

Gerena Community School

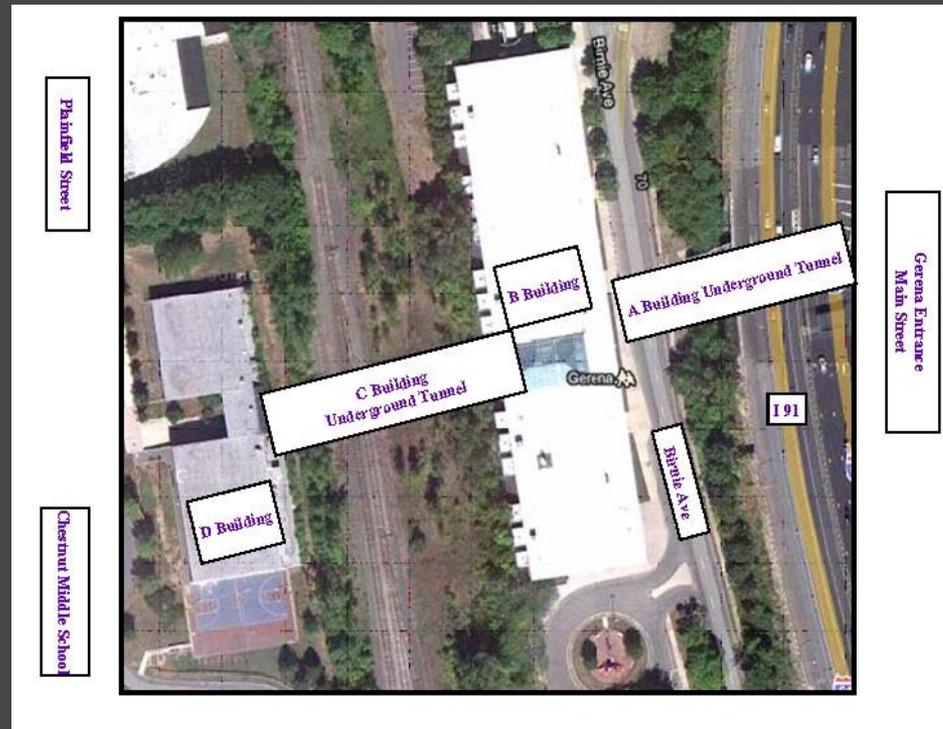
Next Steps for Work at Underground Sections



Gerena Technical Team

Springfield Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management

Understanding the Bridges, the Underground Tunnel System & the Site



North

Next Steps for Highway Bridge & Tunnel Section A

- Main Entrance at I-91 Highway Bridge (Linda Park)
 - Reroofing of Entrance
 - Repairs to Drainage Systems at Roof
 - Improve Access to Roof
 - Landscape Changes and Regrading of Hillside of Ramp (Exit 10)



I-91N Exit 10 Off Ramp

The Tunnel under Birnie Avenue has now been Designated as a BRIDGE

Therefore:

- \$3 Million in State Highway Bill earmarked for Birnie Avenue BRIDGE & Roadway Repairs
- Bids are being prepared for Interior Floor Repairs

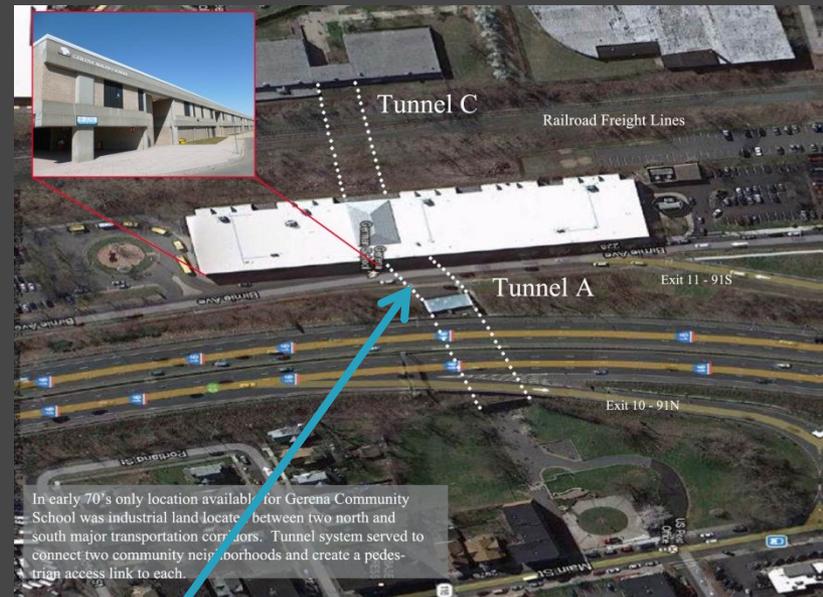


Above the Walkway Tunnel Ceiling is Birnie Avenue – Now designated as a BRIDGE

Recommended Construction for Birnie Avenue Bridge & Tunnel Section A

Birnie Avenue Bridge & Tunnel A -

- Repair and Replace Waterproofing Membrane at Tunnel A Roof Structure (under, and a part of, Birnie Avenue Bridge)
- Repair and Divert Birnie Avenue Roadway Bridge Drainage



Birnie Avenue,
191N, and Exit 10

What We Envision for the Birnie Avenue Roadway

Currently Before – looking south

Proposed After – looking south



Lack of Safety Features: No crosswalk, Guard rails on one side only, Sidewalk next to street

State Aid and Financing Requested

April 2016

February 2016



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

April 1, 2016

Senator Eric P. Lener
60 Shaker Road
Unit 1B
East Longmeadow, MA 01028

Senator James T. Welch
22-34 Hampden Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Dear Senators Lener and Welch:

We read with great interest in the Springfield Republican that the state legislative body is implementing \$200 million in road repair. As stated during our recent conversations, the projects outlined by the City of Springfield are vital to the continuation of quality services to our residents.

The City of Springfield appreciates your participation in the review of its transportation related projects. As discussed, the projects identified are critical not only for Springfield but also for the entire Pioneer Valley. Many of the projects are along commuter roads or parks that are used by the region. Springfield has benefited from the wisdom and resolve of the Western Mass delegation over the past decade and the results are clearly evident: from Forest Park, the Jewel of our Park System, to smaller neighborhood parks such as Nathan Hill and Mary Troy. The impact is tremendous when you consider that many neighborhoods now have a pleasant environment in which citizens can enjoy time with their families. This sends a strong message to residents that government is performing its duty in caring for its constituency.

These proposed transportation projects are critical to the needs of the Pioneer Valley. The following projects are presented for your review.

City of Springfield • 36 Court Street • Springfield, MA 01103-1687 • (413) 787-6100

Transportation Bond Bill Projects

- **Gerena School Tunnel Improvements - \$3,000,000**
The City of Springfield has completed all schematic designs to ensure the tunnel is properly sealed and the current Birnie Avenue road is rebuilt to prevent water entering this school facility.
- **Forest Park Irrigation - \$1,200,000**
Projects will provide stabilization of sand slopes being eroded by current street damage. This will prevent future erosion and protect park lands from surface damage for area streets.
- **Forest Park Roadways - \$2,200,000**
The roads of this regional attraction are in need of repair. Repairs and improvements will correct long-term drainage issues that have been accelerated by recent storm events.
- **Greenleaf Park Traffic Signal - \$800,000**
The entrance to this park has been the site of fatal traffic accidents and the signal will provide public safety at critical traffic times.
- **Bluff Park Roadway Improvements - \$1,500,000**
This regional park serves 750,000 visitors a year. The Commonwealth provides a pool facility and skating rink at this park. The proposed road improvements will enhance park accessibility and provide a safe entrance for the proposed senior center.

School Parking Lots that serve athletic complexes - 3-1,000,000

Springfield has over 54 school facilities and over 68 acres of open space that is utilized by teams throughout Western Mass. Funds will be used to correct damage and improve the overall safety of the sport complex parking.

We have enclosed an updated copy of the proposed projects and, as requested, have prepared a listing of projects previously filed by the delegation but not funded by the administration. The City of Springfield is depending upon your assistance. Please contact my office at your convenience if you have any questions or if I can provide additional information in this endeavor.

Respectfully,

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno
City of Springfield

Patrick Sullivan, Executive Director
Dept. of Public Buildings & Rec. Mgt.



THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

MAYOR DOMENIC J. SARNO

HOME OF THE BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

February 23, 2016

Governor Charles Baker
Massachusetts State House
Room 240
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker:

I am writing to request your assistance to ensure that the three million dollars in funding for the Birnie Avenue Bridge is released to ensure that the deterioration and water penetration into Gerena School interior classrooms and meeting space can be properly remediated. The City of Springfield has presented this project to the Commonwealth since November 2013. Unfortunately, the Commonwealth has not shared the view of the City of Springfield that this is a critical project. The City has been very diligent about investigating and identifying the causes and sources of the water infiltration into the Birnie Avenue Bridge system. Currently, there are road construction projects planned for the North End and the repair of the bridge is critical for the operation of the tunnel and Gerena School. We have provided the City's findings and recommendations in the attached PowerPoint presentation.

We appreciate that the Mass DOT has confirmed the Birnie Avenue Bridge is in fact a Federal Highway Bridge. The Federal Highway Bridge designation makes the proposed project eligible for the three million dollar appropriation from the bond bill. We have incorporated information received from the Commonwealth, and safety and health concerns from the school and local neighborhood groups into the recommendations developed by SGH and our engineering team. The City has utilized SGH, a Mass DOT-approved vendor, to prepare the schematic design and cost estimates to repair the Birnie Avenue Federal Highway Bridge.

The City is depending on your assistance in ensuring the proper repairs to this structure are completed in a timely manner. Realizing the proposed road construction planned for the North End, this is an opportune time to repair the bridge and stop the flooding from Birnie Bridge into the school.

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The City considers the repairs of the bridge a priority in the North End to ensure the health and safety of the students and staff attending Gerena School. We will coordinate a meeting with your office within the next two weeks to discuss the options presented by the City.

Thank you in advance for your support and assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mayor Domenic J. Sarno

CC:
IA Governor Karen Polito
Richard Masse, Mass DOT
Daniel Warwick, Schools Superintendent
Patrick Sullivan, Executive Director
Senator James Welch
Carlos Gonzalez, State Representative Elbert
Chris Cignoli, Director of DPW