

CITY OF PEABODY

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR EDWARD A. BETTENCOURT, JR.

Peabody Square Project Underway

Mayor Edward A. Bettencourt, Jr. announced that a major reconfiguration of Peabody Square is underway with construction crews mobilizing throughout the area. The \$3.6 million project is designed to further streamline downtown traffic and create a more pedestrian and business friendly cityscape. The Square reconfiguration project will continue the momentum of the Main Street redesign project which utilized funds from the same MassWorks grant program.

“Downtown Peabody is on the cusp of a historic revitalization and this second Massworks project is a driving force behind it,” said Mayor Bettencourt. “Our commitment to these major infrastructure improvements has led to significant private investment. Although there have been some fits and starts - and certainly a construction project of this magnitude will cause some headaches, downtown Peabody is one step closer to reaching its potential as a thriving hub of people, culture and commerce.”

During construction, two-way traffic will be maintained at all times however drivers should allow extra time and expect delays particularly during the summer months. Police details will help direct traffic flow and safeguard pedestrians as they continue to patronize local shops, restaurants and public amenities.

Significant project milestones include; the removal of traffic islands on Foster Street and Central Street, the creation of left turn only lanes and signals at each approach to the Square, the elimination of so-called slip lanes from Main Street to Central Street and Central Street to Lowell Street and the creation of two pedestrian plazas. The project will also relocate the 40-foot tall Civil War monument away from vehicular traffic; add new lighting, new pedestrian crosswalks and safety features.

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