

Resolution authorizing a public statement regarding the Bostwick Road Culvert Replacement Project

RESOLUTION #2026-_____

Whereas, the Town of Enfield has commenced construction on replacement of a stream culvert under Bostwick Road in the Town, construction forcing a portion of that road's temporary closure; and

Whereas, unforeseen circumstances have prompted the Town to continue Bostwick Road's closure for an indefinite period, closure continuing until further notice; and

Whereas, full transparency demands this Town Board provide the public adequate information as to the project's status; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Enfield town Board hereby authorizes the following Statement regarding the status of the Bostwick Road Culvert Replacement Project; and be it further

Resolved, that the Clerk is directed to post this Statement on the Town website and provide it to local media in accordance with normal protocol.

Statement by the Enfield Town Board on the status of the Bostwick Road Culvert Replacement Project September 23, 2026

For the past three years, the Town of Enfield has undertaken an effort to replace the aging and undersized culvert that carries Enfield Creek under Bostwick Road and improve the adjoining streambed. The project will allow for better stream flow during storm events and reduce risk to critical infrastructure and adjacent properties in the Cayuga Lake Watershed.

In February 2024, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) awarded the Town of Enfield a Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP) grant of \$693,866. This grant money will finance the majority of the project's cost. During the two years that followed, the Town commissioned engineering studies, purchased a replacement concrete box culvert, and awarded a construction contract for culvert installation and stream realignment of Enfield Creek adjacent to Bostwick Road.

Fisher Associates of Rochester and Ithaca, NY performed the culvert's engineering design. Jefferson Concrete Corporation, Watertown, NY, supplied the concrete box culvert at a cost of \$471,600. JB's Excavation, Apalachin, NY, performed the installation and stream repair. Jefferson Concrete and JB's Excavation were each low bidders for their respective products or services.

The Town of Enfield has been assisted in this project by staff from the Tompkins County Soil and Water Conservation District and a professional engineer with the Tioga County Soil and Water Conservation District, the latter serving as the Town's engineering consultant.

A revised budget for this project carries a total cost of \$1,100,696. In addition to funds from the WQIP grant, the Town of Enfield would provide \$406,830, principally through in-kind services by its Highway Department. The Town Board has budgeted money for these expenses. Final cost totals remain subject to change.

On July 6, 2026, Bostwick Road between South Applegate Road and Enfield Main Road, New York State Route 327 was closed to enable the culvert's replacement. Site work proceeded throughout the summer. On August 14, 2026, placement of the multi-section concrete culvert began. Its placement in the stream was completed shortly thereafter.

Initial schedules had contemplated that site work would proceed to enable substantial completion of the project by late-September of this year, with the reopening of Bostwick Road upon that completion.

On September 14, 2026, the Town of Enfield announced that "Due to unforeseen circumstances, Bostwick Rd between South Applegate Rd and NYS 327 will continue to be closed until further notice." Accordingly, as of the date of this Statement, Bostwick Road in the affected area remains closed. A reopening date cannot be predicted at this time.

Continued closure and temporary cessation of construction operations comes at the recommendation of the Town of Enfield's engineering consultant, in consultation with the Town Board and Enfield's Highway Superintendent. At its meetings of September 9 and again this date, September 23, and acting upon its engineer's recommendation, the Town Board retained the services of two firms: the project's design engineer, Fisher Associates; and also ATL Engineering, P.C. Both firms will perform inspection services that the Town deems necessary to ensure the integrity of the culvert replacement project.

According to information shared at the Town Board's September 9 meeting, the on-site contractor, JB's Excavation, has offered to install at no cost to the Town a temporary, alternating one-way bypass for Bostwick Road at the crossing site. Acceptance or rejection of said offer will be the decision of the Highway Superintendent. Nevertheless, the Town invites public comment on the bypass option.

Further questions about this project and Bostwick Road's closure should be directed to Enfield Highway Superintendent Barry "Buddy" Rollins at 607-272-6490.

The Town of Enfield and its Town Board will attempt to inform the public in a timely manner as best it can as to the continued status of this project. The Town pledges to reopen Bostwick Road to the public as soon as practicable. The Town apologizes for any inconvenience this continued closure may have caused.

The Enfield Town Board