

## **LACONIA PROJECT UPDATES – January 2012**

### **WEIRS ROUNDABOUT**

Current: Contractor selection has been approved in G & C hearing. Construction scheduled to begin in spring of 2012. The State has asked the City to provide their \$140K in matching funds and those funds were authorized at the December 27, 2011 City Council meeting.

Previous: Agreement was signed with the State. Bidding complete. Contractor selection is imminent but possibly delayed by questions raised at recent G & C hearing. Construction scheduled to begin in spring of 2012.

### **LAKEPORT ROAD UPGRADES (Fairmont St., portions of Washington St. and Belvidere St.)**

Current: No change.

Previous: Work complete. Punch list items will be reviewed in Spring 2012.

### **LACONIA ROAD UPGRADES (Oak St. reconstruction and Oak St./No. Main intersection)**

Current: Mast arms, poles and lights have been installed. We expect the controller and video detection system to be installed in early January 2012. At such time the new signal system will be operational. The old mast arms and crosswalk pedestals will be removed once the new system is in operation.

Previous: Roadway portion of project is at substantial completion. Coordination with overhead utility firms (five total) to relocate facilities is ongoing. Final paving will occur in Spring 2012. Traffic signal equipment installation is imminent. Regular contact with Signal Contractor continues.

### **DOWNTOWN TWO-WAY TRAFFIC STUDY**

Current: A draft full report of the downtown analysis has been submitted to the City. Revisions are being done and the final plan will be presented to the public at the January 10<sup>th</sup> Planning Board meeting. The City is revising their submittal to the State for approval for the Main Street Bridge to be constructed such that it will accommodate two-way traffic. Additional public forums will be scheduled.

Previous: A draft full report of the downtown analysis is due soon. The Planning Department will garner public input from this full report when it is complete. DPW meeting with Planning Department and their consultant (TEC, Inc.) on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> to review their recommendations. Interface is in play with State DOT regarding coordination of downtown traffic initiatives with Main St. Bridge design. Related meeting with DOT, Main St. bridge design consultant (Dubois & King, Inc.) and City representatives is scheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup>.

### **CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL**

Current: The second Public Hearing occurred on 12/12/11. Results of Public Hearing to be reported at next Consortium meeting scheduled for January 26, 2012. Audit questions to MetroCast, regarding past performance, are due back to the City by January 20, 2012.

Previous: Public Hearing scheduled for December 12. Next Consortium meeting scheduled for January 26, 2012.

### **FORMER STATE PRISON PROPERTY**

Current: The Planning Department is meeting with Roger Hawk of Hawk Consulting on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> to determine the date and format of the charrette. The Planning Department has received \$40K in targeted Brownfields Assessment funds from the EPA and is devising a scope to use that money for a partial Phase II of the site.

Previous: Hawk Planning Resources LLC from Concord, NH has been chosen to facilitate the charrette. The scope and contract are being finalized, and a January date is being targeted.

### **COLONIAL THEATRE**

Current: The Cultural Arts Center of the Lakes Region Committee continues to meet and engage in active discussions with the owner of the Colonial Theatre. The Colonial project was awarded a \$150,000 LCHIP grant contingent upon a signed Purchase & Sales agreement in hand no later than January 19, 2012.

Previous: Nothing new to report.

### **WYATT PARK**

Current: The Wyatt Park House was demolished in December by All-Ways Recycling at the bid price of \$8,212.11. Utilities were disconnected, the area was leveled off and is now vacant. City staff will be performing a site plan survey which will provide a base for the Wyatt Park Master Plan. Using the feedback from the stakeholders, City staff will formulate concepts to be presented in early spring.

Previous: All-Ways Recycling was the low bidder on the Abatement/Demolition Bid at a cost of \$8,212.11; contract execution should commence upon receipt of insurance certificate with work likely to begin before 12/19/11. The company will be removing the shrubs and some trees that are near the building. Anything left in the building will be removed with the debris. The building will be down and filled to ground level by the end of the year. Park designs submitted by O'Brien & Sons are available by request. Parks & Rec officials met with the Laconia PD and it was determined a survey of the neighbors and users of the park would be appropriate. The basketball court has been closed for the winter; the gates have been chained and locked.

## **WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROJECT**

Current: Work on CIP continues with good progress. A quarterly meeting is scheduled for January 17 at which all member communities will receive an update.

Previous: Latest MOU revision, status of WRBP CIP package and next steps in implementation of Flow Metering and Cost Allocation Study to be among topics reviewed by Advisory Board at meeting scheduled this week (December 6<sup>th</sup>).

## **RECYCLING**

Current: DPW is working on a fourth recycling drop-off location at Memorial Park. Anticipated initial day for operations is January 20, 2012. A forum on Backyard Composting is being held by the Conservation Commission on January 18, 2012 @ 6:30 in Council chambers.

Previous: Meeting with Licensed Haulers (in Laconia) was held on November 15<sup>th</sup> to take input on possible new recycling initiatives that would affect commercial solid waste flow in Laconia. City Manager and DPW staff to evaluate insights gained from this meeting and consider possible recommendations to Council for solid waste program changes.

## **MAIN ST. BRIDGE**

Current: DPW is working with the consultant and communicating with NHDOT regarding funding required for bridge widening to accommodate anticipated future two-way traffic flow.

Previous: Design by City's consultant engineer (Dubois & King, Inc.) for rehabilitation of "superstructure" (deck, railings, roadway and sidewalks) is in progress. Interface of bridge design with proposed Downtown Traffic pattern changes is being coordinated by DPW and Planning Departments with our respective engineering consultants – Dubois & King, Inc. and TEC, Inc.). Related meeting with DOT to review both projects and related funding and construction schedule is slated for December 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **WEIRS BEACH SAND MIGRATION STUDY**

Current: City staff has performed two rounds of bathymetric/topographic survey data collection, and has submitted the data with the consultant, Woods Hole Group. A final round of data collection will take place in the spring. Once the final round of data is submitted, the consultant will perform wind/wave modeling and sediment transport modeling.

## **WEIRS COMMUNITY PARK**

Current: A final concept plan has been completed by the consultant, Brown Richardson and Rowe. The concept plan will soon be available on the City's Parks and Recreation website. A conceptual presentation will take place before the Planning Board in February. In addition, the concept will be submitted to the State of New Hampshire Division of Parks and Recreation and the Department of Cultural Resources to ensure compliance with their corresponding requirements.