

South Boston Sewer Separation and New Boston Main Interceptor Rehabilitation

Design Contract #16-206-003

1. South Boston Sewer Separation Overview



The Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) is undertaking this project to comply with environmental regulations and protect public health by improving water quality in Fort Point Channel and Boston Harbor. The project will also upgrade water and sewer systems serving South Boston neighborhoods and will support the Boston Planning and Development Agency's (BPDA) initiative for revitalizing the Dorchester Avenue Corridor.

The project area encompasses approximately 400 acres, extending from Broadway to Andrew Square and from the MBTA/Amtrak railroad corridor to Telegraph Hill. Land use within the project is a combination of residential, commercial, and industrial. The project limits, including the boundary of BPDA's revitalization initiative, PLAN: DORCHESTER AVENUE, are shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Project Limits

Wastewater and stormwater in the project area are currently carried by a single combined sewer piping system which can discharge sewage to Fort Point Channel and Boston Harbor during rainstorms. This project will construct new storm drains so that domestic and commercial wastewater and rainwater are carried in separate piping systems. These separate systems provide several benefits: (1) reducing or eliminating stormwater from combined sewers, (2) minimizing overflow of wastewater to Fort Point Channel and Boston Harbor, and (3) improving the quality of these important water resources. Along with new storm drains, the BWSC will be rehabilitating or replacing existing water mains and wastewater piping to maintain a high level of service to the South Boston neighborhoods long into the future.

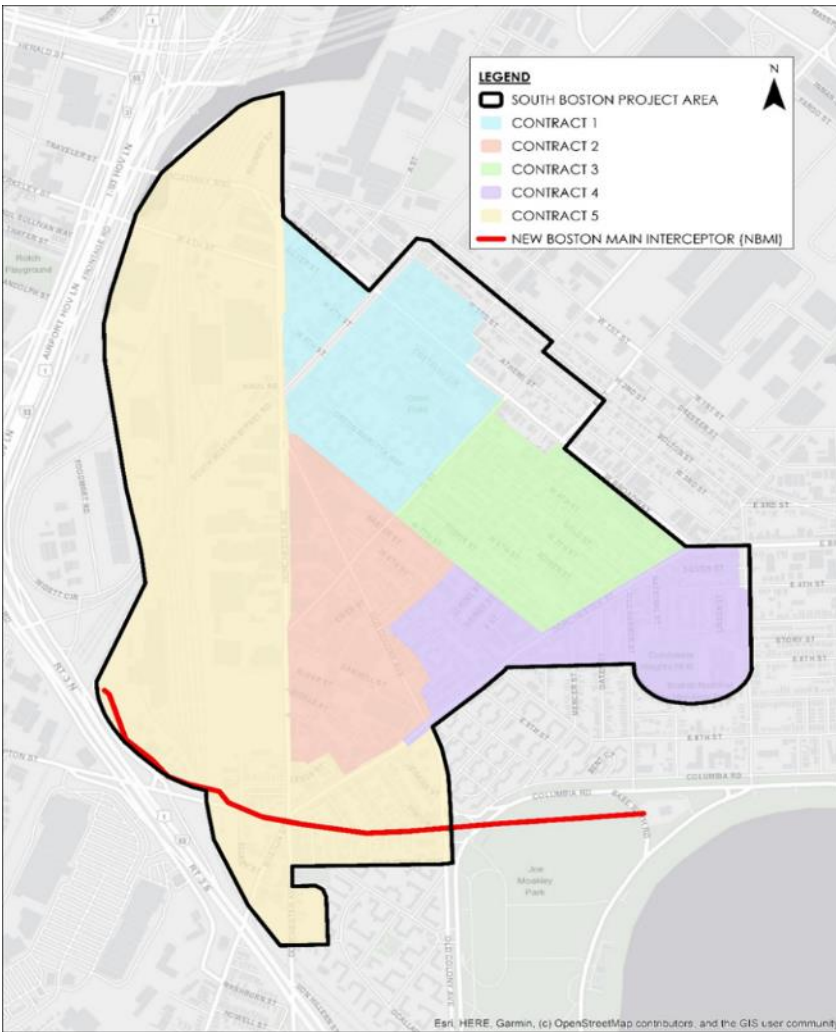


Figure 2. South Boston Sewer Separation Contract Areas

Construction of new storm drains and upgrades to water and sewer systems will be completed under five (5) construction contracts. The limits of these contracts are depicted in Figure 2. In addition, the BWSC will be undertaking two (2) additional contracts for final pavement restoration. Working in collaboration with the BPDA, the project is currently in the final design phase with commencement of construction pending.

Anticipated Project Schedule:

Final Design: fall 2018 to spring 2025.

Construction: summer 2021 to fall 2027.

Contract 1 Schedule (BWSC Construction Contract #20-309-012):

Construction: July 2021 to June 2023

2. New Boston Main Interceptor (NBMI) Rehabilitation Overview

In conjunction with the South Boston Sewer Separation Project, BWSC is currently out to bid to rehabilitate the NBMI. The NBMI is a critical part of the BWSC’s wastewater piping system, carrying wastewater and stormwater from more than 3,000 acres from City neighborhoods, including Roxbury, South End, South Boston and Downtown.

The NBMI system begins near Widett Circle and carries flow easterly through a large pipe that is 8.5 feet in diameter, approximately 30 feet deep. The pipe is located underneath Amtrak property, Southamptton Street, Andrew Square, Preble Street, and the northern end of Moakley Park, and it discharges to the MWRA’s Columbus Park Facility. Recent investigations have determined that portions the NBMI are deteriorated and in need of repair. The repair work will involve pushing a new pipe within the existing pipe in certain sections of the NBMI, spraying on a protective lining along other sections and rehabilitating several large underground structures. The repair is being done in a “trenchless” manner to avoid such deep excavation along the whole pipe length, but some excavation will be needed at key access points.

NBMI Schedule (BWSC Construction Contract #21-309-005):

Final Design: spring 2019 to summer 2021

Construction: fall 2021 to summer 2022

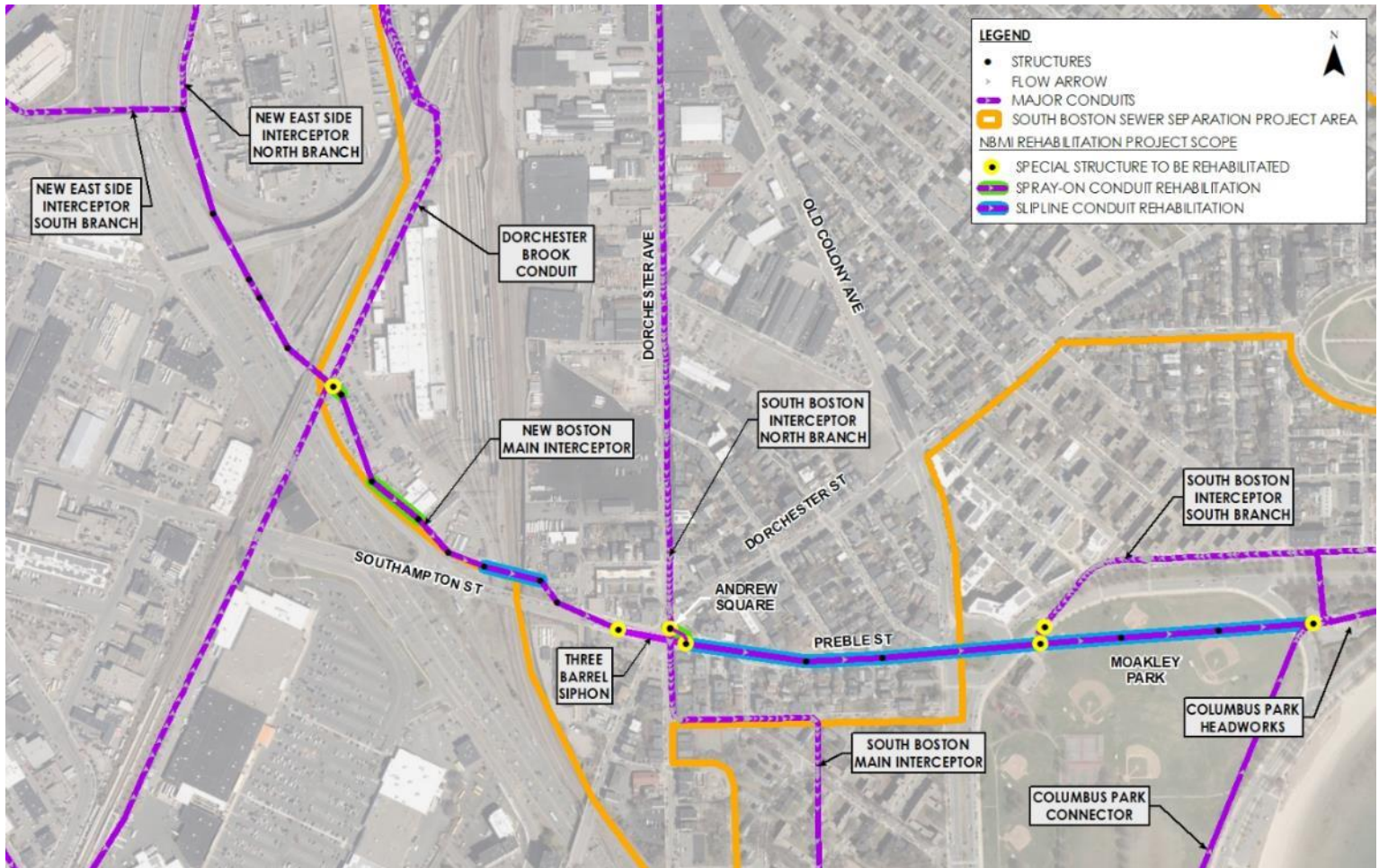


Figure 3: Limits of New Boston Main Interceptor Rehabilitation

Public Outreach:

BWSC is implementing a robust public outreach program that includes briefings for community groups and others, website updates, email updates, social media, and notice letters to abutters.

Public Meetings:

BWSC provided an introduction and project overview presentation to the West Broadway Neighborhood Association (WBNA) on October 19, 2020 during a regularly scheduled association meeting. A project update focusing on Contract 1 was provided to WBNA on June 21, 2021. On June 16, 2021 BWSC provided an introduction and project overview presentation to the Andrew Square Civic Association (ASCA).

BWSC will continue to reach out to community groups, businesses, and other stakeholders to provide presentations about the project throughout construction. BWSC is also coordinating with institutional abutters such as schools to discuss how to minimize impacts to operations.

Project Contacts:

For questions or issues or for email updates, please contact the project team at SBSS@bwsc.org.