



**TOWN OF ASHLAND MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF
PLANNING BOARD
101 MAIN STREET**

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Tricia Kendall, Chair
Peter Matchak, Town Planner

**Notice of Decision
Scenic Road Permit
Howe Street**

Date: April 1, 2025

To: Town Clerk

CC: Board of Selectmen
Conservation Commission
Tree Warden
Historical Commission
Department of Public Works

Re: Scenic Road Tree Circuit Vegetation Maintenance

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40 Section 15C and Chapter 249, Section 20 of the Town of Ashland Code (Scenic Roads), the Ashland Planning Board heard the petition of Eversource Energy on March 27, 2025 for Scenic Roads yearly circuit vegetation maintenance. This work will be done in the upcoming months on Howe Street.

Matthew Mitchell, Certified Arborist for Eversource Energy, gave the Planning Board a review of the proposed work. Mitchell explained that this is a 4-to-5-year maintenance cycle, where pruning vegetation creates a 10-foot buffer on the sides and a 15-foot buffer above the circuits. This work will follow ANSI 300 pruning specifications, and there will be no tree removals when performing this work.

Documents of Record

- Public Hearing Notice appearing in the MetroWest Daily News on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 and Wednesday, March 19, 2025.
- Eversource Energy Planning Board Application, filed with the Town Clerk March 3, 2025.
- Eversource Maps indicating area of proposed work.

Decision / Facts and Findings

Following a presentation by the Applicant and review by the Planning Board of all documentation and public comment, the Board voted 3-0 to approve the Scenic Way Application as described above.

Permit Conditions:

- 1) The Ashland Planning Board's Scenic Road approval shall lapse after two (2) years from the date of the filed decision with the Ashland Town Clerk. The Scenic Road approval may, for good cause, be extended in writing by the Board upon written request of the Applicant.
- 2) If the Applicant identifies that there is a need for tree removal, the Applicant must notify the Town of Ashland before any removal takes place.
- 3) The Applicant must notify the residents where work is proposed at least one week in advance.

In accordance with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40 Section 15C and Chapter 249, Section 20, of the Town of Ashland Code (Scenic Roads).

Town of Ashland Planning Board



Tricia Kendall, Planning Board Chair