



City of Westfield



**BRIAN P. SULLIVAN
MAYOR**

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September 13, 2017

Mayor Brian P. Sullivan today announced that the City, after months-long investigation and negotiation by the Law Department, has reached a pre-suit settlement with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and the private parties involved with the construction of the balustrade walls in three City-owned parks near the Great River Bridges. The balustrade walls, constructed as part of the expansive Great River Bridge project which concluded in 2012, were replaced by the City earlier this summer with a metal railing system after they were deemed unsafe following the failure of a portion of balustrade wall in February 2016. The settlement calls for the City to receive funds from the various parties totaling \$180,000.00, which is 64% of the entire reconstruction and new design effort. Payment is expected by early October.

Quote from Mayor

“This settlement provides a conclusion to a very long process and resolves, without resource-consuming litigation, disputed claims amongst multiple parties in a manner that is in the best interest of the City of Westfield and its residents and taxpayers. We earlier took the step of remedying the unsafe conditions in our parks while improving upon safety and longevity and now we will be compensated for those efforts.”

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