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Town of Natick • Public Works

TO: Karen Adelman-Foster, Chair Select Board
Jamie Errickson, Acting Town Administrator

FROM: Jeremy Marsette, P.E.
Director of Public Works

DATE: July 9, 2021

SUBJECT: Pinewood Avenue and Hillcrest Avenue
Public Street Acceptances

The Department is in receipt of the petition for street acceptance received by the Select Board from the neighborhood including Pinewood Avenue and Hillcrest Avenue.

Pinewood Avenue and Hillcrest Avenue are older ways (predating the Commonwealth's Subdivision Control Law) and would not be eligible for public acceptance through the 'simplified' street acceptance process as allowed by Special Legislation granted to Natick by the Massachusetts General Court. Therefore, their acceptance would require field survey, preparation of layout plans, and additional title research. Preliminary research shows that the original homes along these roadways were constructed in the 1940's and 1950's. Both Pinewood Avenue and Hillcrest Avenue currently receive municipal services for snow removal, sanitation collections, water supply and wastewater collection.

The Department of Public Works previously submitted a capital request to fund preparation of layout plans to support Street acceptances townwide (these funds support the Board's goal to continue prudent public street acceptances). These capital funds were approved at the 2021 Spring Annual Town Meeting, therefore the funds are now available for use.

With the Board's concurrence and the advanced engineering/legal work that would be required, the earliest timeframe for public acceptance of these two roadways would be through the 2021 Fall Town Meeting. Attached is a 2017 guidance document regarding the public street acceptance process, copies are also available at the Select Board/TA's Office and on the Department's website. The memo provides more detail regarding the process, we are happy to discuss with the Board and petitioners at your convenience.