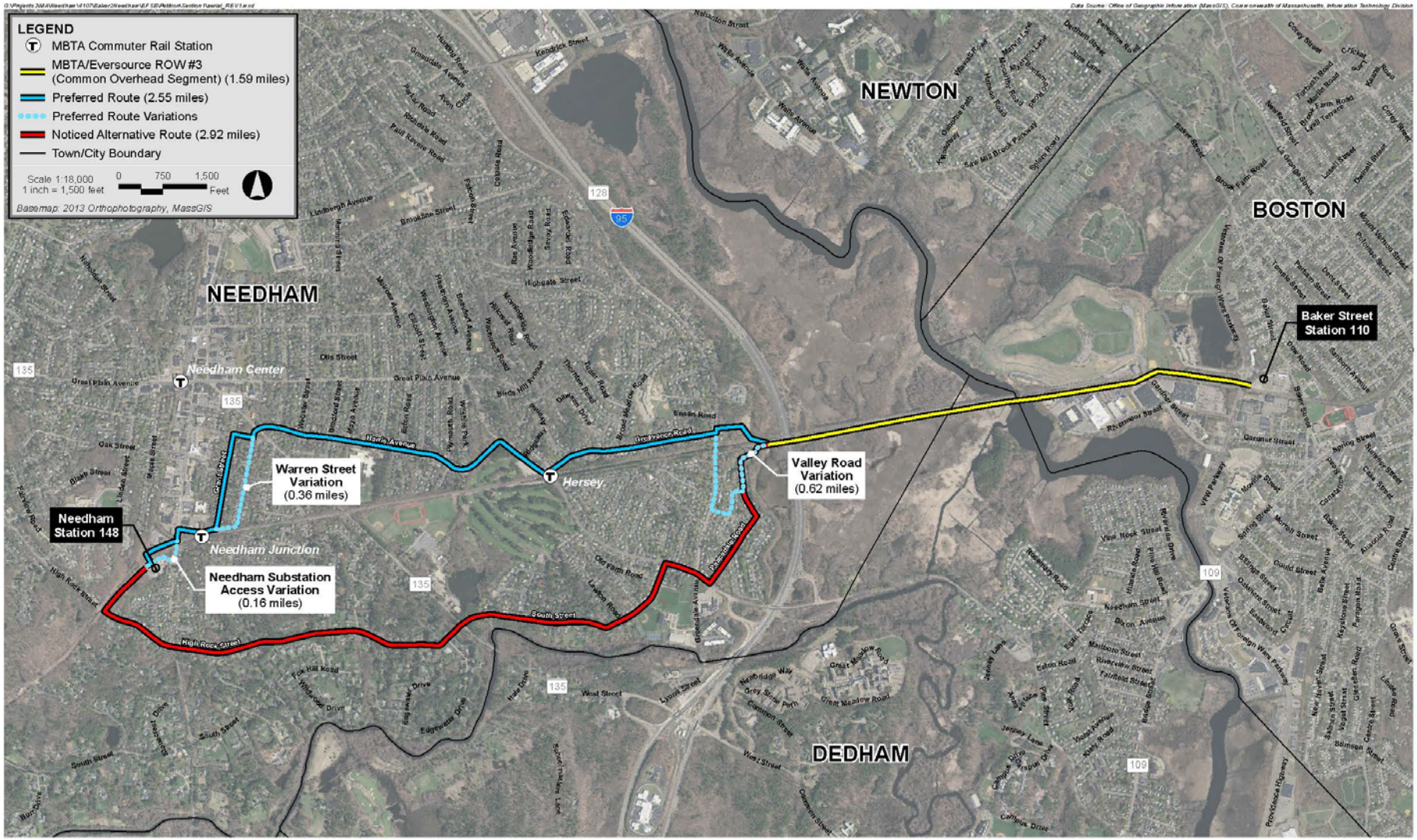
- Eversource's transmission system is not able to maintain supply to ~65,000 customers in the western Boston suburbs under certain operating conditions.

- Separating the existing 115-kV double circuit tower ("DCT") overhead transmission lines between the Baker Street Substation and the Needham Substation will mitigate potential area overloads and will significantly reduce the number of customers that are exposed to sustained loss of service.

- The Project will have numerous public benefits, the primary of which will be to satisfy the transmission need determined by ISO-NE. In addition to satisfying this need, the Project will provide property taxes in each municipality along the route. It will also provide construction jobs for one to two years, with attendant secondary benefits to local businesses.

West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project
Preferred and Noticed Alternative Routes

EVERSOURCE ENERGY



West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project

EVERSOURCE

Figure 1-2
Aerial Locus Map

West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project
Public Roads Comprising the Preferred & Noticed Alternative Route

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Preferred UG Route (~2.6 miles)

- Greendale Avenue (via municipal "Gravel Pit" parcel)
- Grosvenor Road
- Broad Meadow Road
- Great Plain Avenue
- Harris Avenue
- School Street
- Grant Street
- Junction Street
- Chestnut Street

Potential Variations to Preferred Route

- Valley Road (via municipal "Gravel Pit" parcel)
- Intervale Road
- Warren Street (in lieu of Grant Street)

Noticed Alternative UG Route (~3.0 miles)

- Valley Road (via Greendale Avenue Park Land)
- Peacedale Road
- Great Plain Avenue
- South Street
- High Rock Street
- West end of ROW to Needham Substation (via High Rock Street)

Overhead to Underground Transition Point at Valley Road Area

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

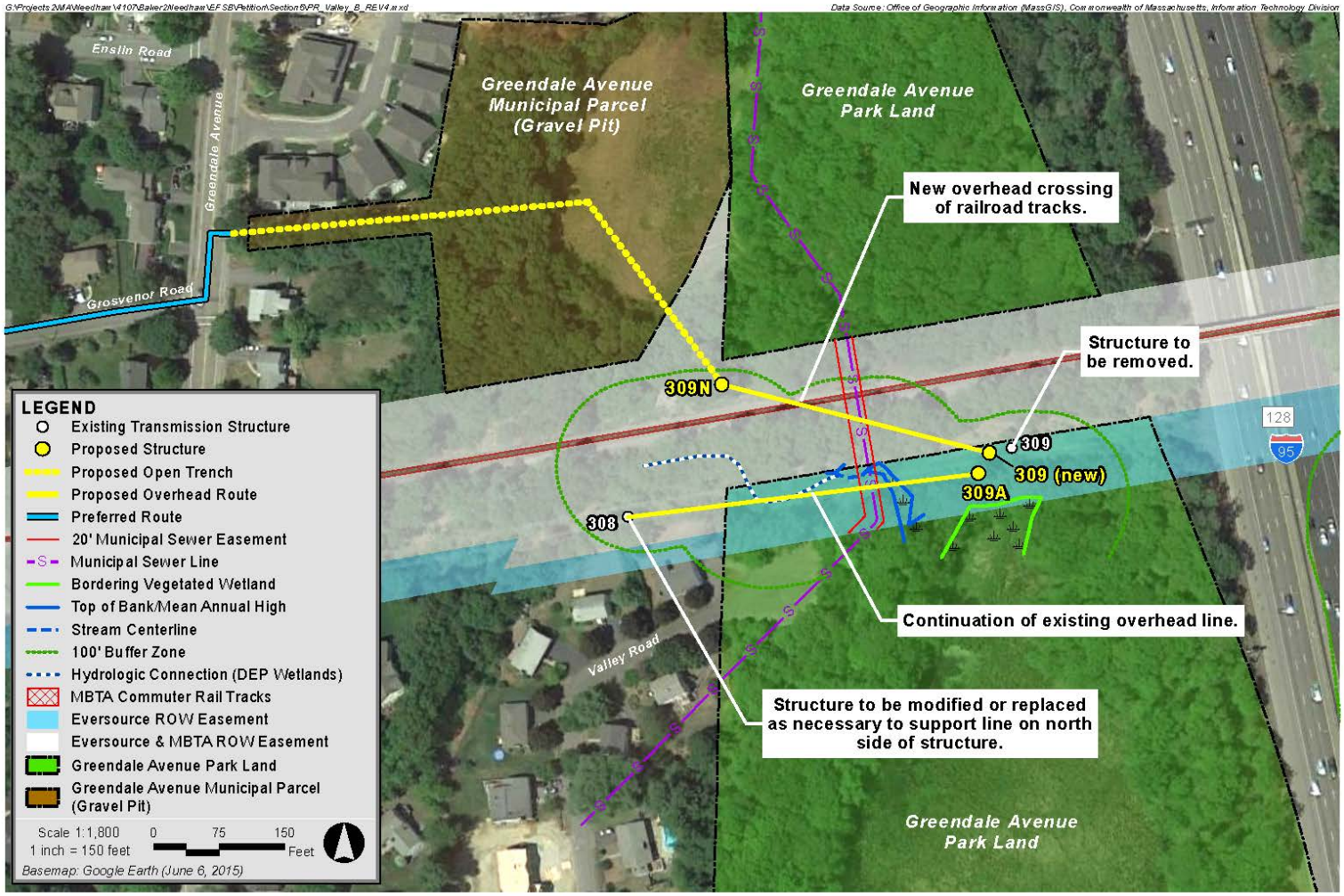
- Eversource has been working diligently and in close partnership with the Town to avoid impacts to the maximum extent practicable to the densely developed residential neighborhoods bordering the ROW west of the Valley Road area and the Town in general.

- To address the Town's concerns, Eversource is proposing to exit the existing ROW with the proposed transmission line at the first practicable location prior to reaching the residential neighborhoods beginning at the Valley Road cul de sac and transitioning to underground transmission line construction on primarily municipal streets.

- Two design options and one route variation are being proposed by Eversource to exit the ROW at Valley Road.

Overhead to Underground Transition Point at Valley Road (Preferred Design – OH SPAN of MBTA TRACKS)

EVERSOURCE ENERGY



West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project

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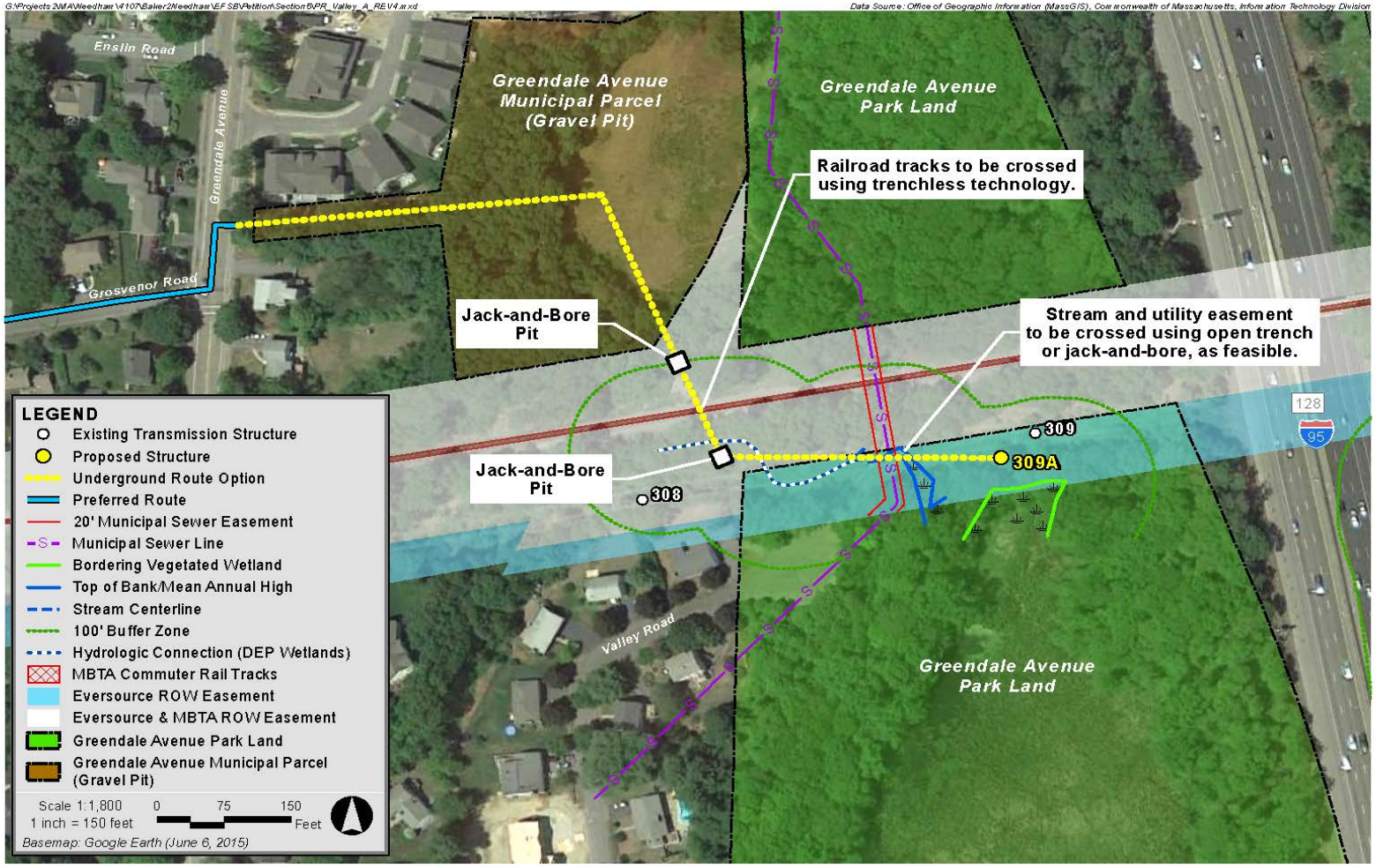
Figure 5-2b

Detail of Overhead to Underground Transition Point at Valley Road (Preferred Route) - Overhead Railroad Tracks Crossing

Overhead to Underground Transition Point at Valley Road (Alternative Design – J&B UNDER MBTA TRACKS)

EVERSOURCE ENERGY



West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project

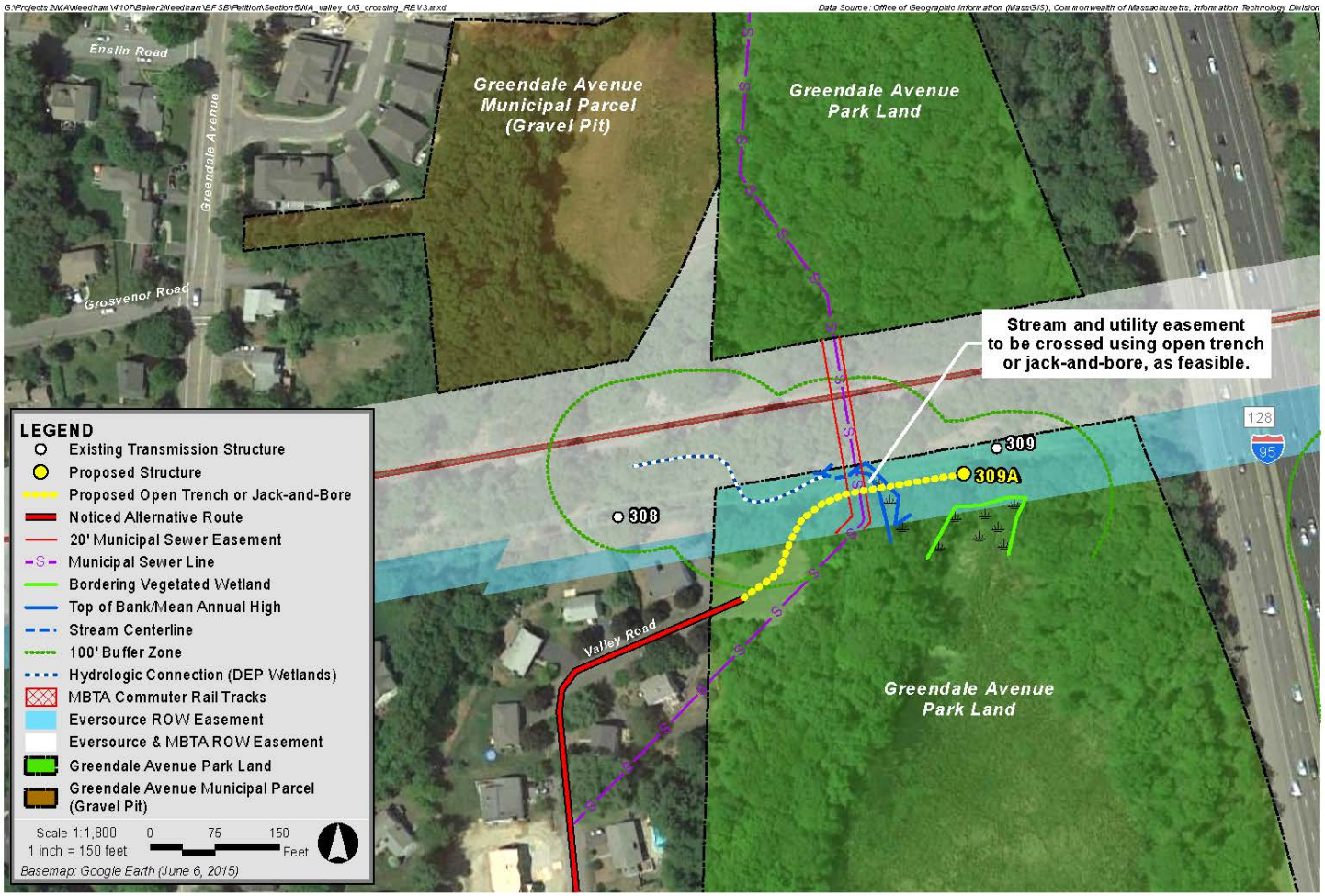
EVERSOURCE

Figure 5-2a

Detail of Overhead to Underground Transition Point at Valley Road (Preferred Route) - Underground Railroad Tracks Crossing

Overhead to Underground Transition Point at Valley Road (ROUTE VARIATION ONTO VALLEY ROAD)

EVERSOURCE ENERGY



West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project

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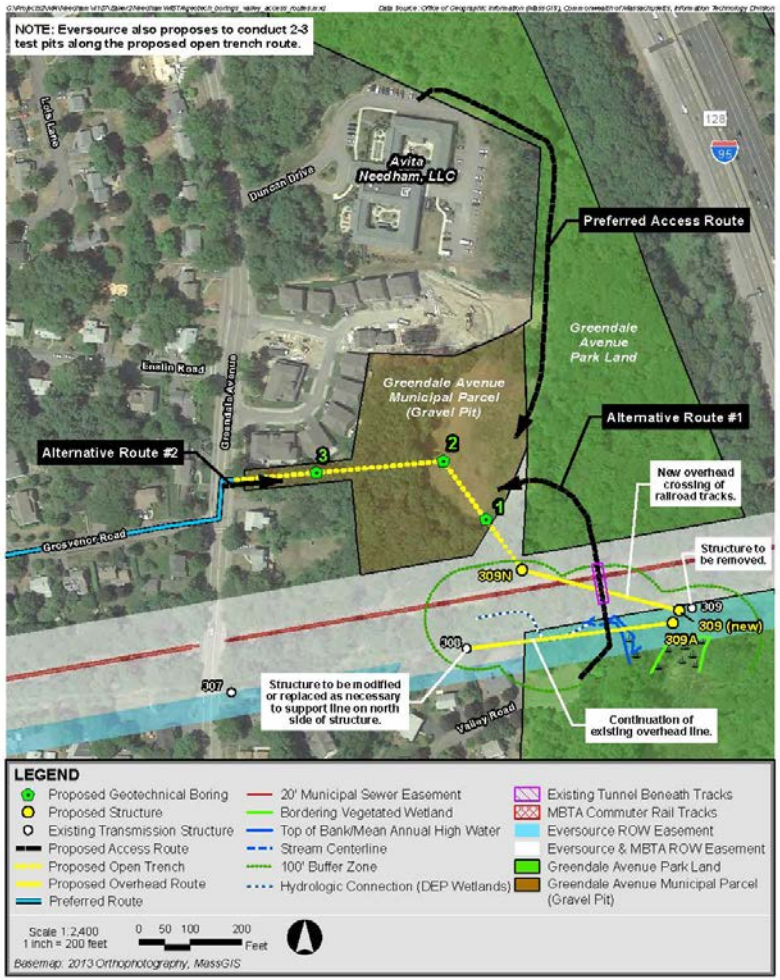
Figure 5-4

Detail of Overhead to Underground Transition Point at Valley Road (Noticed Alternative Route)

Geotechnical Data Collection on Gravel Pit Parcel to Support Proposed UG Design and Route

EVERSOURCE ENERGY



West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project

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Figure 1

Access to Geotechnical Boring Locations on Needham Gravel Pit Parcel

View of Existing Conditions on Gravel Pit Parcel Knoll

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

View of Existing Conditions on Gravel Pit Parcel onto Greendale Avenue

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project Permitting Update

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

- EFSB Petition Filed – **June 15, 2016**
- MEPA ENF Filed – **June 15, 2016**
- MEPA Certificate on ENF Issued – **July 22, 2016**
- Parks and Recreation Commission Formally Voted to Endorse Warrant Article for 30-foot Easement – **August 22, 2016**
- EFSB Public Statement Hearing – **September 27, 2016**
- Permits obtained for geotechnical boring and data collection for OH transmission line structure foundations (work is underway) – **May through August 2016**.
- Town Meeting Vote to Secure Easement – **October 7, 2016**

West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project
Next Steps

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

- Advance design details of OH and UG transmission line segments including permitting & approvals for UG geotechnical data collection work in local streets;
- Develop framework for "Host Community Agreement" in consultation with Town Officials;
- Ongoing outreach with residents and other stakeholders;
- Continue to work through the MEPA EIR and EFSB Petition review processes including ongoing coordination with affected municipalities and other stakeholders; and
- Commence environmental permitting efforts (local, state, federal).

West Roxbury to Needham Reliability Project
Schedule Update

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

- Assuming receipt of all necessary permits and approvals, construction of the transmission line is anticipated to commence in 2017.

- Construction is anticipated to occur over an 18-month period, and to be completed by the end of 2018.

Proactive Municipal and Community Outreach Throughout Project Duration

EVERSOURCE ENERGY

Stakeholders

- Municipal officials
- State and federal elected officials and agencies
- Property owners & tenants
- Businesses
- Community Groups

Project Communication for Municipalities

- Briefings & Presentations

Project Communication for the Public

- News Releases/Media Advisories
- Door to door outreach, including door hangers
- Transmission 1-800-Hotline
- Project e-mail
- Customer letters

Contact Information

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