



LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – July, 2023

LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR 2023

Current: The contractor is finalizing the schedule for the Paugus Street project and the Granite St sewer and road reconstruction. The contractor plans on working these two streets sequentially. Paving in NH has been impacted by weather this summer causing last minute changes to paving schedules. The week of July 17th the contractor anticipates shimming Eastman Road, shimming Elm Street from Hickory Stick Lane to Parade Road, paving Summer Street's sidewalks and placing the shim layer on Summer Street. Final paving on Weirs Blvd was completed the week of July 17th.

Communication Plan: Residents will be notified by mail when the paving schedule is finalized for each road and door hangers will be placed on each property a minimum of 2 days before the date of paving. The paving schedule will be provided to emergency services and the solid waste collection contractor.

Previous: Summer Street's first layer of asphalt will be placed by June 30th. The surface overlay has not yet been scheduled. Those roads that will only be shimmed and overlaid have not yet been scheduled. Granite Street sewer and pavement work will begin after July 4th. Paugus Street work will begin shortly after Labor Day.

ACADEMY STREET BRIDGE

Current: Project is still scheduled for the summer of 2024. The engineering consultant is working on obtaining the necessary permanent and temporary easements to replace the bridge and the environmental documentation required for the project.

Communication Plan: Public Works will advertise the public information meeting in the Laconia Daily Sun and the City's weekly newsletter.

Previous: No update.

CENTENARY AVENUE BRIDGE

Current: Project is still scheduled for construction in 2025. NH DOT has concerns over the cost of engineering for the project. DPW met with NHDOT's program manager on July 18th to justify the cost. Public Works anticipates that NH DOT will approve the engineering costs.

Communication Plan: DPW and HEB Engineers are planning on scheduling a "Charette" with the community in the proximity of the bridge. This is a more thorough approach than the standard DOT public interest meeting due to the age of the bridge, proximity of the adjacent buildings and steepness of the approach ramps. The design team will present 4-5 concepts to the public seeking their input. We are planning on holding this event on a Saturday morning this summer to maximize the attendance of the residents.

Previous: NHDOT has approved DPW and HEB's scope and fee.

HIGHLAND STREET BRIDGE

Current: The contractor anticipates beginning work on this project in the 2nd week of August. After stripping the asphalt, the contractor will check the concrete for weak areas that need to be replaced before placing the new membrane on the bridge to protect the concrete from water and salt. Due to the length of the bridge, its age and the time required for the repairs, Highland Street will be closed at the bridge.

Communication Plan: Once a schedule has been established, the public will be informed of the schedule and detour using the Laconia Links, the newspaper, and those properties in close proximity to the bridge will be notified by mail.

Previous: This work will be done in conjunction with the Messer Street bridge. The contractor is determining the feasibility of completing this project in conjunction with the first lane of Messer Street Bridge which will result in Highland Street being completed before Labor Day. The extent of the work is less which means the project will not last as long as the one lane of the Messer Street bridge.

MESSER STREET BRIDGE

Current: Due to delays in another municipality's project, the contractor has been able to put a second crew on the project. This should reduce the time required to complete the project. The contractor plans on placing concrete in the repairs in two of the three bays in the closed lane the week of July 17th. The contractor has not provided an anticipated date when the work will switch to the other lane.

Communication Plan: Emergency services and the school bus contractor has been notified on the start of this project. Message boards have been placed onsite notifying drivers of the impending start of work. Updates will be included in Laconia Links.

Previous: Stripping of the eastbound lane's asphalt was completed on 6/19. The contractor will be working on this half of the bridge for approximately 2 months.

MILL STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Current: Congress neither finalized nor approved the appropriation that includes this congressional directed spending project.

Communication Plan: A communication plan will be developed once the Federal project agreement is finalized.

Previous: Congressman Chris Pappas came to visit the site and to view the progress of the Northern Lakeport Project. Federal budget has yet to be approved.

WEIRS BLVD / US ROUTE 3 BRIDGE

Current: DPW and NHDOT met on site 7/18 to discuss the project. NHDOT informed us that they should be able to support a construction start before 2027, which is the current programmed year for the project. Public Works will work with the consultant to determine if it is feasible to develop a design schedule that targets utility construction in the fall of 2024 and bridge replacement in the spring of 2025.

Communication Plan: DPW and the engineers will develop a public information schedule to be included as part of the design's schedule.

Previous: Final paving is scheduled for June 29th and the remaining work completed early on June 30th.

ELM STREET TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROJECT

Current: NHDOT has approved the scope and fee for the Preliminary Engineering phase of the design effort..

Communication Plan: The Initial public information meeting for the project was held in July of 2022 to obtain resident feedback on the general concept for the project. Public Works and the consultants will develop a schedule for the project to include when public information meetings will be held.

Previous: Waiting on NHDOT Scope/Fee approval.

LACONIA DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

LACONIA LAKEPORT TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

WEIRS TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: No update. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2023.

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Current: The WRBP Advisory Board has not yet received a response from NH DES on the requested changes to the budget development process.

Previous: The WRBP Advisory Board approved the letter requesting changes to the WRBP's budget development process at their May meeting and it was sent to NH Department of Environmental Services. The Board anticipates a response some time in late July/early August after the Department completes closeout of FY2023. All comments on the rate allocation model have been received, they were minor, and were sent to the consultant to make the changes to the SOP.

SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM

Current: The installation of the Sheridan Street sewer main and services are complete. Contractor is installing the new sewer main on North Street and will then connect the sewer services to the houses on North Street before starting work on Belvidere Street.

Communication Plan: Park, the contractor for the Northern Lakeport project, will be notifying the property owners a minimum of one day before they cross a driveway. The contractor will keep Public Works and Emergency Services informed of their work schedule and updates will be included in the Laconia Links.

Previous: The contractor is connecting sewer services to the properties on Sheridan Street. After completing the services, the contractor will begin work on North Street. A replacement for

the Briarcrest Sewer Force Main is in design as it has a history of breaks. The Chapin Terrace pump station has had some landscaping done, its fence is being replaced and a guard rail is being added. The Channel Lane pump station is the only station without backup power, and PW is investigating where and how to install a generator.

WEIRS BEACH RESTORATION

Current: No update.

Area Impacted: Weirs Beach

Communication Plan: This project will be done in the off season to keep the impacts low. The local newspaper will be notified, as well as the newspapers in northern Massachusetts. This will help spread the word to those who use the area the most.

Previous: No update.

LACONIA MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

NATIVE AMERICAN SCULPTURE

Current: The statue is still in preparation for its installation. Mike Smith, the person responsible for the statue, would like to do a fundraiser for the painting and allow people to come and paint some of the statue for a small fee. This would allow the community to be a bigger part of the statue.

Area Impacted: The most impacted area will be the track, field and parking lot at Opechee Park. There may be a slight disturbance on North Main Street when the statue arrives, but that will be brief.

Communication Plan: There will be a large press release and coverage by many for this project. It has been years in the making and we will want to make a big splash. Newspapers, new channels and Laconia Links will all be notified of this event.

Previous: No update.