



## Washington Street Project Cluster

### What is this project?

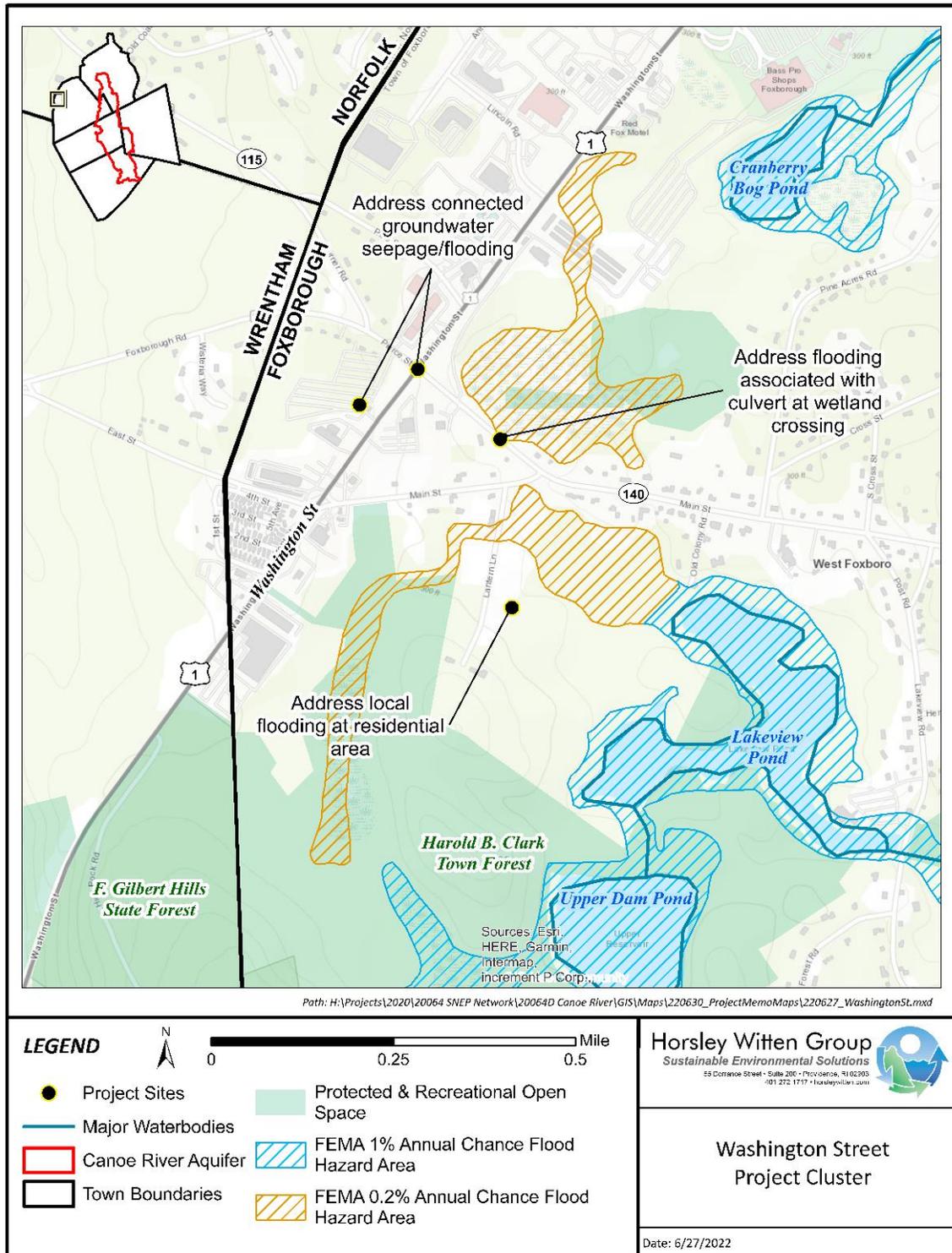
The Washington Street Project Cluster includes improvements to existing infrastructure in addition to the remediation of flooding issues around Washington Street (Route 1) in Foxborough, MA. The Project Cluster includes an assessment of one culvert situated at a wetland crossing. The culvert may need to be upgraded to meet the flow demands to the neighboring wetland as flooding issues have been reported in the area. Rightsizing a culvert can restore natural flows, improve fish passage, and reduce flooding events. The Project Cluster also includes assessments for three areas reported to be prone to flooding during storm events. Stormwater retrofits, including nature based solutions such as rain gardens, could be implemented at these locations to naturally filter and treat stormwater runoff. By utilizing the natural flood mitigation capabilities of these nature based solutions, the surrounding areas will see improved drainage during storm events which will reduce the likelihood of flooding.

### Why is this project important for the environment and Foxborough?

- **Restoration of habitat.** Restoring natural circulation and treating stormwater runoff in the neighboring wetlands along Route 123/140 will help to reduce nonpoint source water pollution and improve water quality and habitats for a variety of aquatic species and wildlife in the area.
- **Ecological benefits to the region.** Waterbodies and wetlands are interconnected. Restoration would help not only the Wading and Cocasset Rivers, but also other interconnected waters with critical habitats.
- **Improved flood storage.** Restoring how water naturally circulates through the neighboring wetlands along Route 123/140 will protect the community from flooding by enabling the watercourses and surrounding vegetated land to absorb more stormwater runoff during storm events.
- **Protection against drought.** Restoring natural water circulation through the neighboring wetlands along Route 123/140 will improve the ability of these vegetated lands to treat and capture stormwater and store more groundwater, helping protect the region against future droughts when rainfall is low.



Figure 1. Flooding along a major roadway in Foxborough, MA (Patch).



### If you care about this project, what should you do?

If you are interested in supporting efforts to make this project a reality, we encourage you to reach out to the Conservation Commission in Foxborough to voice your support. Let your community know that addressing this project should be a priority for the environment and for Foxborough!

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