



Braintree Town Council

ORDER NO: **21 001**

DATE FILED: JANUARY 5, 2021

REQUEST OF: **NATIONAL GRID**

National Grid hereby respectfully requests your consent to the locations of mains as hereinafter described for the transmission and distribution of gas in and under the following public streets, lanes, highways, and places of the Town of Braintree and of the pipes, valves, governors, manholes and other structures, fixtures and appurtenances designed or intended to protect or operate said mains and accomplish the objects of said Company; and the digging up and opening the ground to lay or place same:

The DPW has reviewed National Grid's request to continue work on Pearl Street, as previously petitioned under order 17-042. The gas company is proposing to finish the project which was never fully completed due to the lockout. In 2017, National Grid installed a new 4-inch plastic gas main in Pearl Street but never made the final connections to activate it. The remaining proposed work includes the digging of approximately 30 service trenches to transfer existing gas customers to the new gas main, and 4 connection pits to tie the new gas main to existing gas mains at the project limits to activate it with staff recommendations:

BELD: Please note, BELD has an 115,000 volt oil filled transmission line located on Pearl St. BELD Engineering should be notified in advance of any excavation to be performed in close proximity to this line. BELD will provide onsite support and safety personnel at no cost to the project. BELD also has a 13,800 volt underground system on the road. This is a concrete encased duct bank to be identified through the Dig safe process.

DPW: Pearl Street was totally reconstructed by the Town in 2018, including sidewalks with granite curbing, following completion of the Town's watermain replacement project. As such, the roadway is under the moratorium which was enacted by the Council in 2015. For longitudinal trenches the moratorium is 10 years, and for transverse trenches, the moratorium is 5 years. However, given that National Grid's gas main replacement project is not yet completed, and that the old gas main is still active and cannot be abandoned until additional work is completed.



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I recommend the petition for this road opening be granted given the following conditions can be met:

National Grid shall be responsible for the complete restoration of Pearl Street and adjacent streets within the entire work limits to restore all disturbed areas to preconstruction conditions, including the following specific requirements:

- National Grid shall perform a pre-construction video-survey documenting the existing conditions of roadways, sidewalks, curbing, striping, and any private property areas that may be affected by the work.
- Certified letters shall be sent to all abutting residents notifying them of the reason for the project, describing the total restoration requirements, and providing contact information for questions. The letters shall also provide residents the opportunity to connect to gas during the project and make residents aware of the strict moratorium requirements should they choose not to connect at this time.
- At the Town's request, National Grid shall host a remote public meeting to make residents aware of the proposed work and allow residents to ask questions and voice concerns
- National Grid shall perform a curb-to-curb resurfacing of Pearl Street, from Liberty Street to the Monatiquot River crossing (west of #234 Pearl St.), by way of a 2-inch mill and overlay, using MassDOT super-pave asphalt mix and QA/QC specifications.
- National Grid shall resurface all sidewalks within the project limits and replace any granite curbing or concrete wheelchair ramps that are damaged during the work
- All thermoplastic pavement markings shall be replaced in-kind immediately following the final paving



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We also recommend that the following requirement be added to the permit, if it is to be granted:

"Neither National Grid nor any of its contractors is authorized to close any street or to close a direction of travel to facilitate their work without authorization from the Director of the Department of Public Works or the Highway Superintendent. The Chief of Police can also authorize a closure for a police or fire emergency. Construction zone traffic safety issues are to be addressed by using appropriate traffic control signs and devices and the use of police officers for traffic control to safely guide traffic through the work zone. If a closure is authorized by the DPW, it shall not be implemented until signs and police officers (where needed) are properly in place in conformity with the written plan prepared by the contractor's engineer and approved by the DPW and Police Department."

YEAS: Boericke, Connors, Flaherty, Hume, Mackin, O'Brien, Ringius, Ryan, Sciascia

NAYS: NONE

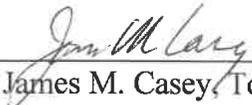
ABSENT: NONE

PASSED IN COUNCIL: FEBRUARY 23, 2021

A True Record, Attest:

02-25-2021

Date Approved


James M. Casey, Town Clerk