



Board of Selectmen

4/27/09
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TOWN OF ACTON
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April 24, 2009

Mr. Paul Hadley
Project Manager
MBTA Design & Construction
(-address to be inserted-)

Re: South Acton - MBTA Train Station Improvements; Pedestrian Access Modification

Dear Mr. Hadley:

Thank you for meeting with the Acton Town Manager and Planning Director at the MassHighway District 3 offices in Worcester on Friday, April 17. The Town of Acton Board of Selectmen is pleased that the MBTA's South Acton station improvement plan recreates in a slightly different location the existing trackside pedestrian walkway between the Railroad Street parking lot and the station.

As you suggested at the meeting in Worcester, the Acton Board of Selectmen is sending you herewith the Town's request to modify the station improvement plan in a way that further enhances pedestrian access from Railroad Street, generally as depicted in the enclosed drawing. There is presently a wide open pavement area that walkers must cross from the end of the Railroad Street sidewalk to the beginning of the trackside walkway. The current 60% station improvement plan would not change this. The attached plan modification shows what was discussed in principle at the Worcester meeting. The Town requests an extension of the trackside walkway by +/-120 feet in the easterly direction to a point opposite the end of the Railroad Street sidewalk, installation of a crosswalk over the MBTA owned Railroad Street parking lot, and slight relocation of vehicle parking spaces to accommodate the pedestrian improvements. There would be no loss of parking spaces at the Railroad Street lot and the pavement width of the Town-owned Railroad Street would

be maintained at 20 feet. A +/-2-foot gap between the relocated parking spaces and the extended trackside walkway provides space for a positive barrier such as a railing or bollards.

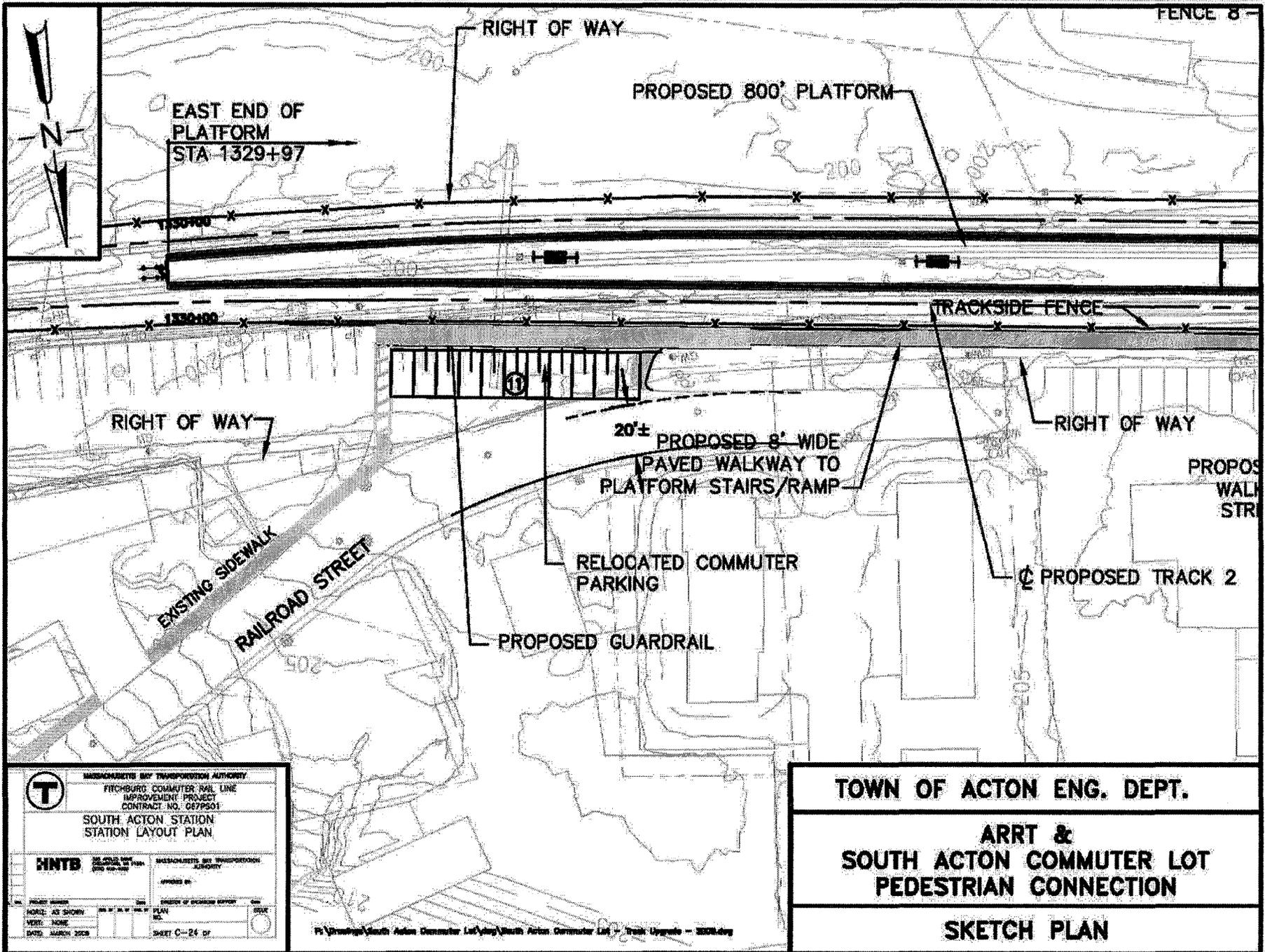
A significant number of residents who live in the neighborhoods surrounding the South Acton train station walk to the train via Railroad Street and the trackside walkway. The attached plan modification would greatly enhance walkers' safety along this pedestrian access route and encourage even more walking to the train station. The Town asks that you consider this proposal favorably. The Board of Selectmen is looking forward to recognizing this modification on the next version of the station improvement plan. Please contact Steve Ledoux or Roland Bartl if you have any question.

Sincerely,

Paulina Knibbe
Chairman
Board of Selectmen

Cc: Steve Ledoux, Town Manager
Roland Bartl, Planning Director
Bruce Stamski, Town Engineer
Arthur Frost, MassHighway District 3
Andrew Ogilvie, AECOM

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| T | MIDDLESEX COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY | |
| | FITCHBURG COMMUTER RAIL LINE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT CONTRACT NO. 067P01 | |
| SOUTH ACTON STATION STATION LAYOUT PLAN | | |
| HNTB | DESIGNED BY | MIDDLESEX COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY |
| | APPROVED BY | |
| NO. PROJECT NUMBER | DATE | REVISION OF PROGRAM REPORT |
| SCALE: AS SHOWN | NO. OF SHEETS | PLAN |
| VERT: NONE | | SHEET |
| DATE: MARCH 2008 | | SHEET C-24 OF |

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| TOWN OF ACTON ENG. DEPT. |
| ARRT & SOUTH ACTON COMMUTER LOT PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION |
| SKETCH PLAN |