



LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – JANUARY, 2025

LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS

Current: The construction of the Appleton St stormwater drainage pond has been completed. The reconstruction of Appleton St will begin in the Spring of 2025. The reconstruction of the northern section of Old North Main Street is also scheduled to begin in the spring of 2025. The list of roads to be paved in 2025 is being finalized.

Communication Plan: A communication plan will be prepared when the scope of the paving / construction schedule for the Spring and Summer of 2025 is finalized.

Previous: The installation of utilities under the Appleton St. railroad crossing is complete. The construction of the Appleton St.'s drainage pond alongside the railroad will be completed in January. The rest of the Appleton St reconstruction will occur in Spring of 2025.

CENTENARY AVENUE BRIDGE

Current: NHDOT approved HEB's amended scope of work for the preliminary engineering phase of the project. The additional scope involves analyzing and recommending possible improvements to the northern rail crossing on Centenary Ave. This analysis will take five months.

Communication Plan: The next meeting will occur later than was anticipated due to the updated engineering study. The next public meeting will be held in the late spring/summer of 2025 when the summer residents have returned to Laconia. At this meeting Public Works and the consultant will present the results of the study to include the analysis of the options for this crossing with some preliminary engineering.

Previous: Public Works is waiting on NH DOT to approve HEB's new engineering scope amendment. This will enable HEB to determine the need to improve the at grade railroad crossing north of the bridge.

MILL STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Current: Weather permitting, HEB will complete the survey of the bridge, and its approaches by the end of February.

Communication Plan: Public Works 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 project's proposed alternatives.

Previous: Public Works has signed a task order with HEB to begin survey and preliminary engineering of the bridge replacement. HEB is developing their schedule for the work.

HILLIARD ROAD CULVERT CROSSING

Current: No change at this time. DPW is still waiting on the Notice to Proceed from FEMA to begin the design of the crossing.

Communication Plan: Public Works 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: Public Works has submitted the Project Agreement to FEMA and is awaiting a Notice to Proceed on the design of the new culvert crossing.

WEIRS BLVD / US ROUTE 3 BRIDGE

Current: Hoyle Tanner has the approvals needed to move ahead with the final design of the project. The project may be phased over two construction seasons (final paving waiting until the next season) to minimize the impact on Weirs Blvd during the prime tourist season.

Communication Plan: The project requires temporary construction easements. Public Works and the consultant will be meeting with individual property owners to obtain these easements.

Previous: NHDOT has accepted Hoyle Tanner and DPW's scope and fee for completing the design of the project. NH DOT has not authorized the City and the consultant to proceed to the next phase of the design.

ELM STREET TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROJECT

Current: DPW has approved the results of HEB's engineering study phase and is waiting on results from NHDOT's assessment of the study.

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 Engineers' updated engineering study to proceed with the next steps of the project.

OPECHEE LOOP

Current: The request for bids for the NBRC phase of the project (Doris Ray Court to Franklin Street) will be advertised on January 31st. Bid opening is scheduled for Friday, February 21, 2025. One lane in each direction will be open for traffic during the project.

Communication Plan: Public Works will work with the area's business owners to minimize impact to their business.

Previous: DPW has received the Notice to Proceed from NBRC. The project will be going out to bid this winter.

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.

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Current: The WRBP Advisory Board working group will be meeting with WRBP's leadership on January 24th to review the method they used to determine the replacement value of the system. The Advisory Board has drafted an alternative method for calculating the value but needs additional information to complete its calculation. NH DES has informed member communities that the replacement fund bill originally due in January of 2025 can be paid later as long as the payment is made in 2025.

Previous: A working group of the WRBP Advisory Board has prepared a response to the proposed changes to the replacement fund requesting a delay on including the new replacement fund value in the bill until the 2nd quarter of the State's FY 25/26. This will provide the membership time to review the calculations used in the development of the new replacement value of the system.

SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM

Current: DPW is working with various stakeholders to secure the necessary easements to begin construction on the 1st phase of the White Oaks Sewer Extension Project (Lady of the Lakes development to Sarasota Lane).

Communication Plan: DPW will be making direct contact with all property owners in the project area to coordinate connecting the houses to the City sewer system if their building is within 250 feet of a City sewer main and they are not eligible for a waiver.

Previous: The 2025 cleaning and lining program will be scoped over this winter. DPW hopes to extend public sewer on White Oaks Road starting in spring of 2025.

WEIRS BEACH DOCK RECONFIGURATION AND REHABILITATION PROJECT

Current: The project was awarded to Chesterfield Associates, Inc. The preconstruction meeting was held on Thursday, January 16th. Mobilization will occur the week of January 20th. Construction will begin the week of January 27th. The contract requires the contractor to complete the project by Memorial Day.

Communication Plan: Public Works will coordinate with the General Manager of the Mount Washington Cruise Line and the Weirs Action Committee during the project.

WEIRS BEACH RESTORATION

Current: A productive meeting was had with NHDES. They suggested we speak with an engineering professor at UNH to discuss potentially installing "wave baffles" such as they have at Spinnaker Cove Yacht Club. These are I-beams and wooden slats that go between them. They only go down about 4 feet leaving the needed flow of water to clean the beach. This will decrease the wave action as well as the wind coming off the water, hopefully creating a "Still

Spot". Once completed, we can dredge the sand and move it back to the western side of the beach to replenish. There will still be sand movement, but it should decrease significantly. There may be a need to move the I-beams to adjust here or there they stated, but that should be minimal. They also suggested planting small shrubs along the channel to keep the onshore sand in place as well.

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: The Parks Department reached out again to DES. The person contacted was Calvin Diessner (the person the Weirs TIF District Advisory Board reached out to previously). DES has been rather difficult to reach.

LACONIA MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Current: The Planning Board appointed Gary Dionne and Councilor Eric Hoffman to the Master Plan Steering Committee at their January 7th Planning Board meeting.

Previous: No update.

LACONIA STATE SCHOOL UPDATE

Current: The City Manager will provide an update at the January 27, 2025 City Council meeting.