

THE PROJECT PRESENTED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION TONIGHT, IS SUBMITTED JOINTLY, ON BEHALF OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND THE SEEKONK BOARD OF SELECTMEN. THE PROJECT CONSISTS OF THE RECONSTRUCTION OF OAK HILL AVENUE. AS SUCH, A DRAINAGE SYSTEM WILL BE INSTALLED. PRESENTLY OAK HILL AVENUE HAS ALMOST NO STORM DRAINAGE AND HAS BEEN PLAGUED WITH FLOODING PROBLEMS DURING ALMOST ANY STORM OF AN APPRECIABLE MAGNITUDE. EVEN MINOR STORMS CAN CREATE A HAZARDOUS CONDITION IF THEY OCCUR DURING THE WINTER MONTHS, WHEN FREEZING IS A POSSIBILITY.

THIS PROJECT, BESIDES SOLVING DRAINAGE PROBLEMS ON OAK HILL AVENUE, WILL ALSO SERVE TO ALLEVIATE TWO (2) MAJOR FLOODING PROBLEMS IN "STONEY BROOK". ONE FLOODING PROBLEM TO BE ALLEVIATED WILL BE THE PROBLEM OCCURRING AT THE TWIN 18" PIPES UNDER THE RAILROAD TRACKS, SOUTH OF OAK HILL AVENUE. WATER PRESENTLY FLOWING OVERLAND ACROSS OAK HILL AVENUE AND THE LAND SOUTH OF OAK HILL AVENUE AND NORTH OF "STONEY BROOK", WILL BE CONTAINED IN A DRAINAGE SYSTEM AND DISCHARGED INTO "STONEY BROOK" ON THE DOWNSTREAM SIDE OF THE PIPES UNDER THE RAILROAD TRACKS. THIS WILL DIVERT FLOW FROM THE UPSTREAM SIDE, WHICH IS CURRENTLY SUBJECT TO FLOODING.

ANOTHER AREA OF FLOODING, THE INTERSECTION OF OAK HILL AVENUE AND CENTRAL AVENUE, WILL BE HELPED BY THIS PROJECT. DRAINAGE ON OAK HILL AVENUE, WESTERLY FROM THE RAILROAD TRACKS, WILL BE PIPED IN A CLOSED SYSTEM TO A DISCHARGE POINT IN ATTLEBORO, OFF BORDER AVENUE. THIS WILL BY-PASS THE BOTTLE NECK OF THE ANTIQUATED DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN CENTRAL AVENUE. IT WILL BE REPLACING A SERIES OF PIPES LAYED IN PRIVATE PROPERTY WHICH HAVE SINCE BEEN BUILT OVER, AND AS SUCH ARE NOW INACCESSIBLE.

THE DESIGN COMPUTATIONS HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE TECHNICAL STAFF OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION. ADDITIONALLY, THE MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS'S ENVIRONMENTAL DIVISION HAS ALSO REVIEWED AND APPROVED THE PLANS. DURING CONSTRUCTION, STANDARD EROSION AND SILTATION CONTROL MEASURES, SUCH AS HAY CHECK DAMS, WILL BE EMPLOYED.

THIS PROJECT AFFORDS THE TOWN OF SEEKONK THE ENVIABLE OPPORTUNITY OF SOLVING A LONG STANDING DRAINAGE PROBLEM WITH FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDING. AT THE SAME TIME THERE WILL BE NO NEGATIVE SIDE TO THE LEDGER, AS THE PROJECT WILL HAVE NO DETRIMENTAL EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT. IN THE LONG RUN, AS OAK HILL AVENUE WILL NOW HAVE A DRAINAGE SYSTEM AND WITH SUCH WILL NOT HAVE TO BE SALTED AND/OR SANDED AS MUCH, IT SHOULD HAVE A BENEFICIAL EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT.