

December 18, 2012

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

**CONFERENCE REPORT**

**PROJECT:** Amherst  
X-A001(264)  
10136C  
NH 101A & NH 101 EB ramp, Reconstruct Intersection and Install Signals

**DATE OF CONFERENCE:** December 17, 2012

**LOCATION OF CONFERENCE:** Amherst Town Hall

**ATTENDED BY:** DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
R. Grandmaison M. Marshall

**SUBJECT:** Amherst Public Informational Meeting

**NOTES ON CONFERENCE:**

This presentation was the first item on the Amherst selectmen's agenda. R. Grandmaison opened the presentation discussing how the project originated. M. Marshall continued the presentation. The scope of this project includes installing signals at the intersection of NH 101A and the NH 101 EB on/off ramps at the Milford and Amherst townline and to add second right turn lane for the off ramp.

The current intersection is unsignalized and both ramps provide a single lane of traffic. Existing drainage is channeled along the curbed ramps. An extensive ledge cut is located along the right side ditch line for the on and off ramps. Adding signals and a second right turn lane will improve operations and reduce queue lengths at the intersection. In 2010, the average daily traffic on NH 101A was 31,000 vehicles per day and on NH 101 was 21,420 vehicles per day.

There are several options proposed for adding the second right turn lane:

1. Widen the EB off ramp away from the median for the second right turn lane. This option will impact the ledge and add substantial construction costs.
2. Hold the outside curb line of the off ramp and widen the ramp by removing a portion of the large grassed median. This option would not impact the ditch line or ledge.
3. Guardrail could be placed in the median between the two ramps.

Traffic impacts are expected to be minor. Lane shifts will be used to install signals to construct the additional right turn lane.

There are no environmental impacts and slope work is expected to stay within the right-of-way. Level 2 ROW abstracting has been completed. There are underground gas and telephone lines that run under the north edge of Route 101A. Signal conduit will be installed at the intersection but will avoid these lines. The new signal will be coordinated with the existing signal network on Route 101A.

The project is scheduled to advertise in January 2018 and has \$2.2 million programmed for the construction cost.

Comments from the Amherst selectmen include:

- Several signals along Route 101A seem to not be coordinated. The traffic Bureau should review this.
- There are long back-ups on the Route 101 EB off ramp.
- Evaluate the option of adding a third through lane eastbound on Route 101A to allow the right turns from the Route 101 EB off ramp to enter NH 101A as a free movement. The signals are not wanted at this intersection. Milford officials agree with this option and statement to not signalize the intersection.
- Police Chief stated there are many crashes occurring because people are distracted while driving.

Submitted by:

Michelle Marshall  
Preliminary Design

MEM/mem

NOTED BY: R. Grandmaison

cc: Project file

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