

TOWN OF SOUTHBOROUGH



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN HOUSE · 17 COMMON STREET · SOUTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01772-1662
(508) 485-0710 · FAX (508) 480-0161 · selectmenoffice@southboroughma.com

SOUTHBOROUGH RECEIVES SHARED STREETS GRANT AWARD

Southborough, 29 January 2021

The Town of Southborough has been notified by MassDOT that they are among the twenty-one cities and towns to receive grant awards in the latest round of funding for the Shared Winter Streets and Spaces program. The Shared Winter Streets and Spaces program provide grants as small as \$5,000 and as large as \$500,000 for municipalities to quickly launch changes for safer walking, biking, public transit, recreation, commerce, and civic activities. These improvements can be intentionally temporary or can be pilots of potentially permanent changes. MassDOT is particularly focused on projects that respond to the public health crisis and provide safe mobility for children, for elders, to public transportation, and to open space and parks.

Southborough received \$290,000.00 to support the implementation of a new "Southborough History Walk". The project includes the construction of new sidewalks on Marlboro Road (Route 85) and St. Mark's Street, and a new plaza / gathering area adjacent to the Public Library and paths around the "Old Burial Ground" to create an educational gathering area for Town residents and students.

The project would connect numerous Town facilities (Town Hall, Town Common, Old Burial Ground, Public Library, Historic Society) to a variety of uses including the Southborough Senior Center, Community House, St. Mark's School, Woodward Elementary School and Fay School. The new gathering area would be available to improve educational offerings provided by the Public Library and the nearby schools.

This project will expand the sidewalk network from the nearly completed Main Street (Route 30) Reconstruction project and create new off-road paths to improve pedestrian connectivity and gathering spaces within the Downtown area. The project will connect various Town assets to multiple schools and points of interest. The Town, through Chapter 90 funding, will move the road and upgrade the existing drainage.

Special thanks to DPW Superintendent Karen Galligan for her efforts that led to the grant award.

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