



# Town of Winchester

Michael Bettencourt, Chair  
Susan Verdicchio, Vice Chair  
Mariano Goluboff  
Jacqueline A. Welch  
Amy Shapiro

Select Board  
71 Mt. Vernon Street  
Winchester, MA 01890  
Phone: 781-721-7133  
Fax: 781-756-0505  
townmanager@winchester.us

June 29, 2020

Ms. Katie Choe  
Chief of Capital Delivery  
MBTA – Capital Delivery Department  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 5170  
Boston, MA 02116

RE: Winchester Center Station – MBTA Cost Sharing Proposal

Dear Ms. Choe,

The Town of Winchester received your letter dated June 3, 2020 regarding proposed cost sharing requests from the MBTA associated with the renovation of the Winchester Center Station. The Town offers the following comments on that memo:

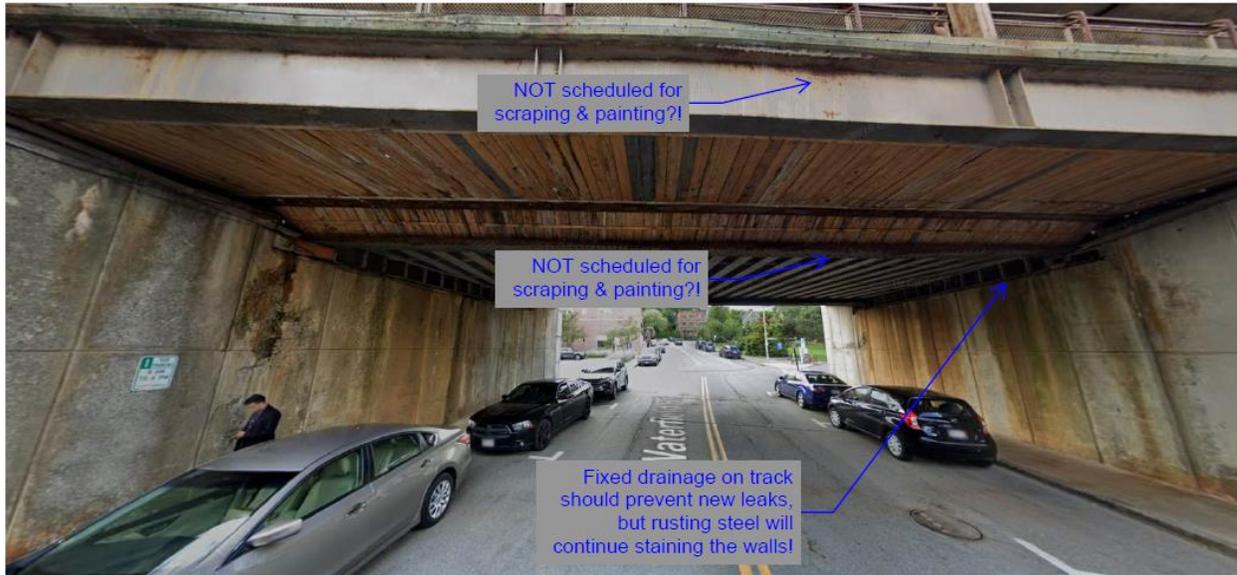
## (1) Painting of Pedestrian Tunnel

The MBTA has indicated that painting the existing pedestrian tunnel between the Aberjona and Waterfield Lots is not currently included in the scope of work for the project; and that if the Town is interested in pursuing this work, it could do so at a cost of \$17,500.

The Town would be interested in cost sharing for this item; however, we do ask that the MBTA reconsider this, as we feel that cleaning and repainting of the pedestrian tunnel should be considered part of the MBTA's normal operations and maintenance for the station, which is now 50-years old. Further, the Town strongly encourages the MBTA to add cleaning of the concrete at the Waterfield Road and Quill Rotary underpasses, and repainting of the rusting steel the two street crossings to the project scope of work. Photos of the two areas are provided below, which show stained concrete and rusted structures resulting from years of deterioration from poor drainage on the platforms above. The Town feels strongly that restoration of these areas should be included in the MBTA's base contract, and not as part of a cost sharing agreement with the Town.



*Quill Rotary Underpass*



*Waterfield Road Underpass*

**(2) Town involvement in color palette selection**

The Town appreciates the MBTA's willingness for us to be included in the selection of the color palettes and material finishes. The Town expects that we will be able select a standard color.

**(3) Pigeon Protection**

The MBTA's letter indicates that they will use netting as pigeon protection at the station. The Town feels that other options would provide improved protection and minimize long-term maintenance; however, we are not interested in participating in a cost-sharing agreement for this item.

**(4) Granite Cladding at Abutments**

The MBTA is requesting \$70,000 from the Town to add granite cladding to the new pier in the Quill Rotary (Sheet A-402) and the abutment on the Waterfield Lot side of the bridge (Sheet A-401). The Town requests that the MBTA provide a separate cost for each of these locations.

**(5) Preserve stone at Aberjona Elevation**

The Town has no comment on this item.

**(6) Aberjona Ramp Roof Cantilever**

The Town is not interested cost sharing for a cantilevered roof design for the outbound platform.

**(7) Granite Edging of Planter Beds**

The MBTA's letter indicates that they are looking for \$8500 from the Town of Winchester to add granite edging to the planter beds. The Town has reviewed the landscaping plans provided with the 100% submittal, and we recommend removing the shrub plantings and replacing it with a concrete sidewalk in the vicinity of the proposed ramp in the southern end of the Aberjona Lot (Sheet L-310). The Town is willing to consider cost sharing for the granite edging in the planting bed in the northern end of the Aberjona Lot and along Laraway Road.

**(8) Irrigation System**

The June 3<sup>rd</sup> letter states that installation of an irrigation system is beyond the normal scope of work for MBTA projects, and that the cost of installation would be on the order of \$50,000. The Town is interested in pursuing an irrigation system for the plantings along Laraway Road. Please provide an updated cost sharing estimate for this piece of the project.

**(9) Laraway Road Ramp Salvaged Stone**

The Town is interested in moving forward with a cost sharing agreement for the installation of salvaged stone along the outer face of the Laraway Road ramp, which the MBTA estimates will cost approximately \$80,000. It is the Town's understanding that this would include replacing everything labeled "precast panels" on Sheet A-402 of the plans dated April 2020.

**(10) Solar Panels**

The Town requests clarification on the MBTA's response regarding the solar panels. Is the \$100,000 quoted in the June 3<sup>rd</sup> letter the cost to actually install the panels, or just to make the canopies panel ready, as was discussed in our previous conversations? The Town's preference is to follow the later model, where the Town would select our own vendor to install the panels in the future.

**(11) Art Work**

The Town's preference is to have the MBTA provide a "plug-in" system where the Town can install and rotate art exhibits of its own accord. The Town's preference is to have this installed on the stairs at Laraway Road; we will discuss other locations and respond back to the MBTA. At this time, the Town is not authorized to enter into a formal funding agreement with the MBTA for these cost sharing items. As noted in the MBTA's letter, the Town would need to seek approval and funding authorization at the Fall 2020 Town Meeting. The Town would like to set up a call to discuss these items at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Mike Bettencourt  
Chair, Select Board

cc: Nathan Rae, MBTA Project Manager  
Senator Jason Lewis  
Senator Patricia Jehlen  
Representative Michael Day