



LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – JUNE, 2024

LACONIA ROAD PROJECTS

Current: Final inspections have been completed on Pendleton Rd, Wentworth Cove Rd and Summit Ave. Those projects are complete. Paving and site cleanup of Old Prescott Road will be completed by the end of June. The design for the northern section of Old North Main and Appleton Roads continues. Staff met with the consultant on Old North Man to review drainage issues between Marshall and Village Courts. The consultants are working on obtaining DES permits for these two reconstruction projects. Pickeral Pond road is over a mile long. Some areas are in bad enough shape that it will interfere with snow plowing. Public Works is planning to convert these sections to gravel and add asphalt millings from other projects to improve the road until such time there are sufficient funds to upgrade the road.

Communication Plan: Public Works will hold public information meetings during the design process for the neighborhoods impacted by the reconstruction projects. 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 for those roads that are only being overlayed. The paving schedule will be provided to emergency services and the solid waste collection contractor.

Previous: The road surface on Wentworth Cove Road and Summit Ave will be reclaimed on May 15th. All water services to the houses on Summit Ave with contaminated wells have been connected. All that remains is to restore the landscaping. The asphalt shim coat was placed on Daisy Gardner, Driftwood and Old North Main on May 3rd. The water trench on Old Prescott Road Hill will be reclaimed on April 23rd for the Water Works' water line installation project.

ACADEMY STREET BRIDGE

Current: The Academy Street Bridge project has been awarded to George R Cairns & Sons Inc. out of Windham, NH. Construction and bridge closure will begin near the end of June. The bridge will be open for vehicular traffic by August 30th. Pedestrian access over the bridge will be maintained for the duration of the project.

Communication Plan: Message boards have been placed and are active. While the original schedule was to completely close the bridge for construction from June 24th to August 30th; the bridge closure will likely be delayed one week. The August 30th Substantial Completion date however, will remain fixed. Students return to school on September 3rd. We will place a full-page ad with a map of the detour plan in the Laconia Daily Sun several days prior to the start of the project. We will also contact Google Maps staff to include this detour in their mapping system during the projected closure period.

Previous: Bids for the replacement of the bridge were opened. NHDOT is scheduled to give us authority to award on May 24th.

CENTENARY AVENUE BRIDGE

Current: DPW is awaiting HEB's Engineering Study Results.

Communication Plan: The next meeting will occur no earlier than this fall. At this meeting Public Works and the consultant will present the results of the study to include analysis of the options with some preliminary engineering.

Previous: A local concerns meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 15th at 6pm in the City's Council Chambers.

CHURCH STREET BRIDGE

Current: This project is nearing completion. Paving is currently scheduled for June 18th. The bridge will be open to two-way traffic after the paving is completed. Final work includes installation of the gasket in the replaced joint and cleanup. Any work conducted after June 18th will be one-way alternating traffic flaggers.

Communication Plan: All abutters were contacted by telephone as well as mailings. The Downtown Group was notified by e-mail and a notice was in the Laconia Daily Sun from March 12th to the 16th. Message boards were placed warning drivers of the upcoming work on Feb 26th.

Previous: The downstream side of the bridge was completed on May 6th. Due to the minimal repairs required to the deck, the contractor will shift to the upstream side of the bridge rather than waiting until fall. All of the work on the upstream portion of the bridge is scheduled to be completed by June 28th.

MILL STREET PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

Current: Laconia DPW is in the process of working with the Federal Government's Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on defining the scope of work for the project and creating an authorization to proceed document. This project is fully funded through a HUD Economic Development Grant via a congressionally directed spending project sponsored by Congressman Chris Pappas.

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

Previous: On May 6th, Housing and Urban Development began the process of awarding the Congressional Directing Spending project to the City. The bridge proposed to replace this structure is prefabricated offsite. Public Works anticipates that the fabrication of the bridge will construction of the precast bridge will take at least 8 months.

WEIRS BLVD / US ROUTE 3 BRIDGE

Current: DPW and NHDOT have approved Hoyle Tanner's Engineering Study. DPW is awaiting Hoyle Tanner's scope and fee for Preliminary Engineering of the project.

Communication Plan: The project is currently scheduled for the fall of 2026. The entire bridge will be closed to through traffic for the duration of the project. Four abutters of the project were in attendance at the February 15th meeting. The 2/15/24 presentation can be found on the Laconia DPW website.

Previous: We are still awaiting Hoyle Tanner's Engineering Study.

ELM STREET TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE PROJECT

Current: DPW and NHDOT have approved HEB's Engineering Study. NHDOT has approved the new project estimate.

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: The Elm Street Pedestrian Improvements Engineering Study has been completed and submitted by HEB. The study is currently being reviewed by DPW and NHDOT.

Non-participating costs

Sewer = \$517,500

DPW = \$1,022,500 (will need to be Bonded)

Water = \$740,000

TAP total of participating costs

City (20% share) = \$525,600

State/Fed (80% share) = \$2,102,400

OPECHEE LOOP

Current: The project amendment has been submitted from DPW to NBRC. NBRC is currently working though the NEPA process. The project is compliant and is moving forward.

The NBRC Grant portion of the loop, from Doris Ray Court to Franklin St is on hold until funding issues with the Promenade are resolved. This NBRC project must occur in late summer/early fall 2024. This project cannot go any later than that as we will lose our grant money on the project.

Previous: The Lakeport Promenade appears to be moving forward on a private basis. The revised NBRC portion from Doris Ray Court to Franklin Street is being submitted to NBRC this April for an Approved Amendment.

LACONIA DOWNTOWN TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: The Downtown TIF District Advisory Board is scheduled to meet on May 22 at 9:00 am in Room 200B in City Hall. They will be discussing their current budget and proposed future budgets.

LACONIA LAKEPORT TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: No update.

WEIRS TIF DISTRICT

Current: No update.

Previous: The Weirs TIF District Advisory Board is scheduled to meet on Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 2 pm in Laconia City Hall.

WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT

Current: EPA's new permit for operation of the region's wastewater treatment collection system goes into effect on July 1, 2024. The permit includes a new requirement to develop a climate adaptation plan. The permit also changes the requirements for private wastewater collections systems. The changes eliminate the requirement for private collection systems to submit annual reports to the EPA. However EPA's responses also indicates that any sanitary sewer overflow from a private system into a catch basin or water of the U.S. is subject to enforcement action by EPA or NH DES.

The WRBP's administrator still anticipates providing its member communities with a preliminary budget in late August.

Previous: The WRBP Advisory Board did not meet in April. WRBP still anticipates a 12 to 15% increase in the first year of the next biennial budget. The current schedule has the Program turning their proposed budget into DES in September. Occupational health and safety issues are impacting their ability to maintain the sewer infrastructure in the old City treatment plant on Water Street. The City's sewage system flows through the old plant structure before it empties into the new pump station's system. The Program is developing a plan for changing the former city sewer system within the plant's grounds to connect directly to the WRBP's system. The cost of this project will be at City expense except for a possible cost share with Gilford. The new EPA permit was approved and distributed on April 30, 2024. The new permit requires select businesses to test their sewage flow for PFAS. The current WRBP concept for this new requirement is that they will manage the testing program while the businesses fund the cost of the tests.

SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM

Current: The SSF is awaiting easement documents and agreement documents from the City Attorney to connect to an existing private sewer to allow for the expansion of City sewer along the middle corridor of White Oaks Rd. SSF is awaiting construction design documents of the City sewer project.

Communication Plan: The contractor notifies the residents the day before the scheduled cleaning of sewer lines in a street.

Previous: The SSF is working with a private development and neighbors on the construction of a public sewer main on a section of White Oaks Rd.

WEIRS BEACH RESTORATION

Current: Top sand has been moved from the channel side of the beach to the bath house side. There doesn't appear to be a big change until you walk off the concrete into the sand from the bath house and it is no longer a foot drop. The Parks Department has filled all of that in and plan to do more.

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 & Recreation Department will be moving the sand from east to west at the beach this spring. This was one of the recommendations given to the department to keep the

sand at the beach. This will only be sand on land and not in the water as that is against the DES regulations. This step will keep the sand on the beach longer when it comes to wind.

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: This project is moving forward with engineering and painting. There is no date set at this time for installation.

LACONIA STATE SCHOOL UPDATE

Current: No update.

Previous: April 22, 2024 was set as the deadline for the closing date for the sale of the State School property; this did not occur. The property is now up for sale again.