

Memorial Square



Client/Owner: Town of Framingham

Project Location: Framingham, MA

GPI was selected to design the reconstruction and traffic improvements to Memorial Square. Memorial Square is located at the intersection of Union Avenue and Concord Street (Route 126) in the Town of Framingham. Situated at the Town Memorial Building, Memorial Square serves as Framingham's major "Downtown" Intersection and handles a large portion of the traffic traveling within the Town. The centralized location of the project intersection coupled with its proximity to a MBTA Railroad crossing resulted in heavy congestion and driver confusion at the circle as well as lengthy traffic queues along each approach. The existing signing and striping at and near the intersection was also in poor condition and required upgrades.

GPI was contracted by the Framingham Planning Board to design a Roundabout at this critical location that would safely resolve the problems resulting from heavy traffic volumes. Working in conjunction with the Department of Public Works and a Landscape Architect, GPI developed Final Design Plans, Special Provisions and a Construction Estimate for the Roundabout design. The Roundabout was designed in accordance with the latest FHWA Guidelines and included the reconfiguration of the center island, the construction of splitter islands and bulb outs at the approaches, new signing and striping, relocation of curbing along the project length, cold planning and overlay of the existing pavement, construction of wheelchair ramps, and improvements to the drainage and lighting systems. The Landscape Architecture enhancements included new sections of brick sidewalk within the intersection, brick and cobble crosswalks between the new wheelchair ramp locations, reconstruction of the Memorial Building plaza area with a patterned brick treatment, and placement of various plantings at different areas within the intersection including the islands.

During the recent construction of these improvements, GPI was responsible for coordination with the Town, the Contractor and the Landscape Architect to insure the intent of the design was maintained during the implementation of the improvements.