



LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – June, 2023

LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR 2023

Current: Summer Street's first layer of asphalt will be placed by June 30th. The surface overlay has not yet been scheduled. Those roads that will only be shimmed and overlaid have not yet been scheduled. Granite Street sewer and pavement work will begin after July 4th. Paugus Street work will begin shortly after Labor Day.

Communication Plan: 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. The paving schedule will be provided to emergency services and the solid waste collection contractor.

Previous: Busby Construction will complete the installation of the water main the week of May 15th. They will begin removing the temporary water main and cleaning up the project site. The Contractor still expects to be done with the work before Memorial Day. The paving schedule for Weirs Blvd and Lake Street has not been finalized. Other paving projects scheduled for this construction season include Paugus Street, Summer Street, Eastman Road, Elm Street from Hickory Stick Lane to Rt 106, Daisy Gardner Road and possibly Granite Street. The list will be finalized once the FY 2024 capital improvement program budget is approved by the City Council.

ACADEMY STREET BRIDGE

Current: No update.

Communication Plan: Public Works will advertise the public information meeting in the Laconia Daily Sun and the City's weekly newsletter.

Previous: Construction is scheduled for the summer of 2024. Public Works and the consultants met with two of the four abutting property owners on May 16th to review the temporary and permanent easements necessary for the project. Although invited to the meeting, the other two property owners did not attend it. Public Works and the consultant are in the process of scheduling the public information meeting for the project.

CENTENARY AVENUE BRIDGE

Current: NHDOT has approved DPW and HEB's scope and fee.

Communication Plan: DPW and HEB Engineers are planning on scheduling a "Charette" with the community in the proximity of the bridge. This is a more thorough approach than the standard DOT public interest meeting due to the age of the bridge, proximity of the adjacent buildings and steepness of the approach ramps. The design team will present 4-5 concepts to the public seeking their input. We are planning on holding this event on a Saturday morning this summer to maximize the attendance of the residents.

Previous: Construction is scheduled for 2025. HEB and DPW have agreed on the IGE. HEB is submitting to DOT for scope/fee approval.

HIGHLAND STREET BRIDGE

Current: This work will be done in conjunction with the Messer Street bridge. The contractor is determining the feasibility of completing this project in conjunction with the first lane of Messer Street Bridge which will result in Highland Street being completed before Labor Day. The extent of the work is less which means the project will not last as long as the one lane of the Messer Street bridge.

Communication Plan: Once a schedule has been established, the public will be informed of the schedule and detour using the Laconia Links, the newspaper, and those properties in close proximity to the bridge will be notified by mail.

Previous: N/A

MESSER STREET BRIDGE

Current: Stripping of the eastbound lane's asphalt was completed on 6/19. The contractor will be working on this half of the bridge for approximately 2 months.

Communication Plan: Emergency services and the school bus contractor has been notified on the start of this project. Message boards have been placed onsite notifying drivers of the impending start of work. Updates will be included in Laconia Links.

Previous: This project repairs the bridge's concrete deck. The estimated duration of the project is 5 months. On May 22d the contractor will start preparations for the project by installing the safety equipment and working surfaces for the project. The contractor will use one lane alternating traffic and one lane will be open at all times during the project. The contractor will use flaggers to control traffic. Actual work on the deck begins on June 19th.

MILL STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Current: Congressman Chris Pappas came to visit the site and to view the progress of the Northern Lakeport Project. Federal budget has yet to be approved.

Communication Plan: A communication plan will be developed once the Federal project agreement is finalized.

Previous: Congressman Chris Pappas submitted the replacement of this bridge as a congressionally directed project in the Federal FY2024 budget. This is a 100% grant, the City is not required to provide a match. The Federal budget must be approved, and an agreement signed with the managing Federal agency before proceeding with the design of the project.

WEIRS BLVD / US ROUTE 3 BRIDGE

Current: Final paving is scheduled for June 29th and the remaining work completed early on June 30th.

Communication Plan: Contractor will use message boards and detour signs to inform north bound drivers to use White Oaks Road the day they are paving. Southbound traffic can continue to use Weirs Blvd.

Previous: Borings are scheduled for May 23rd and 24th. NHDOT is preparing the project agreement for City review and approval.

ELM STREET TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROJECT

Current: Waiting on NHDOT Scope/Fee approval.

Communication Plan: The Initial public information meeting for the project was held in July of 2022 to obtain resident feedback on the general concept for the project. Once the contract with the design consultants is approved, the team will develop a schedule for the project to include when public information meetings will be held.

Previous: NH DOT has approved HEB as the project engineer. DPW is reviewing HEB's proposed scope of the project.

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. The Board's next meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2023.

Previous: The Weirs TIF District Advisory Board met on April 27th, 2023. Their top priorities remain the Weirs Beach restoration and the Public Dock reconfiguration. They would like for the entire list of the Weirs TIF Proposed Development Activities to be shared with the City Council before the next TIF meeting in August, 2023.

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Current: The WRBP Advisory Board approved the letter requesting changes to the WRBP's budget development process at their May meeting and it was sent to NH Department of Environmental Services. The Board anticipates a response some time in late July/early August after the Department completes closeout of FY2023. All comments on the rate allocation model have been received, they were minor, and were sent to the consultant to make the changes to the SOP.

Previous: At their May 18th Board meeting the WRBP should be receiving input on the proposed improvements to and standard operations procedures for updating the new rate allocation model. The Advisory Board will also review the proposed letter requesting changes to the WRBP's budget development process to give municipalities more time to program their budget and sewer rate increases.

SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM

Current: The contractor is connecting sewer services to the properties on Sheridan Street. After completing the services, the contractor will begin work on North Street. A replacement for the Briarcrest Sewer Force Main is in design as it has a history of breaks. The Chapin Terrace pump station has had some landscaping done, its fence is being replaced and a guard rail is being added. The Channel Lane pump station is the only station without backup power, and PW is investigating where and how to install a generator.

Communication Plan: Park, the contractor for the Northern Lakeport project, will be notifying the property owners a minimum of one day before they cross a driveway. The contractor will keep Public Works and Emergency Services informed of their work schedule and updates will be included in the Laconia Links.

Previous: The contractor started work on the Northern Lakeport Sewer project. Work started on the section of pipe that starts on Belvidere turns onto North and goes up Sheridan Street. After completing Sheridan Street the contractor will start on North Street and then go to Belvidere Street. The Hillcrest Pump Station pumps have been underperforming for some time, they will be replaced in the next two months.

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: No update.

NATIVE AMERICAN SCULPTURE

Current: No update.

Area Impacted: The most impacted area will be the track, field and parking lot at Opechee Park. There may be a slight disturbance on North Main Street when the statue arrives, but that will be brief.

Communication Plan: There will be a large press release and coverage by many for this project. It has been years in the making and we will want to make a big splash. Newspapers, new channels and Laconia Links will all be notified of this event.

Previous: No update.