



LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – February, 2019

LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR 2019

Current: Public Works has completed a prioritized list of roads for the 2019 construction season which includes standby streets that may or may not be done this year depending on bid prices and actual costs of higher priority streets. Once we see how the bids come in a list will be created and made available. The contract for the 2019 construction season is similar to prior year contracts, a design-build format with unit prices per line item. The contract will be awarded on April 1st.

Public Works is coordinating with Busby Construction and the utility companies to ensure the Court Street and Union (Elm to Stark) projects are ready to start as soon as weather allows. Consolidated Communications has completed some test pits to determine the location and condition of their duct banks in the area between Fair Street and Main Street. Public Works is coordinating with Consolidated Communications to determine their plans for the manhole in the intersection of Union, Court and Main. The top of the manhole is very shallow. The lack of cover shortens the life of the road surface in the intersection.

Previous: Drainage, road and sidewalk construction on Court Street and Union Avenue (Elm to Stark) projects are planned to re-start in April 2019. The design is being finalized for Court Street Phase 2 which will begin construction in 2019. This phase will pick up at Fair Street and head downtown towards the Main Street intersection. Public Works is finalizing a list of streets for the annual road program and is assessing the condition of streets as winter storms continue to impact the condition of the roadway.

MESSER STREET/DUTILE OIL DRAINAGE

Current: Public works continues to coordinate with the various utility companies to ensure they are ready to start work in the spring of 2019.

Previous: Gas main work is scheduled to occur before the drainage project in spring 2019. Additionally, the Water Department has work to complete in the same area. The final drainage work that will complete the project will start after Water Work's project.

LACONIA DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT

Current: The Downtown TIF Advisory Board met on February 19th. The City Manager provided an update on the Colonial Theater project and the proposed financing elements including how the Downtown TIF District funds may be applied. Other topics discussed included the Downtown Parking Garage, Beacon Street angled parking concept, and potential future Riverwalk projects. The Board will next meet on March 26th.

Previous: The Downtown TIF Advisory Board met on January 15th. Topics discussed included the Colonial Theater project and its funding, Riverwalk project updates, Downtown parking garage and future Riverwalk opportunities. The Board will meet next on February 19th.

WEIRS TIF DISTRICT

Current: At the February 11th meeting of the City Council, the recommendation by the Weirs TIF Advisory Board to utilize TIF funding for replacement bulbs for the Weirs Beach sign was denied. The Board is scheduled to meet next on May 7th.

Previous: The next Weirs TIF Advisory Board meeting is slated for May 7th, 2019. At the December meeting, the Weirs TIF Advisory Board voted to recommend to the City Council that TIF funds be used to replace the light bulbs in the Weirs Beach sign with a better quality longer lasting bulb. This recommendation will be presented to the City Council at an upcoming meeting.

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Current: A contract was awarded to a consultant to determine if it is feasible to determine the four communities' flows with flowmeters. The consultant has 130 days to determine if it is feasible. The managers and administrators were updated on the status of the Advisory Board's plans and developed talking points in support of a future meeting with State agencies as the decision process progresses.

Previous: The Advisory Board approved a consultant to analyze if it is possible to meter four communities' sewage flows. The current metering system cannot reliably determine these communities' flows. If it is not possible to meter these communities, the consultant is to propose an alternative method to calculate flow for these communities. This analysis will provide all the necessary information to develop a flow based rate assessment model. Critical City/Town managers and administrators are meeting on January 30th to review the status of effort to decide if the communities want to create a regional waste water authority.

WEIRS BEACH RESTORATION

Current: Parks and Facilities Director Kevin Dunleavy presented an update to the City Council at their February 11th meeting. The update focused on the history of the project, proposed erosion control elements, mitigation requirements and a conceptual mitigation element called a created wetland in the area of shoreline near the public docks. The City Council authorized the City Manager to meet with representatives of the NHDES to clarify what next logical steps need to be taken by the City in order to move the project forward.

Previous: A presentation on the project and its status will take place at the February 11th City Council meeting.

LACONIA MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Current: The Master Plan Steering Committee has asked Planning staff to pursue implementation of "performance zoning" in three areas of the City as soon as possible. As part of that revision to the City's Zoning Ordinance, there will also be an effort to consolidate the greater downtown area into one zoning district where there are now five.

Previous: The Master Plan Steering Committee has been discussing proposals from staff concerning the consolidation of downtown zones and accompanying zoning regulations. Wording for reworking the RR2 zone is also being discussed along with input from the Conservation Commission.

LACONIA DOWNTOWN RIVERWALK

Current: No update. Remaining work on the Walgreens/Landmark Inn and the City Hall parking lot to Church Street segments will be completed in the spring.

Previous: Construction has shut down for the season due to the weather conditions. Remaining work on the Walgreens/Landmark Inn and the City Hall parking lot to Church Street segments will be completed in the spring.

BARTLETT BEACH AND BOND BEACH EROSION/DRAINAGE PROJECTS

Current: Advertising for the bidding of the Bond Beach project has been delayed until a final wetlands permit is received from the NHDES. Final plans and bid documents are complete and will be advertised once the wetlands permit is in hand. The wetlands permit is expected to arrive in the next week.

Previous: The project will be advertised for bids in January.

NATIVE AMERICAN SCULPTURE

Current: At the January 22nd meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Peter Brunette asked to have more time to get more information and more fundraising time. Concerns were raised about how a crane would access the statue for its removal due to the potential damage to the running track. The Parks and Recreation Commission agreed to extend the time to formulate a plan for its renovation until March 18th. An update on the progress of the restoration initiative will take place at the February 19th meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Previous: An update on the initiative to restore the sculpture will occur at the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting on January 22nd.

MEMORIAL PARK SOFTBALL IRRIGATION

Current: No update. Installation of the irrigation system will occur in the spring when weather permits.

Previous: Installation of the irrigation system will occur in the spring when weather permits.

WELCOME TO LACONIA SIGNAGE

Current: No update. Parks and Recreation is awaiting feedback on any available funding and preferred design.

Previous: NEOPCO Signs has provided several design and material options for City welcome signage. Parks and Recreation is awaiting feedback on any available funding and preferred design. Two of the old signs have been removed due to their poor condition.

PERLEY POND/OPECHEE COVE BRUSH CLEARING

Current: At the January 28th meeting of the City Council Land and Buildings Sub-Committee, concerns were raised about the appearance of the Perley Pond Conservation Area. It was determined that a recommendation to the City Council be made to add a line item to the Parks and Recreation budget for the maintenance of Perley Pond, and that a meeting be scheduled with a landscape architect, Parks and Recreation and the Perley Family in the spring of 2019 to determine an approach that is acceptable to the Perley Family.

Previous: Brush clearing has occurred at Opechee Cove and Perley Pond. There will be a meeting of the Land and Buildings Sub-Committee of the City Council on January 28th to discuss clearing of brush and maintenance of Perley Pond.