



## LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – December, 2018

### **LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR 2018**

Current: All construction has stopped for the winter. Drainage, road and sidewalk construction on Court Street and Union Avenue (Elm to Stark) are planned to re-start in April 2019. The Court Street Phase 1 area will be completed by the end of June. Union Avenue, from Elm Street to Stark Street, will be under construction for the entire 2019 construction season. The intent is to have Union/Clinton/Elm intersection open to traffic by Memorial Day.

Public Works is finalizing a list of streets for the annual road program for the 2019 construction season. Streets were identified with our pavement management program, and other streets will be added as we assess the impact of winter on the City's streets.

#### Previous: Bond Funded Projects:

A majority of the drainage system was completed on **Court Street** and the road was temporarily paved for the winter. Areas where the telephone duct bank are in conflict with the drainage will be completed in the spring of 2019 after the duct bank is abandoned. Sidewalks and final roadway work will be completed in the spring. Weather permitting, a shim coat of asphalt will be applied on Court Street from Fair Street to the Cumberland Farms and from Addison Street to Keasor Court.

Work began on **Union Avenue (Elm to Stark Street)**. A section of water main was replaced and of the new drainage in the Union/Clinton Street intersection. Weather permitting, additional drainage work will be completed in the Elm Street intersection. The object is to complete enough of the utility work that the intersection can be fully open for traffic by Memorial Day.

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. Liberty Utilities will install services to the new gas main in this area by the end of the month.

#### Annual Program:

Work is complete on **Pleasant Street**, from Oak Street to North Main Street, with only punch list work to include striping and lawn/walkway repairs remaining. **Merrimac St.** is complete with only some minor punch list work to be completed. **Penny Lane** and **Parsonage Drive** are complete. Sections on **Weirs Blvd.** near the intersection of White Oaks Road and sections on **Union Ave. from Messer Street towards Elm Street** have been shimmed. Public Works will start updating its plans for the 2019 Construction season in December. The plan will be updated again in March based on the impacts of the upcoming winter.

### **MESSER STREET/DUTILE OIL DRAINAGE**

Current: The next phase of this project is scheduled to begin in July 2019.

Previous: The drainage work under the railroad tracks is complete. Next year, the drainage work in the street will be performed which will complete all the work for the project.

## **LACONIA DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT**

Current: Members of the Downtown TIF Advisory Board met with the City Council Land and Buildings Committee on November 26<sup>th</sup> to initiate further discussion on the current status of the Downtown Parking Garage and its future. The Downtown TIF Advisory Board will be meeting next in January.

Previous: Next meeting of the Downtown TIF Advisory Board is scheduled for November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The Advisory Board is scheduled to meet with the City Council Land and Buildings Committee on November 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the future of Downtown parking and the parking garage.

## **WEIRS TIF DISTRICT**

Current: The Weirs TIF Advisory Board met on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Topics of discussion included banner issues, historical interpretive signage on the Boardwalk, Weirs Beach sign light bulb replacement and the Weirs Beach Restoration project. The Board reviewed the past season's parking kiosk revenue. The Board reviewed and reprioritized the original Weirs TIF District proposed development project listed in the Weirs TIF Development and Financing Plan. The next Weirs TIF Advisory Board meeting is slated for May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Previous: No update. The next meeting is planned for December.

## **WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT**

Current: The Advisory Board has prepared a response to the DES Commissioner addressing his concerns. The Board's road map team has begun scheduling the next set of meetings with the State's various stakeholder organizations. DES provided the Board with the current depreciated value of the WRBP's assets. It is approximately \$7.5 million and only \$152,000 is associated with the original construction of the system. The remaining value is the result of recent improvement projects that were funded by the system's rate payers. The effort to convert to a flow based model for funding the Program continues. The Board approved a contract with a consultant to analyze the system in four member communities to determine if it is feasible to meter their system and, if not, to develop an alternative for establishing flows for their system.

Previous: The DES Commissioner has provided a list of their concerns about the Advisory Board's proposal to create a separate Municipal Waste Water Authority. A review of their concerns determined that there were no issues that were unexpected. The Board will inform the Commissioner's office that their concerns will be included in the Board's plan to come to a decision on the Authority. DES and the Advisory Board are hiring a consultant to assist with the Board's effort to develop a flow based formula for funding the Program. The Advisory Board has determined that the wording of the statute on the replacement fund does not need to be changed. In FY 2020, DES will adjust the replacement value of program's assets to include all underground assets. This change is required by the statute. This will increase all municipalities' annual assessment for the replacement fund for the next ten years. The plan is to limit use of the fund to emergency repairs. All major capital improvement projects will be funded with bonds to allow the debt payments to be spread over the anticipated life of the capital improvement.

## **WEIRS BEACH RESTORATION**

Current: A presentation on the project is now planned for a City Council meeting in January after the holidays to allow more residents and interested citizens the opportunity to attend.

Previous: A presentation and update at a City Council meeting is planned for December.

## **LACONIA MASTER PLAN UPDATE**

Current: The Master Plan Steering Committee has started meeting again. Using the recommendations from the recent Master Plan update, the Committee has prioritized two items to start working on: The consolidation of Downtown zones and the RR1/RR2 zones definitions and regulations. Staff has worked on preliminary recommendations for the Committee. The next meeting will be scheduled for early January.

Previous: Restart of the Master Plan Steering Committee is scheduled for November 20, 2018.

## **DES WATERSHED ASSISTANCE GRANT**

Current: No update.

Previous: The City has submitted a request to the NHDES to withdraw from the grant with several water quality improvements being completed as part of this project. The remaining item of installing pervious pavers or concrete panels in the Weirs Beach parking lot is subject to archeological review and investigation, resulting in additional cost to the City. Funds for this additional work are not currently available.

## **LACONIA DOWNTOWN RIVERWALK**

Current: The Walgreens/Landmark Inn segment will be completed in the spring. The easterly half of this segment is complete.

The City Hall parking lot to Church Street segment will be completed in the spring. A steel truss pedestrian bridge was installed over the Perley Canal inlet on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Construction has shut down for the season due to the weather conditions.

Previous: Walgreens/Landmark Inn segment: Busby Construction and sub-contractor Belknap Landscape have finished the easterly half of this segment. Construction of the Riverwalk area directly behind the Landmark Inn will need to be completed in the spring due to delays with ongoing work by the Inn and the poor weather conditions.

City Hall parking lot to Church Street segment: Busby Construction and sub-contractor R.M. Piper continue to work on this Riverwalk segment. Work completed to date include old bridge removal, new granite river wall, new concrete wall caps, bridge foundations, granite curbing on south side of the canal, base paving, new catch basins, and utility relocation. The prefabricated steel truss bridge is scheduled to be put in place over the Perley Canal inlet on November 29<sup>th</sup>. Work to be completed this season includes final paving on the south side of the canal. Due to the early onset of winter weather, installation of several Riverwalk elements on the north side of the canal will need to occur in the spring. Some fencing work may occur during the winter months.

## **BARTLETT BEACH AND BOND BEACH EROSION/DRAINAGE PROJECTS**

Current: The Shoreland Permit application has been submitted to NHDES for the Bond Beach project. The project will be advertised for bids in January.

Previous: No update.

## **NATIVE AMERICAN SCULPTURE**

Current: No update. The Parks and Recreation Commission has asked for an update by mid-January on an initiative by Peter Brunette.

Previous: The Parks and Recreation Department was approached by Laconia resident Peter Brunette who wishes to spearhead an effort to restore the sculpture. At the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Mr. Brunette asked for some time to reach out to the community for in-kind services, establish a plan to restore the sculpture, and to establish a fundraising effort. The Commission asked that a plan be in place by mid-January.

#### **MEMORIAL PARK SOFTBALL IRRIGATION**

Current: No update.

Previous: This project is delayed until spring due to the early onset of winter weather.

#### **WELCOME TO LACONIA SIGNAGE**

Current: The selected sign contractor has been asked to provide further pricing and design options including a sandblasted wood grain effect style. The City is awaiting a design proof for review.

Previous: No update.

#### **PERLEY POND/OPECHEE COVE BRUSH CLEARING**

Current: No update.

Previous: Brush along the Opechee Cove area has been cleared. Brush removal at Perley Pond will be occurring in December when the pond and ground are frozen.