



LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – NOVEMBER, 2023

LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR 2023

Current: The Hilliard Road drainage pipe that failed has been replaced and the cut paved.

Depending on the impact of the winter, the 2024 Road Program will include Old North Main from Marshall Court north to Parade Road (reconstruction), Spring Street (shim/overlay), Fenton Ave (overlay), Whipple Ave. (shim/overlay + sidewalks).

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: Hounsell Avenue shim and overlay has been completed. Paugus Street and Granite Street are nearly complete and will be paved by October 27th. The Beacon Street West parking lot started on October 20th and should be complete by October 25th. Hilliard Road's failed drainage pipe will be temporarily patched for the winter. The failed metal culvert which is approximately 400 ft long will be replaced in the Spring of 2024. Remaining work includes installation of the ADA detector plates on Gilford Avenue @ Dewey Street and on Summer Street.

ACADEMY STREET BRIDGE

Current: NHDOT has approved the just compensation proposal. Property Valuation and Right-of Way are scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2023. The project is on schedule to go out to bid by mid-March 2024

Communication Plan: The public information session was held on August 31st.

Previous: Just compensation has been calculated for the easements needed to construct and maintain the bridge. DOT is reviewing the compensation proposal.

CENTENARY AVENUE BRIDGE

Current: DPW met with NHDOT on a plan to waive the 22' bridge height requirement to 17' 6". The bridge is currently 17' high. The 2020 Endicott Street North bridge replacement project over the railroad line has a 17' 6" bridge height above the tracks. HEB is preparing the waiver request for the City. Early approval of the waiver by the DOT Commissioner would simplify the design process and save time and money.

DPW, HEB, NHDOT and Bureau of Rail met with Patriot Rail (Jacksonville, FL) who has the lease for the rail lines used by the Winnipesaukee Scenic Railroad. Patriot Rail was briefed on the project and they provided their procedures for scheduling work in the railroad right of way.

Communication Plan: The next meeting will occur in approximately two months. At this meeting Public Works and the consultant will present the results of the charrette and an initial analysis of those results. At a later meeting Public Works and the consultant will present an analysis of the options with some preliminary engineering to the public.

Previous: HEB Engineers is still in the process of finalizing a summary of the comments from the September 16th charette.

MESSER STREET BRIDGE

Current: The bridge project is complete.

Communication Plan: Emergency services and the school bus contractor have 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: The last concrete pour for the deck occurred the week of 10/16. The week of 10/23, the concrete curb will be poured, as well as the new membrane laid on the deck. The contractor's plan is to have the bridge paved and fully operational by November 3rd.

MILL STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Current: No change. The City is still waiting on approval of the Federal budget.

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

Previous: No change. The City is still waiting on approval of the Federal budget.

WEIRS BLVD / US ROUTE 3 BRIDGE

Current: Hoyle Tanner Engineers is still in the process of finalizing the comments and report from the September 13th public information meeting.

Communication Plan: There were approximately 15 residents in attendance at the September 13th meeting. Another public information meeting will be held as the design progresses.

Previous: Hoyle Tanner Engineers is still in the process of finalizing the comments and report from the September 13th public information meeting.

ELM STREET TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROJECT

Current: HEB will be presenting preliminary engineering results to Public Works and the WOW organization in December and to the City Council in January.

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: HEB Engineers, NH DOT and Public Works have determined that the Elm Street drainage improvements should be wrapped into the multiuse path/sidewalk improvement contract. By having the same contractor responsible for both sidewalks and drainage, the contractor can start at Franklin Street and work their way to the end of the project by the Elm Street School. Though the drainage work will have to meet Federal contracting and real estate

regulations, this concept should save both time and money. The present concept is to complete this project in a single construction season.

The drainage from the Elm Street Bridge to Fairmont Street was replaced/upgraded as part of the 2008 Elm Street Bridge construction project. Presently there are 18" and 15" drainage pipes between the bridge and Franklin St. CDM Smith Engineers' drainage design replaced the 15" pipe with 18" inch between the bridge and Franklin St. DPW has requested that CDM Smith review their hydraulic study to determine the impact of not upgrading the 15" drainage pipe to 18".

LACONIA DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

LACONIA LAKEPORT TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

WEIRS TIF DISTRICT

Current: The Weirs TIF District Advisory Board met on Oct 19th, 2023. Their top priorities remain the Weirs Beach restoration and the Public Dock reconfiguration. They are curious if the BIG Grant can be obtained again as it expired before the docks were reconfigured. They are also curious if the Dock Reconfiguration, the Dock re-decking (which was a CIP item), and the Beach Restoration should be one large project.

Finally, the Committee would like the entire list of the Weirs TIF Proposed Development Activities to be shared with the City Council before the next TIF meeting in April of 2024.

Previous: The next meeting of the Weirs TIF District Advisory Board is on October 19, 2023.

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Current: The Board sent a follow up letter to the NH DES, Water Division Director to continue the effort to improve the WRBP's budget planning process. The Board is requesting that funding for deferred maintenance projects be planned for the next 5 years and the plan be submitted for review by the Board. Additionally, the Board requested a budget summary for the past 5 years to help the member communities in developing their sewer fund budgets.

Previous: The DES finance office and WRBP program manager briefed the board on their budget development process. Although helpful in developing a municipality's annual budget, it did not provide the member communities with a plan on how they will update their process for the significant increases in their annual program associated with equipment replacement projects that individually are under the limits of a capital improvement program, but due to the cost of these projects as a whole should be in the capital improvement program. The Board is in the process of developing a letter to send to the Director of DES' Water Division.

SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM

Current: There is a 220' section of sewer pipe that will be replaced this winter. It starts just off the shoulder of Parade Rd. and ends on Leewood Dr. It is a challenging cross country run that must be done in the winter as the project is in a swamp/wetland area.

Engineering has been completed on the Briarcrest Estates Sewer Pump Station Force Main. The current force main is 4" Schedule 40 PVC that goes up Wellington Dr. It has glued ends and current code doesn't allow this. The new force main will be 1900' of 6" SDR11 HDPE. The plan is to have a contractor replace the force main in the spring of 2024. Briarcrest Estates plans to pave Wellington Dr. soon after the sewer work is complete.

The Northern Lakeport Sewer Project reached Substantial Completion on November 2nd. They have demobilized and we do not anticipate much of a contractor presence in the spring. There will be some landscape and pavement touch up, and final road paving.

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: Paving on the Northern Lakeport and Elm Street projects will be complete by October 20th. Elm Street's northbound lane from Bell Street to Hickory Stick will be overlayed from the curb to centerline. The contract's specifications only required the contractor to pave the cross trenches. Since the cross trench paving did not meet specifications, a portion of this work is warranty and is being paid by the contractor. The Sewer Department will be paying the remaining cost of overlaying the northbound lane which is about \$28,000.

Public Works convinced NH DES that based on the impact of the project on the roads in the Northern Lakeport project area, areas of the road over and above the requirements in the construction and loan contracts should be paved. The additional pavement is estimated to cost \$60,000, however, the project will still be well under budget.

WEIRS BEACH RESTORATION

Current: The Parks & Recreation Department will move the sand (not in the water) from the channel side of the beach to the boardwalk side. This will help the beach on the boardwalk side be fresher and more inviting. It is also a way to keep our sand at the beach. This project will be done in the spring as early as possible to not impact beach goers. This is the only plan we can do without wetland approvals.

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: The Master Plan Committee needs to be appointed to begin review of the Master Plan to determine which, if any, chapters are in need of updating.

Previous: No update.

NATIVE AMERICAN SCULPTURE

Current: No update.

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.