

Article 22 - Handout Annual Town Meeting June 8, 2012

The bridge over the Quaboag River was built in the 1930's. These bridges have a lifetime of 50-100 years, as long as there is regular maintenance and upkeep performed.

Throughout the years, we have not done any regular maintenance or upkeep, and we are reaching the upper limit of its life expectancy.

Upon inspection by the Commonwealth, the bridge was found to have structural deficiencies. Will the bridge collapse tomorrow? We don't know. Will it collapse in 5 years? We don't know that either. Most likely neither scenario will come to be.

Hundreds of people cross the bridge every day, on foot, on bicycles, cars and trucks of every size. But the bridge was not built for the size and weight of vehicles that use it today.

The Commonwealth has put the bridge in the Accelerated Bridge Program which uses both State and Federal funds. Replacement of the bridge, as per the design shown at the **25% Design Public Hearing, will cost \$3.7 million dollars.** The project involves replacing the bridge and doing some roadwork to improve line of sight and to increase water flow under the bridge. The project is expected to take 2 building seasons (i.e., two years). At no time will passage over the bridge be suspended. As we had for the CSX bridge, stoplights will be used to direct traffic.

Will the bridge project affect neighbors during construction? Certainly. All public works project do.

Will it force anybody to close their business? No. The Department of Transportation and the Board of Selectmen are committed to **minimizing all effects** on any of the properties affected. The easements the Board of Selectmen are seeking do not allow any of the easement areas to be used for parking, staging, storage of equipment or debris, or anything else along those lines, unless the owners specifically authorize such use. In order to work on private property, the Town must seek easements, both temporary and permanent. The following chart shows the proposed easements.

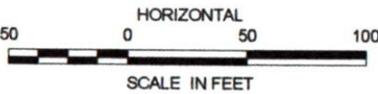
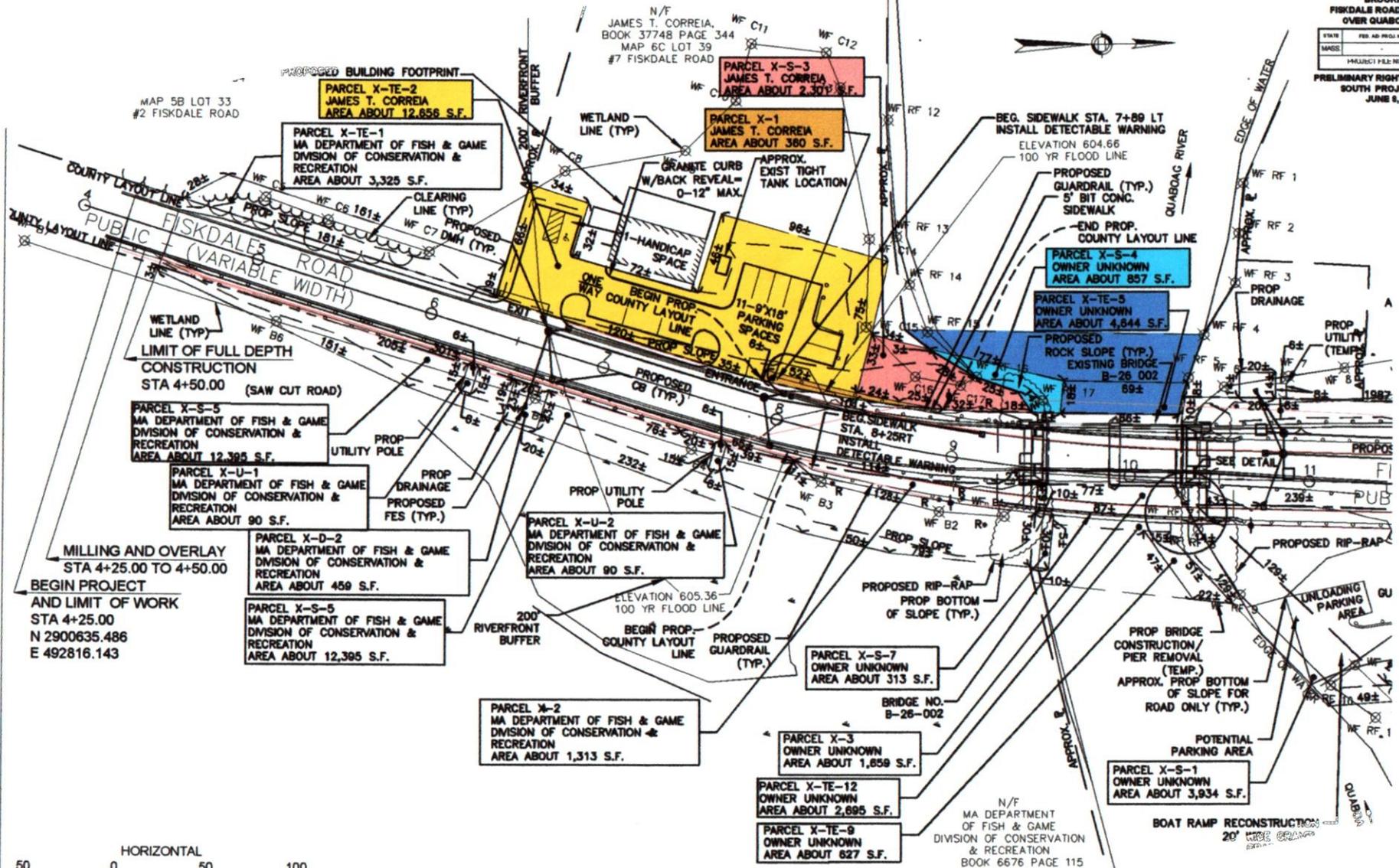
EASEMENTS FOR FISKDALE RIVER BRIDGE

			Easements		
Owner of Record	State Parcel #	Total Area in Square Feet	Easement area in SF	Type	% of total lot
Correia	X-TE-2	47,916	12,656	TEMP	0.2641
Correia	X-1	47,916	360	PERM	0.0075
Correia	X-S-3	47,916	2301	PERM	0.048
CSX	X-D-1	6,534	288	PERM	0.0441
CSX	X-TE-10	6,534	50	TEMP	0.0077
Blake	X-TE-11	250,470	7,050	TEMP	0.0281
Unknown	X-TE-5			TEMP	
Unknown	X-S-4			PERM	

Source: Board of Assessors, Brookfield

N/F
 JAMES T. CORREIA,
 BOOK 37748 PAGE 344
 MAP 6C LOT 39
 #7 FISKDALE ROAD

MAP 5B LOT 33
 #2 FISKDALE ROAD



PROPOSED FISKDALE ROAD

N/F
 MA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME
 DIVISION OF CONSERVATION & RECREATION
 BOOK 6676 PAGE 115
 MAP 5C LOT 28

#12 FISKDALE ROAD