

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF BRIDGE DESIGN**

CONFERENCE REPORT

PROJECT: Winchester, 12906
DPR-BRF-X-0111(005)
NH Rte 10 over Ashuelot River
Br. No. 152/181

DATE OF CONFERENCE: February 26, 2009

LOCATION OF CONFERENCE: Swanzey Town Hall

ATTENDED BY:

Project Lead Team

J. B. Mack – Southwest Regional Planning Commission
Donald Lyford – NHDOT Project Manager (PAC Member)
David Scott – NHDOT Bridge Design In-House Design Chief (PAC Member)

Project Advisory Committee

Bob Gray, Winchester Town Administrator
Bruce Bohannon, Swanzey Emergency Management Director
Bruce Tatro, Swanzey Selectman
Carol Keene, Westport Village Resident
Cindy Richard, NH Dept of Safety, Bureau of Homeland Security &
Emergency Management
Clyde Keene, Westport Village Resident
(Absent) Dale Gray, Winchester Highway Superintendent
Gus Ruth, Winchester Selectman
Herb Stephens, Winchester Emergency Management Director
Jeremy Laplante, NH Dept of Safety, Bureau of Homeland Security &
Emergency Management
(Absent) John Gomarlo, Town of Winchester, SWRPC Board of Directors
Lee Dunham, Swanzey Public Works Director
(Absent) Nancy St. Laurent, NH Department of Safety, Bureau of Homeland Security
& Emergency Management
(Absent) Norman Skantze, Swanzey Fire Chief
Richard Busick, Swanzey Police
Sara Carbonneau, Swanzey Planner

Others - See sign-in sheet

SUBJECT: Project Advisory Committee Meeting #1

DESCRIPTION

Don Lyford and J. B. Mack welcomed the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) and gave an overview of the project development process, including the Department's desire for public input.

David Scott gave a brief presentation of the project need from NHDOT's perspective. The bridge that is being replaced is the NH Route 10 bridge over the Ashuelot River. The bridge was built in 1935 and due to normal wear and tear it is reaching the end of its design life and in need of replacement. The bridge is currently #28 on the State's Redlist Bridges. The bridge is about half a mile south of the Swanzey Town line and just north of Westport Village Road. The bridge is currently in the New Hampshire Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan, scheduled to be replaced in 2011.

J. B. Mack distributed copies of the draft Public Involvement Plan (PIP), available at:

http://www.nh.gov/dot/projects/winchester12906/documents/PAC1_022609donlr.pdf .

He described elements of the PIP, including the role of the PAC, ground rules for the group as well as the decision making process. J. B. asked for consensus regarding the rules and no one objected. J. B. asked for the PAC to read the PIP before the next meeting so that the group can absorb the document and revisit a vote to approve it at the next meeting.

J. B. discussed the project timeline and the homework assignment.

Problems at this site were discussed and listed. (The list is included at the conclusion of this conference report.)

Winchester would like to link to the NHDOT website for this project. Swanzey is willing to do the same. Members of the PAC also suggested publicizing the group's activities in the Greenfield Recorder and the Star Spangled Banner, which is the Keene Sentinel's Friday publication to all homes in the Winchester and Swanzey area. Public notification was also suggested via the Channel 8 Public Access channel. Other parties that should be contacted were also noted, such as the First Student bus company, Winchester Speedpark, Monadnock Speedway, P&H and SUR (both are gravel operations), Tire Warehouse, and others. Bruce Willard (not in attendance), abutter to the bridge's NE quadrant, indicated to one of the PAC members that his parcel was available for the detour if a particular drainage issues is resolved as part of the contract. NHDOT Highway Maintenance District 4 is also considered a stakeholder, as well as overloaded trucks that use this route. (One of the PAC members mentioned that this bridge recently carried 188' long windmills that were 160 tons.)

The next meeting will be held on April 23 at 5 PM in the Winchester Emergency Operations Center, located above the Fire Station.

The Problem Statement from the Walpole-Charlestown PAC was presented as an example and was discussed. The Problem Statement is a concise statement reflecting the identified site deficiencies. J. B. offered to draft a preliminary Problem Statement for the Winchester 12906 project based on the list developed earlier in the evening.

By the next meeting, NHDOT will verify the freeboard at the existing bridge and will determine turning movements at Westport Village Road. Also, Don Lyford will provide a sample Vision Statement for the group's consideration.

Submitted by:

David L. Scott, P.E.

DS/ds

NOTED BY: D. Lyford, J. B. Mack

cc: D. Lyford

D. Scott

L. Kenna

Bill Cass, Director of Project Development

D. Graham - District 4

J.B. Mack – SWRPC

PAC Members

- Narrow width of bridge
- Lack of breakdown lanes
- Lack of cycling lanes
- Vermont Yankee emergency route (traffic control point)
- Sight distance problem on hill to south –northerly approach
- Sight distance when exiting rail trail/Shamrock Realty
- Frequency of icing on hill
- Icing north of bridge due to shading
- Lack of recreational access to river (canoe, kayak, emergency hovercraft)
- Lack of access to water for fire department
- Condition of bridge
- Need to maintain access to Cheshire Medical Center, Keene High school, shopping, employment
- Lack of visibility—northerly approach at night (Tire Warehouse lighting and dark road)
- Lack of right turn lane on to Westport Village Road (northerly approach)
- Plowing movements in vicinity of Westport Village Road
- Lack of sidewalk/shoulder on bridge
- High speed through area (both ways)
- Sight distance/acceleration issue exiting Westport Village Road
- Vertical clearance for boaters during high water?
- Potential removal of dam?

MEETING SIGN-UP SHEET

PROJECT Winchester
LOCATION Rte 10 bridge, Swanzey Town Hall
PROJECT NO. 12906

Federal _____ State _____

Name	Agency Address	Comments	Phone
Carl Keene CLYDE Keene	110 Westport Village Rd Swanzey NH 03446		352-6218
Lee Dunham	PO Box 10009, Swanzey		352-7116
Bob Gray Gus Ruth	1 Richmond Rd Winchester		239-4951
RICHARD BUSICK	SWANZEY POLICE DEPT 34 EATON RD SWANZEY 03446		352-2869
Bruce Bohannon	P.O. Box 10009 Swanzey 03446		209-2353
Sara Carbonneau	Town Planner PO Box 10009 SWANZEY		352-7411
BRUCE TATRO	SWANZEY SELECTMAN		352-3904
Steve Stepenuck	2455 Winchester St. " W. Swanzey 03449		352-7540
Richard LAPOINT	Winchester		239 4787
Herbert Stephens	Winchester N.H. EMP.		239-4997
Jeremy LaPlante	NH. Homeland Security Dept		
	sstepenuck@ne.vr.com Chair of River Advisory Committee		
Barbara Skuly	bskuly@ne.vr.com		