

Whitcomb Ave/Boxborough Water Main Extension Public Forum Questions

January 15th, 2025

1. On the proposed finished water main extension slide/map, I noticed that 70 Codman Hill Road is the only parcel highlighted with green hash marks. What does this mean?

A. The green hash marks represent that the current PFAS concentrations in the public water supply does not exceed the state drinking water standards, but they are being exceeded for chloride.

2. Could you please tell us how this project affects Paddock Estates? We heard they have their own water tanks, and we should not drink the water. Is this true?

A. Paddock Estates is not currently part of the scope to connect to the water main. We recommend that you address questions to the owner of the property, or MassDEP Central Regional Office Drinking Water Section Chief Bob Bostwick, because we do not have any information on the water quality at Paddock Estates. All Public Water System water quality data can be found using this weblink:

<https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal#!/search/drinking-water>.

3. Will there be intermediate connections as the line is built or will connections wait until the line is built?

A. We will evaluate as construction progresses and coordinate with the properties. There are multiple factors and moving pieces so this will be on a case-by-case basis. We will be starting these conversations now so that as we progress there will be

communication on how the plan will exactly move forward. We will work with the individual systems to plan to move forward.

4. Have the costs been determined for the different properties? Does that include properties that are not public water supply locations as well?

A. The betterment costs have not yet been finalized as final construction costs can change. The betterment costs do include non-public water systems. We are actively working to lower the cost as much as possible and are exploring other funding options to try and reduce the cost burden on residents.

5. When can each property assume that they will know what they are paying?

A. The project will be ending in November 2026. Given the financial commitments that will be needed, we want to get this information out as early as possible and are working diligently to make sure we account for everything. We do not currently have a timeline but are hoping to let people know as soon as possible.

6. What are the plans for repaving the roads disturbed, specifically on Whitcomb Ave?

A. Temporary patches need to sit for a minimum 90 days to make sure that the ground settles properly. Towards the end of the project the contractor will go back and do the final paving. We will post updates and project schedules on our website to keep residents informed. Whitcomb Ave will receive a full-width mill and overlay.

7. If homeowners along the water main route that have private wells need to hook up to LELWD's system in the future, will they be able to?

A. This will need to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, as there are many factors to consider. If you are paying a betterment fee, then you will have the opportunity to connect to the water main.

8. When do you expect connections to be made barring any unforeseen circumstances or delays?

A. Our focus now is to lay the water main and then go back to install the service connections. We typically run the service connection from the water main in the street to the property line. This may take place during 2025 or 2026 depending on construction progress. We will coordinate with all the systems that are connecting to ensure that the service connection is easily accessible and where the property owner desires.

9. Is the Trumbull Well the sole source of the water that will be piped to Boxborough, and will that water have been treated for PFAS and sodium removal?

A. No. Here in Littleton we have a completely combined distribution system. All of our 9 groundwater wells go into one system. We cannot attribute any one specific source going directly into Boxborough (or to any single location) because the water is all blending. Our water sources are treated for Iron and Manganese. We do have low levels of sodium and chloride but nothing that causes the need for treatment. Our Whitcomb Ave treatment plant does treat the water for PFAS, and we currently have no detectable PFAS in finished treated water. We do have PFAS concentrations at our Beaver Brook Wells, but the final effluent concentrations are at levels below the current State Drinking

Water Standard. You can find Littleton's water quality data on our website or upon request we can provide our annual water quality report.

10. Are there any plans to extend the water line along Mass Ave on the west side of Mass Ave? Could this be a possibility? And if Boxborough needs more water in the future will this be possible?

- A. That is currently not part of the scope of this project. The IMA in place is for 65,000 gallons per day. We are apportioning this to the systems that we expect to connect along the planned water main route.

11. Will Moore Lane in Littleton be connected to the main on Whitcomb?

- A. This is not part of this current project. However, we have left a stub in Moore Lane for potential future use.

12. Will there be room for future expansion?

- A. We are focused on our Littleton customer base and planned new service to western Boxborough first and making sure that all their needs are met before any future expansion is considered. Water is not an unlimited resource, so we must be careful balancing what we can physically withdraw to ensure we always meet our customer's essential functions, as well as adequate fire protection.

13. Where can we get to the path of the water main?

- A. You can find a bird's eye view of the path on our website. You can also reach out to LELWD directly.

14. Is the former Cisco property on Beaver Brook Rd going to be supplied by the project?

A. Yes, there will be a few of those buildings connecting.

15. Will fire sprinkler service be "streaming" or pumped to a water storage tank?

A. We will have hydrants that connect to the water main for fire protection, and have the ability to provide a fire protection service to LELWD's system, but you should check with the local building inspector related to fire sprinkler service needs.

16. Where can we access the slides from tonight?

A. Those can be viewed on our water project page on our website. You can view other relevant project information here as well. You can get notified directly for project updates on our webpage if you sign up.

17. With all the planned growth in Littleton do we have enough water for Littleton without restrictions?

A. As long as we do not enter into a drought condition, which is typically determined by the state, or reach streamflow trigger conditions referenced in our water management permit that require us to enforce those outdoor restrictions the hope is that we do not experience restrictions. The development of the Trumbull Well will provide us with an increased water supply volume, which should make us more resilient during high demand periods .

18. If I live in a condo who will be paying the water bill? The betterment fee? Who will install water meters or low flow fixtures? Should I contact my landlord and let him know I received this email?

- A. We will have to determine a plan of action with the individual condo associations to determine how water bills will be apportioned and paid. LELWD will be reaching out to the individual condo associations. Betterment fees will be added to the individual condominium tax bills.