



Wayland
MASSACHUSETTS



Sudbury
Massachusetts

September 15, 2025

Subject: Joint Support for Critical Repairs to Sherman's Bridge

Dear Residents of Wayland and Sudbury Massachusetts,

As the Town Managers of Wayland and Sudbury, we are writing to express our strong and unified support for the proposed major Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MADOT) required repairs to Sherman's Bridge. Sherman's Bridge was closed in November 1989 and was reconstructed in 1992. The bridge serves as a vital connection between our communities.

The planned rehabilitation project will ensure that the bridge remains safe, functional, and aesthetically consistent with its original wooden design for several decades to come.

This project will provide a number of substantial benefits, including:

- **Structural Longevity:** Replacement of all lam boards with an asphalt wearing surface. This will maximize the bridge's service life and reduce future maintenance needs.
- **Noise & Vibration Reduction:** Smoother decking will eliminate the board rattle that loosens fasteners and accelerates deterioration. This will result in quieter operation and a longer-lasting structure.
- **Improved Safety:** Installation of crash-tested guardrails will significantly enhance safety for all who travel the bridge.
- **Environmental Protection:** Storm water will be routed to the bridge ends, where it can be properly filtered through gravel and riprap. This will result in improved water quality entering the Sudbury River.
- **Wildlife & Habitat Preservation:** Reduced noise and vibration will help protect the tranquility of the surrounding area. This will benefit local wildlife and the unique natural setting.

Equally important, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation has committed to funding the project's materials and is strongly considering covering construction costs as well. This represents a significant savings for both towns and a rare opportunity to complete a major infrastructure project with minimal direct local taxpayer burden.

Thank you for your consideration as we strive to maintain and improve the critical infrastructure in our communities.

Sincerely,

Michael McCall, Town Manager
Town of Wayland

Andrew J. Sheehan, Town Manager
Town of Sudbury