

*City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor*



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Taunton, MA...Today Mayor O’Connell announced that the City received a \$150,000 grant through the Massachusetts Department of Transportation’s new Shared Streets and Spaces competitive grant program.

“We are grateful to MassDOT for giving us the opportunity to make our streets, sidewalks, and crossings more accessible for Taunton’s youth who walk to school,” O’Connell stated.

Shared Streets and Spaces is a new grant program in response to COVID-19 in which a city or town can apply for funding for a specific project that promotes either temporary outdoor public space or permanent improvements that enable Safe Routes to School. The DPW and OECD worked collaboratively to submit a successful grant application.

This grant will fund the reconstruction of the “Neck-o-Land Intersection.” which is where Summer, Ingell, and County Streets meet. The improvements will make the intersection more pedestrian-friendly with the construction of new ADA-accessible traffic islands and newly painted crosswalks. The City, in partnership with MassDOT’s Safe Routes to School program, has worked in recent years to identify deficiencies in walking routes to schools. This area had been identified among those with the highest need.

“This intersection is a critical connection between our neighborhoods and a school campus of 3,900 students,” stated O’Connell. “Our children deserve a safe route to school.”

The project will be complete with new safety islands, road resurfacing and new sidewalks. Construction is expected to commence immediately.

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