



CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
*Department of Public Works*  
Engineering Division  
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February 25, 2016

Dear Resident of West Hill Road,

The West Hill Road reconstruction project is going to be the topic of a neighborhood meeting scheduled for this coming **Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm**. The meeting will be held at City Hall in the Memorial Hall. We strongly encourage residents to attend so they be presented with all of the facts about the project.

West Hill Road is one of the oldest roadways in Marlborough, first appearing as a roadway on map of Marlborough dated 1803. It undoubtedly existed prior to that, most likely growing out of an old cart path used by farmers and livestock. Little has changed and it maintains its irregular layout and twisting and undulating character.

Currently, West Hill Road consists of a variable travel width of 16 to 22 feet. Drainage is poor and consists of both country style "runoff" type drainage and some aging basins and pipes. There is currently no curbing to the existing roadway. The drainage poses challenges in winter weather and ice formation is a serious concern during the colder months. The narrow width of the roadway in some spots is also a safety concern and traffic accidents are often narrowly avoided.

The city is proposing to make West Hill Road safer for drivers and residents alike by taking the current variable width of 16-22 feet and make it a consistent width of 22 feet from end to end. Much of the road is already this wide. All existing drainage will be rebuilt and improved and additional drainage will be added to ensure the proper flow of water off of the roadway. Sloped curbing will be added for the entire length. There will not be any sidewalks added as part of this project. There will be some wall work that has to be done as part of the project. All walls affected by the project will be rebuilt and some new walls will have to be added. This is a requirement of any project occurring on a designated scenic roadway, such as West Hill Road. Stone from the existing walls will be reused and any new walls will use matching stone. All walls will be of consistent character for the scenic roadway. There will be trees that have to come down as a result of the widening that is occurring. Any roadwork will potentially compromise the root systems of some of these trees and they need to be removed before they become unhealthy and unsafe. Trees will be replaced, where appropriate, with new trees.

Sincerely,

Evan D. Pilachowski, P.E.  
City Engineer