

East Haddam Culvert Replacement Projects

Town Meeting 9/3/25 and Referendum 9/16/25

Project Overview

The Town of East Haddam seeks authorization for funding to replace two deteriorated culverts located at AP Gates Road and Beebe Road. Both sites were identified through engineering inspections as structurally deficient, environmentally inadequate, and at risk of failure. Replacement of such culverts is proposed to promote public safety, maintain emergency access, restore ecological function, and comply with state and federal infrastructure standards.

Background

- In 2016, engineering inspections revealed material deficiencies at six local bridge and culvert structures.
- The AP Gates Road and Beebe Road culverts were flagged as the highest priority due to undersized pipes, erosion, structural cracking, and safety risks.
- In December 2022, a severe rainstorm caused a partial washout at AP Gates Road, collapsing part of the roadway and requiring emergency stabilization.
- Updated 2023 inspections confirmed both culverts were beyond their service life and at risk of failure without full replacement.

Proposed Solution

The Town proposes full replacement of both culverts with concrete box culvert systems, accompanied by roadway elevation, widening, and streambed restoration.

- **Beebe Road Replacement:** \$1,405,000
- **AP Gates Road Replacement:** \$907,750
- **Ancillary Costs (paving, utilities, tree removal, guardrails):** \$75,000
- **Total Estimated Cost:** \$2,387,750

The project design has been developed by Nathan L. Jacobson & Associates (NLJ) and is currently under review for permitting with the Army Corps of Engineers, Inland Wetlands Commission, and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Funding Request and Matching Commitment

The Town is applying for a 50% reimbursement grant under the Connecticut Local Bridge Program. This program requires that the Town fully fund project costs upfront and then seek reimbursement from the State. If the grant is approved, the Town's share of the project costs would be approximately \$1,200,000.

Project Timeline

- **2016–2022:** Initial inspections and preliminary funding applications.
- **2023:** Updated inspections confirm replacement need.
- **2023–2025:** Design and permitting led by NLJ.
- **2025:** Construction scheduled following permit approvals.