

## Rochester

With the recent expansion of the Spaulding Turnpike in Rochester from Exits 11 to 16, many opportunities have opened up for growth and development in Rochester. The Spaulding Turnpike has six interchanges within the city. Rochester is a growing community that continues to attract commercial and industrial companies that provides quality employment opportunities.

According to the Chamber of Commerce website, “the recent expansion of the Spaulding Turnpike opened up many opportunities for growth and development”.

According to State of the City of Rochester, reports the following economic statistics are significant.:

- \* More than 5 years of stagnant growth.

The value of commercial property increased 20% (2011-2013)

- \* Downtown occupancy up 10% since 2009 (85% occupancy in 2013)
- \* 232 Businesses in 2013 (229 in 2012)
- \* 585 Projects since 2006 (110 in 2013)

## Investment in Infrastructure

The Bureau’s “Turnpike System Priority Capital Program” is progressing towards its goal of replacing red-listed bridges, improving safety and reducing congestion. Currently 12 of the 19 red-listed bridges in the program have been replaced or rehabilitated. The overall cost of turnpike projects under construction during the 2014-construction season is \$60 million. Although the value of on-going construction contracts reached its peak in 2012 at \$223 million, several contracts are wrapping up construction.

Projects under construction include the second of five Newington-Dover projects with road and bridge improvements south of the Little Bay bridges on the Spaulding Turnpike. The \$49.6 million improvements on this contract are being completed by A.J. Coleman, Inc. and have a targeted completion date of November 2015.

The Bow-Concord 13742-A project will replace the NH 3A bridge over I-93 at Exit 12. Early construction operations to relocate underground utilities have already started with a July 2014 start of construction operations by R.S. Audley. A new single span bridge will be located north of the existing bridge along I-93 allowing traffic on I-93 and NH 3A to remain largely unimpacted by construction. The new bridge will be wide enough to accommodate the future Bow-Concord Capital corridor widening project along I-93 from the I-89 interchange through the turnpike limits at Exit 14.

The Bow-Concord 13742-B project has completed the replacement of two red listed bridges along I-93 at the I-89 interchange and

is working to reconstruct the median area, which was used for phased construction. Prior to the spring and summer construction months, the Turnpike Bureau, the Bureau of Construction and R. S. Audley developed a strategy to allow for the advancement of the bridge construction to progress ahead of the original schedule. By completing this work sooner, it eliminated a bottleneck at the I-89 interchange which significantly impacted tourist and race day traffic. The \$14.7 million construction project will be nearly complete by the fall of 2014 with only pavement and striping to be completed in the spring of 2015.

The Seabrook 15769 project, which widened NH 107 to accommodate the addition of two lanes and rehabilitated the bridge over I-93, was completed this June 2014. These improvements were developed under a public-private partnership with a retail development group, DDR Seabrook LLC (DDR), the Bureau of Turnpikes and the Town of Seabrook. The partnership allowed the groups to take advantage of efficiencies in design and construction operations, resulting in improvements that were needed to support an enhanced evacuation route and retail development, as well as to address the dated bridge infrastructure had been in service since its original construction in 1972 and pavement which was severely deteriorated.

Severino Construction is completing the Manchester 14966 contract at the Exit 4 interchange of the F.E. Everett turnpike and is replacing or rehabilitating 5 red list bridges. Originally estimated to cost \$33.2 million, the

project bid came in at \$28.6 million which resulted in a savings of \$4.6 million. Construction is ongoing and planned to be complete in the fall of 2016.

Having completed the first of five Newington-Dover projects (construction of the new Little Bay bridge) along the Spaulding Turnpike, the expansion of the Spaulding Turnpike in Rochester, Hampton & Hooksett ORT projects, Portsmouth I-95 SB Sound wall adjacent to Atlantic Heights, US 3 bridge replacement over FEET in Bedford, Merrimack bridge replacement over Souhegan River and the I-93 Exit 14 bridge deck replacement over Loudon Road in Concord, the program has 89.% of its funded contracts either completed or under construction. With the start of construction on the Newington-Dover 11238O contract, which will rehabilitate the existing Spaulding Turnpike bridge over the Little Bay project in late fall of 2014, the Turnpike Capital Program will have 96.% of its funded program completed or under construction.

The remaining contracts under the original capital program to be advertised in the future are the Hampton Falls-Hampton 13408B (Taylor River bridge replacement) and the 13408C (Taylor River dam replacement) and the Newington-Dover 11238S and Q contracts which will address the Exit 6 interchange north of the Little Bay bridges and the General Sullivan bridge

Dover-Newington area project is pictured in the background.



## Hooksett ORT receives National Recognition

The Hooksett Open Road Tolling (ORT) conversion project received an American Council of Engineer Companies (ACEC) “National Recognition Award”. This award demonstrated exceptional achievement in engineering. Christopher Waszczuk and Commissioner Clement were at the award ceremony on April 29, 2014 in Washington, DC to accept the award, on behalf of NHDOT. The Hooksett ORT lanes opened weeks ahead of schedule on May 29, 2013.

This cutting edge technology now allows drivers to proceed safely through the toll plaza without slowing down, reducing travel times, reducing potential conflicts with other vehicles that could lead to accidents and reducing overall congestion at the toll plaza. Traffic delays at Hooksett Toll plaza are a memory of the past, with the ORT lanes having the ability to process approximately 1,800 vehicles per hour.



Pictured above: American Council of Engineer Companies (ACEC) award presented to NHDOT.

- Christopher M. Waszczuk, PE  
Administrator
- John Corcoran, PE  
Assistant Administrator
- David Smith, PE  
Assistant Administrator

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## Hooksett Welcome Center—update

The stone façade at the main entrance and canopy structure for the 16 fuel pumps are glimpses of what is to come for the new Hooksett Welcome Centers. The facilities are rapidly taking shape through hard work of the approximately 80 workers at each site. To maintain the very aggressive schedule, construction efforts on these facilities have been ongoing since the groundbreaking ceremony in mid-October 2013 and included work through the very harsh winter which dumped significant amounts of snow on the sites and brought extremely cold temperatures. That diligence and ongoing commitment to progressing the construction of these facilities has resulted in a partial opening targeted for early September 2014, which is 8 weeks ahead of the original schedule and will include the 20,000 square foot liquor and wine outlet store, fuel pumps, country-style convenience store (complete with rustic hardwood floors) and bathrooms. Con't page 2.



# Hooksett Welcome Center—update continued

The remaining elements at these facilities are targeted to be open by early spring of 2015 and include an interactive tourist center, a 1950's style diner, Italian farmhouse restaurant, old-time deli, and a coffee and breakfast shop. Other amenities will include ample parking, a bank (northbound facility only), vending machines, drive-thru food accommodations and electric vehicle charging stations. Once complete, each new building will feature a New Hampshire "mill-building Architectural style".

The framework for all these improvements is a ground lease agreement between Granite State Hospitality, LLC (GSH-developer and operator of the facilities) and the State which requires that GSH finance, design, build, operate, and maintain the welcome centers for a period of 35 years with the exception of

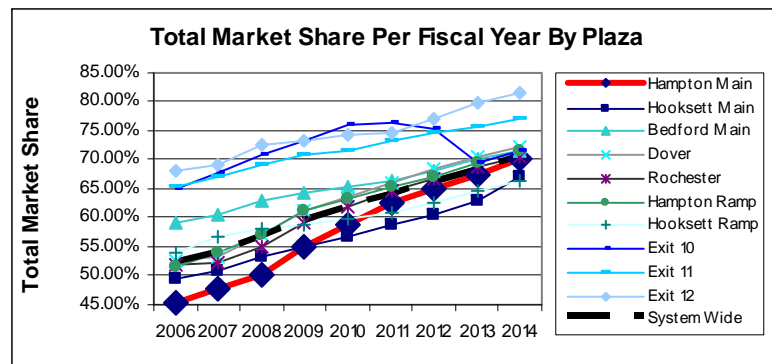
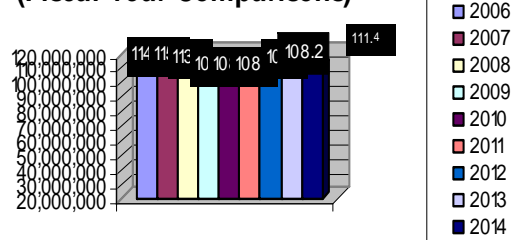
the 20,000 square foot Liquor Store, which will be owned, operated and financed by the NH Liquor Commission. During the timeframe of the ground lease, a percentage of the revenue from gross sales of the concession areas (convenience store,

restaurants and advertising, but not to include the liquor store sales), as well as revenue based upon gallons of fuel sold will be paid to the Turnpike system. Over the term of the 35-year lease this may exceed \$40 million based on forecasted sales.



# Traffic and Revenue Highlights

Turnpike System Annual Traffic (Fiscal Year Comparisons)



Traffic passing through the system's toll plazas in FY14 totaled 111.4M, up 2.9% from FY13, although down from the FY07 peak volume of 115.5M, E-ZPass market share continues to grow at a healthy rate of 2.5% growth in FY14. With the introduction of open road tolling in Hampton and Hooksett, E-ZPass growth is expected to climb even higher than the current system wide market share of 70.5%.

# Service Safety Patrol expansion

Last year the service patrol expanded with a second vehicle to include operating from the Nashua/Tyngsboro state line to Exit 14 in Concord, covering 39.5 miles in each direction..

With the success of the I-95 and FEET services, the Department is looking again to expand this type of service to the Spaulding Turnpike to more fully and year round serve the Spaulding Turnpike traffic. With a target date of October 2014, the expand service will cover the Spaulding Turnpike, Northbound and Southbound from the Portsmouth Traffic Circle in Portsmouth to Exit 16 in Rochester (44 total miles along the Turnpike) The expansion of the MSP is envisioned to cover the Spaulding Turnpike in its entirety, which

allow the I-95 MSP vehicle to solely patrol I-95 year round.

### Operating in the Summer Season:

- Monday—Thursday 5:30-8am & 3:30-6pm
- Friday 5:30-8am & 12:00-7pm
- Saturday 9:00—5:00pm
- Sunday 10:00—6:00pm

### Winter Season:

- Monday—Thursday 5:30-8am & 3:30-6pm

Travelers Marketing / State Farm have the right of first refusal for sponsorship of this expansion of the motor service patrol to the Spaulding Turnpike.

The Department is also considering a second vehicle to cover the FEET more fully during the morning and evening commuting hours which totals 80 miles roundtrip from Exit 14 in Concord to the Massachusetts state line in Nashua.

### Service Patrol Statistics to Date:

	Calls	Stops	Average per month
FE Everett	413	469	59
I-93	322	358	45
I-293	292	329	41
TOTAL	1027	1156	

# E-ZPass - Prepay/Postpay

It is now possible for motorist who inadvertently enter an E-ZPass lane to submit payment for their toll prior to an invoice being issued. Motorist must make the payment within 7 days of the trip.

The image will be used to match the license plate on your account and the toll will automatically be deducted from the prepaid account balance.

Check out the new enhancements @ [www.EZPassNH.com](http://www.EZPassNH.com)

### Prepay a NH Trip:

If you are not an E-ZPass customer, you may make payment in advance of your trip on NH roadways by establishing a Prepay account and registering your license plate (s). When you drive through the toll plaza an image of your license plate will be taken and sent for

- Prepaid trips are not discounted. Tolls will be charged at full fare
- Your account must be opened with a minimum balance of \$1.00.
- There is no limit to the number of trips you may prepay.
- You may choose automatic replenishment of your account.

### Postpay a NH Trip:

If you are not an E-ZPass customer, you may make payment for a trip you have taken on

NH roadways by going on-line to register your license plate (s).

- Payment must be made within 7 days of the trip.
- Postpay tolls are not discounted. Tolls will be charged at full fare.
- You must submit payment to cover the toll in full. If there is not a sufficient balance to cover the tolls, an invoice will be generated and you will be required to pay the toll difference and an administrative fee.
- Canadian plates are not eligible for Postpay.
- After 30 days the information will be deleted and unavailable to view.

# E-ZPass growth— Impact of ORT

Total number of accounts as of the end of June 2014 exceeds 342,262. In CY13 the opening of new accounts increased by 51% over CY12 and 85% over CY11. In the five months following the Hooksett ORT opening (May-Sept), the opening of new accounts

increased by 75% over the same period the previous year. Total number of transponders as of the end of June 2014 exceeds 580,730. In CY 13 the sale of transponders increased by 32% over CY12 and 70% over CY11. In the six months following Hooksett ORT opening

(May-Oct), the sale of new transponders increased nearly 50% compared to the same period the previous year. The E-ZPass website is also growing in popularity with 124M hits recorded in CY 13, up from 90M in CY12 and 70M in CY11.