

Jon Marshall

Deputy Town Administrator Operations

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Town of Natick - Administration

To: Select Board

From: Jon Marshall, Deputy Town Administrator Operations
Jeremy Marsette, Public Works Director

Date: 8/23/2022

Re: South Main Street and Washington Avenue

Cc: William McDowell, Town Engineer
James Errickson, Town Administrator

The following is an update on utility pole work on South Main Street and Washington Avenue as of August 23, 2022. Town staff have engaged in bi-weekly meetings with Eversource since May of 2022. Comcast has recently joined the bi-weekly meetings although all utility companies have been requested to attend. Town staff have ensured all utility companies are aware of the progress and have been reaching out frequently to request updates. A portion of the work has been completed but there is still more work required to see these projects to completion.

Work Status

- Set new poles - Eversource – Completed on South Main Street
- Move electrical wires - Eversource – Complete on South Main Street
- Street lights moved – Natick – Completed on South Main Street
- Fire Alarm moved – Natick – Completed on South Main Street
- Cable wire move – Comcast – In progress 20%
- Cable wire move – RCN – In progress 20%
- Cable wire move – Verizon – Paused under redesign
- Old pole removal – Eversource – In progress 20%

Eversource wire moves have been completed on South Main Street. Comcast and RCN are working together to relocate wires which requires wire added to new poles before eliminating wire from old poles. The Town was informed by Verizon this past week that they have sent the project to their consultant for 'redesign' and have paused moving wire. The Town has requested an update from Verizon on what 'redesign' means and how that will impact completion of their work but have not yet received feedback. Verizon is last to go on the majority of poles which is needed for old pole removal.

Staff will be meeting with the road contractor R.M. Pachella this week to discuss remaining work to be completed. It is likely that pole removal will be needed prior to completing a majority of their work. Town staff will be requesting items not contingent on pole removal be tackled as expeditiously as possible.