



LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – September, 2018

LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR 2018

Current:

Bond Funded projects:

Busby resumed work on September 17th on Court Street. Busby will install the drainage system and then begin road and sidewalk reconstruction. Eversource has completed transferring power to the new poles and Eustis Cable is currently transferring fire alarm, fiber optic and cable. Liberty Utilities has completed the process of abandoning the 8-inch gas main. Consolidated Communication on September 15th began transferring their cables from the old to the new poles and is preparing to place the new cables on the poles eliminating their underground cables that are in the road. Additional work will be required in the spring of 2019 to relay gas main under the Durkee Brook Bridge, which will allow a final connection of the drainage and road and sidewalk work up to the bridge.

The **Union Avenue (Elm to Stark Street)** public input session took place on August 16. Additional utility and road subbase exploration took place in August and construction is expected to begin on October 5th. The work will start at the Elm Street intersection with sewer and drainage upgrades, followed by roadway and sidewalk improvements. The limits of work this construction season will depend on production and weather. Construction is expected to continue in the spring of 2019.

The design engineering team is progressing with design on the **Union Avenue (Main St. to Gilford Ave.)** project with an expected construction start in the spring of 2019. Gas main work in this area will resume this month.

Annual Program:

Work is progressing on Pleasant Street, from Oak Street to North Main Street. Sewer and drainage upgrades and the asphalt base course are complete and Busby Construction is working on sidewalks. Final paving is expected in early October. Water Works completed replacing their pipe on Merrimack Street. Busby began work on Merrimack on Sep 17th. Other streets scheduled for work this construction season include Penny Lane, a section of Weirs Blvd. near the intersection of White Oaks Road and Union Ave from Messer Street to near the south end of the Union Ave (the Elm Street intersection).

Previous:

Bond Funded projects:

Busby has completed sewer construction on **Court Street**. Eversource has installed new utility poles and is working on transferring all electric lines from the old to the new poles. Liberty Utilities has started work to transfer services from the old gas main to the new gas main in order for the old gas main to be abandoned. Busby will re-mobilize to Court Street in August to begin drainage, roadway and sidewalk work. PW is planning on laying an asphalt shim on worst areas of Court Street outside the project area to enable the existing pavement to last until the bridge project scheduled for fall of 2019 is complete and phase 2 of the Court Street project scheduled for 2020 is complete.

The **Union Avenue (Elm to Stark Street)** public input session took place on August 16. The design is being finalized and construction is expected to begin after Labor Day. The work will start at the Elm Street intersection with sewer and drainage upgrades, followed by roadway and sidewalk improvements. The design engineering team is progressing with design on the **Union Avenue (Main St. to Gilford Ave.)** project with an expected construction start in the spring of 2019.

Annual Program:

Work has started on Pleasant Street, from Oak Street to North Main Street. Sewer upgrades are complete and Busby Construction is working on drainage pipe. Roadway and sidewalk work will follow. Depending on weather, the contractor should have binder on the road and will still be working on the sidewalks when school starts. Water Works has started replacing their pipe on Merrimack Street. They will complete their work in September and then work begins on the drainage system and road surface. Other streets scheduled for work this construction season include Penney Lane, a section of Weirs Blvd. near the intersection of White Oaks Road and Union Ave. from Messer Street to near the south end of the Union Ave. (Elm to Stark project).

MESSER STREET/DUTILE OIL DRAINAGE

Current: Coordination continues with NH DOT railroad division and the Plymouth & Lincoln Railroad. Work is scheduled to begin in September with the majority occurring during the drawdown.

Previous: Busby will begin mobilizing crews and equipment in September to prepare for the work that must be accomplished during the drawdown.

LAKESIDE AVENUE

Current: No update.

Previous: The small sink hole in parking space 131 was the result of a catch basin structure that was not raised. It was raised and repaired on August 13th.

LACONIA DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT

Current: The Laconia Downtown TIF Advisory Board met on September 18th. The following items were discussed:

Banner Poles – An RFP for design and installation of the banner poles will be issued this fall. Installation is anticipated for the spring.

Downtown Riverwalk – See further details in Riverwalk updates section.

Downtown Parking Garage – The Board will look to get on the agenda of the Land and Buildings sub-committee.

Previous: The Laconia Downtown TIF Advisory Board met on August 21st. Updates were given on the following projects:

Banner Poles – Parks and DPW staff met onsite to investigate utility conflicts and determined that there appears to be space available in the right of way to accommodate a set of banner poles.

Downtown Riverwalk – See further details in Riverwalk updates section.

Downtown Parking Garage – Concerns from the Advisory Board about parking in the downtown remain and the Board will look to get back on the agenda of the Land and Buildings Sub-Committee for discussion of the parking garage.

Colonial Theater – Concerns from the Advisory Board about the delay with the project were expressed along with concerns about the condition of the exterior of the building and how that affects the downtown community.

WEIRS TIF DISTRICT

Current: Several new dual trash/recycling containers have been installed on Lakeside Avenue in a shared effort between the City and the Weirs Action Committee. The new containers will alleviate past issues with capacity during busy times. The next meeting of the Weirs TIF Advisory Board has been scheduled for December 6th.

Previous: The Weirs TIF Advisory Board met on August 16th. New dual/trash recycling containers were delivered on August 20th and will be installed by Parks staff. The Advisory Board is looking to update the Weirs TIF District Development Plan to identify potential future projects now that several of the projects have been completed. Discussion of the Weirs Beach restoration revolved around potential impacts of the created wetland concept. The next meeting of the Weirs TIF Advisory Board has been scheduled for December 6th.

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Current: The decision process to create a municipal waste water authority has begun. The Advisory Group sub-committee met with the attorney and finalized the work plan for the first phase of the process. The Committee and the attorney assisting with the process has scheduled a meeting with NH DES, the first of several meetings with various State Departments to coordinate the decision process and to develop a memorandum of understanding with the State's stakeholders. The Advisory Board will be proposing a legislative change to the WRBP's replacement fund. The change is to ensure the program has sufficient capital reserves to fund emergency capital projects as well as planned capital projects. The Advisory Board's intent is to have this change adopted during the next legislative session.

Previous: The Advisory Board approved the road map and has recommended that the municipalities begin phase one of the process to create a municipal waste water authority. All municipalities except one have approved their share of the funding for phase one. The remaining municipality is scheduled to review the request the week of August 20th. The work group is scheduling a meeting with the Attorney from Rath, Young and Pignatelli to start the process. The Advisory Board is working with the WRBP leadership to update the regulations on operation of the sanitary sewer system. These rules based on the State's processes must be approved by the Legislature.

WEIRS BEACH RESTORATION

Current: No update. An update at an upcoming City Council meeting is being planned for this fall.

Previous: No update.

LACONIA MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Current: The Planning Board is in the process of appointing their members to the Steering Committee. Once that occurs, meetings will be scheduled.

Previous: No update.

DES WATERSHED ASSISTANCE GRANT

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

LEZAMA FAMILY HAPPY TAILS DOG PARK PROJECT

Current: A well-attended grand opening of the Lezama Family Happy Tails Dog Park occurred on September 1st. Construction is complete. An agreement with Happy Tails Dog Park has been executed and is in place. Feedback has been very positive from the community.

Previous: Construction is coming to completion at the end of August. A grand opening is slated for September 1st at 1pm.

LACONIA DOWNTOWN RIVERWALK

Current: Construction has started on the Landmark Inn/Walgreens section. Work on this segment will continue through the fall season. Busby Construction has grubbed out vegetation, performed rough grading and installed some drainage features. The existing small bridge over the Perley Canal inlet is slated for removal on September 24th in preparation for the City Hall to Church Street segment that is slated to start after Columbus Day.

Previous: A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for August 28th. Construction on the Landmark/Walgreens section is slated to start at the end of August. The City Hall to Church Street segment will occur just after Columbus Day.

BARTLETT BEACH AND BOND BEACH EROSION/DRAINAGE PROJECTS

Current: No update.

Previous: Awaiting wetlands permit for construction. Construction is slated for this fall at Bond Beach.

NATIVE AMERICAN SCULPTURE

Current: Discussion of the future of the sculpture at Opechee Park occurred at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on September 17th. Concerns about the safety of the sculpture were raised. The Parks and Recreation Department will be formulating a list of options for the statue in the upcoming week.

WEIRS COMMUNITY CENTER BATHROOM RENOVATION

Current: Renovation work on the Weirs Community Center bathrooms started just after Labor Day. Work is expected to be completed by the end of the month. Broadview Construction of Gilford is performing the work.

MEMORIAL PARK SOFTBALL IRRIGATION

Current: An RFP has been advertised and is due on September 28th. Installation is slated for this fall.

WELCOME TO LACONIA SIGNAGE

Current: An RFP for signage design, fabrication and installation has been advertised and is due on September 25th. Initial plans are to have a new sign installed at McIntyre Circle near Bayside Cemetery. Depending on available funding, additional welcome signs will be replaced on Court Street, South Main Street and Route 3 at the Meredith town line.