



**The Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Highway Division**

**Invites You to a**

## **Public Information Meeting**

**for the**

## **Whittier Bridge/I-95 Improvement Project**

**Thursday, January 21, 2010**

**6:00 – 8:00 PM**

**Amesbury Town Hall, Auditorium  
62 Friend Street, Amesbury, MA**

The purpose of this meeting is to present the highway widening and bridge river crossing alternatives that are being evaluated as part of the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment process. The evaluation is being performed as part of a joint federal NEPA and state MEPA environmental review process and in accordance with the scope outlined in the Secretary's Certificate for the Environmental Notification Form. The project team will also summarize comments received to date and how they are being incorporated into the environmental evaluation. Following the presentation, MassDOT staff will lead a discussion to answer questions and gather public comment on the alternatives. Comments received will be carefully considered as the alternatives evaluation moves forward.

The Whittier Bridge/I-95 Improvement Project involves as its centerpiece the replacement of the Whittier Bridge over the Merrimack River. The proposed new structure will have four travel lanes and a high-speed shoulder and breakdown lane in each direction. It is one of the most significant projects to be undertaken by MassDOT under the Commonwealth's \$3 billion Accelerated Bridge Program. When completed, the project will return the breakdown lanes for emergency use only to improve safety and provide additional I-95 lane capacity to reduce congestion. The project also includes the replacement or reconstruction of four adjacent bridges along I-95 in Amesbury and Newburyport.

If you have questions or would like more information about the project, please contact Mike O'Dowd, MassDOT Highway Division Project Manager, at 617-973-7475. To be added to the project email or US Mail distribution lists, please contact Stephanie Boundy, Public Outreach Coordinator for MassDOT's Accelerated Bridge Program, by phone at 617-973-8049 or by email at [Stephanie.Boundy@state.ma.us](mailto:Stephanie.Boundy@state.ma.us). The Town Hall Auditorium is accessible.