

Route 3A Task Force  
Town of Hingham

Meeting Minutes  
Tues., February 24, 2026

Attending: 3A TF members Deirdre Anderson, Bryce Blair, Alan Perrault, and chair Judy Sneath. Joined by engineers JR Frey and Matt Mui for the Town and Eric Carlson for GM2.

1. Meeting started 7:02PM with chair reading the prerequisite notice regarding the State's Open Meeting Law and its governance of remotely-held meetings.
2. VOTE to approve the minute of the January 14, 2026 meeting.
3. Eric Carlson outlined the comments received from MassDOT following their 45-day review period. GM2 had submitted 100 percent design documents on Dec. 29, 2025. And briefed the task force on recent meetings with MassDOT, with Copley Wolf landscape design, Hingham's Harbor resiliency project team, and with Susan Murphy, Town real estate counsel.

Susan Murphy is supporting the effort to advance Article 97\* requirements through Town Meeting, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and the state legislature.

MassDOT has requested the set of Right-of-Way plans by March 6. Comments require no shifts in the roadway or shared use path, so the planned easements have held. Once R-O-W plans are accepted, then MassDOT will start the assessment process.

Comments on landscape design note that (a) the swing feature would be a nonparticipating expense, and (b) cobblestone pavement is not supported on any drivable or plowable surface, and would have to be stamped concrete.

4. Discussion of Article 97-related warrant article at Town Meeting and related public awareness. The warrant article relates only to the use of Town-own property for the project. Important to note that (a) there will be related compensation from the State, and (b) this warrant article does not affect any private property.
5. JR Frey is coordinating GM2/MassDOT permitting with the Town. First of at least two meetings with Conservation Commission is on March 9.
6. Eric Carlson will ask Copley Wolf to provide us with project images for the Route 3A Project webpage. A communications working group will meet prior to our next meeting to outline a plan for informing and updating the public about the project and construction impacts.
7. Next 3A TF meeting scheduled for Tues., March 31 at 7pm.
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM

\*Author note: According to the Massachusetts Municipal Association website, Article 97 of the Amendments to the Massachusetts Constitution, adopted in 1972, protects public conservation land by requiring a two-thirds roll-call vote of both houses of the state legislature to dispose of or change the use of such land. It promotes a "no net loss" policy for protected open spaces, ensuring conservation land is not easily converted to other uses.