



## LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – NOVEMBER, 2024

### **LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS**

Current: The installation of the drainage and water lines under the Appleton St RR Crossing began on November 12th. The crossing over the tracks is scheduled for paving on November 20<sup>th</sup>. The sediment pond will be constructed this fall and then the work will stop for the winter. The construction project will resume in the spring of 2025.

We received our Wetlands Permit for the Old North Main reconstruction project. That project will take place in the Spring of 2025.

Communication Plan: Public Works will hold public information meetings during the design process for the neighborhoods impacted by the reconstruction projects. 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 for those roads that are only being overlayed. The paving schedule will be provided to emergency services and the solid waste collection contractor.

Previous: Annual road program projects are complete for this construction season. There are a few outstanding punch list items that will be corrected in the coming weeks. These items are minor, e.g. settlement around a sewer manhole, etc.

The Appleton Street reconstruction project is moving forward. Permits are at NHDOT and NHDES. Public Works anticipates that they will be approved in time to close the railroad crossing on 11/4. The contractor will remove the crossing's rails and ties to replace the drainage pipe and extend the water main. The crossing will be closed for approximately a week. All work is within or close to the 60' railroad right of way. This fall work is limited to the railroad right of way. In the spring of 2025, the reconstruction of Appleton Street will occur.

### **ACADEMY STREET BRIDGE**

Current: With the exception of installing a few sections of guardrail; the bridge project is complete.

Communication Plan: Alternating one-way traffic controlled by flaggers will be used as needed to complete the project.

Previous: The project reached “final completion” on 9/30. The Contractor has not completed the punch list items. The bridge guard rail on the west side of the bridge is not yet complete. Liberty Utilities is scheduled to relocate their gas main on October 22<sup>nd</sup> so that the guard rail can be completed.

### **CENTENARY AVENUE BRIDGE**

Current: DPW and HEB Engineers have agreed to a scope and fee for the additional Engineering Study Phase of this project that will include the railroad crossing to the north of the

bridge. HEB has submitted documentation to NHDOT Railroad for their Temporary Use Agreement to do further surveying and work within and around the Railroad's Right of Way.

DPW and HEB need to do an additional independent government estimate (IGE) to amend their scope to include a meeting with the NHDOT front office as this project has crossed the threshold and is now in the large project category. The project will now follow the procedures established for that category of projects.

Communication Plan: The next meeting will occur no earlier than this fall. At this meeting Public Works and the consultant will present the results of the study to include analysis of the options with some preliminary engineering.

Previous: DPW and HEB Engineers have completed their Independent Government Estimate (IGE) for the new scope/fee relating to the study of the Centenary Ave railroad crossing to the north of the bridge.

### **MILL STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE**

Current: DPW is waiting on the scope and fee from HEB Engineers for the Engineering Study Phase of the project.

Communication Plan: DPW is managing this project using NHDOT's locally managed project process. Therefore, the study phase will include a public information meeting to seek feedback on the project. Once the study phase is complete, Public Works will schedule another public information meeting to present the proposed alternatives of the project to the public.

Previous: DPW is waiting on the scope and fee from HEB Engineers for the Engineering Study Phase of the project.

### **HILLIARD ROAD CULVERT CROSSING**

Current: DPW is awaiting HEB's scope and fee for the project.

Communication Plan: DPW is managing this project using NHDOT's locally managed project process. Therefore, the study phase will include a public information meeting to seek feedback on the project. Once the study phase is complete, Public Works will schedule another public information meeting to present the proposed alternatives of the project to the public.

Previous: FEMA has approved a hazard mitigation grant to replace the existing crossing over Pickerel Cove with a bridge. Public Works has begun the process to obtain a consultant to design the replacement.

### **WEIRS BLVD / US ROUTE 3 BRIDGE**

Current: Hoyle Tanner has received the long-awaited scope and fee from the company supporting the historic preservation elements of the project. The fee associated with this work was included in their scope and fee. DPW has signed this updated scope and fee for Professional Services that include Design, Permitting, ROW and Bid phase services. DPW and Hoyle Tanner are waiting NHDOT approval.

Communication Plan: Four abutters of the project were in attendance at the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. The 2/15/24 presentation can be found on the Laconia DPW website.

Previous: There is no update at this time.

## **ELM STREET TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROJECT**

Current: DPW has decided to move forward with a 10' pathway + 4ft grass buffer. The original project was for an 8ft pathway + 4ft grass buffer. This will involve coordinating with affected project owners, since we are proposing a wider pathway. A follow-up Public Input Session will be scheduled.

Communication Plan: This project is currently scheduled for 2028 NHDOT funding. Comments from the meeting will be added to the City's project website once the consultant completes them.

Previous: DPW is waiting on HEB to complete the Engineering Study Report on obtaining more separation between the road and the sidewalk.

## **OPECHEE LOOP**

Current: DPW is waiting on approval of NBRC NEPA study for this project. The project is ready to go out to bid soon as the study is complete and MBRC has issued the notice to proceed. The plan is to start construction in spring 2025.

Previous: The Northern Border Regional Commission's (NBRC) staff extended the deadline for the Notice to Proceed. Public Works is working on ensuring that the Commission issues the notice to proceed this winter to advertise the bid for the project for construction in the spring of 2025.

## **LACONIA DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT**

Current: No update.

Previous: The Downtown TIF District Advisory Board is working on developing a downtown lighting plan.

## **LACONIA LAKEPORT TIF DISTRICT**

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

## **WEIRS TIF DISTRICT**

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

## **WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT**

Current: The WRBP completed the 5-year re-evaluation of the systems infrastructure. Per State law, the members are responsible for maintaining 5% of the replacement value of the system in the replacement fund. Laconia's annual base payments for FY2025 thru FY2029 has increased from \$278,374 to \$670,828. The increase is due to the inclusion of the value of the underground infrastructure and inflation. In addition to the base payment, the City is responsible for reimbursing the Fund its share of any projects funded from the Replacement Fund. For FY 2025 the amount is \$43,909.

Previous: The WRBP budget included a 16% increase in the Program's operations and maintenance and administration budget. The replacement fund budget for FY2026 is still under development. FY2025 is a re-evaluation year, and the Program is in the process of determining the current replacement value of the infrastructure. The Program's manager is anticipating a

large increase in the value of the infrastructure which will result in a large increase in member communities' payments to the fund.

### **SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM**

Current: The sewer main has been replaced on Locust Ave and it has been binder paved for the winter. The remaining work will be done in the spring of 2025

Communication Plan: The contractor notifies the residents the day before the scheduled cleaning of sewer lines in a street.

Previous: DPW has received the sewer extension permit from NHDES and is working on obtaining the necessary easements to begin construction on the White Oaks Sewer Extension Project this fall.

Locust Ave's sewer main is in very poor condition. The sewer main cannot be lined. It will be replaced this fall.

### **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: The Planning Board is recruiting members to the Master Plan Steering Committee.

### **LACONIA STATE SCHOOL UPDATE**

Current: The City Manager will provide an update at the November 25, 2024 City Council meeting.