

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER

WINCHESTER-SWANZEY, DPR-BRF-X-0111(005), 12906

NH ROUTE 10

Special Committee

PUBLIC HEARING

October 26, 2010 -- Winchester Town Hall -- 7:00 P.M.

WINCHESTER-SWANZEY, NH, DPR-BRF-X-0111(005), 12906 -Beginning at a point in the existing traveled way of N.H. Route 10 in Winchester approximately one thousand two hundred feet (1,200') southerly of the Ashuelot River and continuing northerly approximately two thousand nine hundred feet (2,900') to a point in Swanzey approximately three hundred feet (300') from the Winchester/Swanzey town line.

This project involves the replacement of the N.H. Route 10 bridge over the Ashuelot River on new alignment and reconstruction of associated roadway, including the intersection with Westport Village Road.

Limitation of access with the following points granted is established for this section of N.H. Route 10 as shown on the Winchester-Swanzey Public Hearing plan:

HOMAN, Susan E. and Cope T., parcel 12 (formerly parcel 21, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): Existing access granted under the Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574 project, to be perpetuated.

VANDYKE, Robert, parcel 13 (formerly parcel 22, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): Existing access granted under the Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574 project, to be perpetuated.

LYNOTT, Margaret E., parcel 14: (formerly parcel 23, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): Existing access granted under the Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574 project, to be perpetuated.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, parcel 15 (formerly parcel 24, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): Existing access granted under the Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574 project, to be perpetuated.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, parcel 16 (formerly parcel 24, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): Existing access granted under the Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574 project, to be perpetuated.

MURDOCK, Michael L. and Marcia E. parcel 17 (formerly parcel 22, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): Existing access granted under the Winchester, DP-011-1(2), P-3574 project, to be perpetuated.

TOWNE, Francis M. and GASSETT, Linda L. parcel 18 (formerly parcel 22, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): Zero (0) points of access granted under the Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574 project, to be perpetuated. Access via Westport Village Road.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, parcel 21 (formerly parcel 22, Winchester, DF-011-1(2), P-3574): [Previously two (2) points of access granted under the Winchester, DP-011-1(2), P-3574 project]. For this Winchester-Swanzey, DPR-BRF-X-0111(005), 12906 project, one (1) point of access granted north of Westport Village Road for public access to the parking area and river access. Zero (0) points of access granted south of Westport Village Road. Access via Westport Village Road for the southerly portion of this parcel.

MITCHELL SAND AND GRAVEL, LLC, parcel 22: Two (2) points of access on the left, relative to the stationed alignment. One (1) of the points to be shared with parcel 22-1.

VELVIC, LLC, parcel 22-1: One (1) point of access on the left, relative to the stationed alignment, shared with Parcel 22.

WILLARD, Bruce A. and HEBERT, Theresa, parcel 23: Two (2) points of access on the right, relative to the stationed alignment.

GROVER, Loretta J., parcel 24: Zero (0) points of access on the right, relative to the stationed alignment, within the Controlled Access frontage of the property.

BLAIR, Harold P., parcel 25: Zero (0) points of access on the left, relative to the stationed alignment, within the Controlled Access frontage of the property.

The above limitation of access is established in accordance with RSA Chapter 230:46

The following decisions are the Department's resolution of the issues as a result of the testimony presented at the October 26, 2010 Public Hearing and written testimony subsequently submitted:

1. Representative Daniel Carr and Selectman Gus Ruth, support the proposed gravel parking area to provide recreational access to the Ashuelot River.

Response: The support for the recreational gravel parking area is appreciated. This will remain an aspect of the project provided an agreement can be reached prior to construction regarding maintenance of the area after it is built.

2. Selectman Gus Ruth, supports the inclusion of a dry hydrant at the proposed gravel parking area.

Response: The Department will work with the Town to include a dry hydrant in the project at this location. The Town will need to provide the engineering for the design of the dry hydrant, pay for the cost of the construction of the hydrant and maintain the hydrant once it is installed.

3. Selectman Gus Ruth, suggests the State property south of Westport Village Road be kept for a potential future commuter parking area.

Response: At this time the Department does not consider this property to be a valid location for a commuter parking area. However, as any State owned land in the area becomes surplus this use will be evaluated before the property is relinquished.

4. Robert Snyder, representing Mitchell Sand & Gravel, parcel 22, raised concerns regarding the loss of an existing tree screen along their frontage and asked if a berm and/or landscaping to replace the tree screen could be part of the project. He also asked if the southerly drive, which trucks currently are restricted from using, would be allowed truck access after the construction is complete.

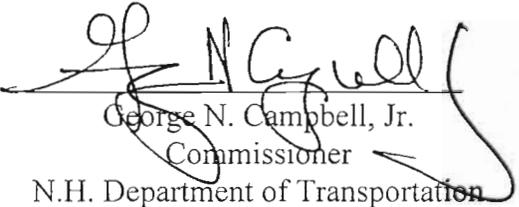
Response: Given the impacts to the existing tree screen, this is a reasonable request. The Department has investigated the placement of a berm and plantings along the frontage of this property and has found it to be feasible. The Department will continue to develop that concept and review with the property owner as the project continues into Final Design.

Regarding the southern drive, the Department would not place any restrictions on this access as to vehicle usage once the project is constructed. Any Town regulations that may limit the existing usage would still apply following construction completion.

5. Carol Cooper and F.V. Thompson, Westport Village Road, requested street lighting of the NH Route 10/ Westport Village Road intersection be investigated as the current intersection location is difficult to recognize at night.

Response: The Department will investigate street lighting placement as part of Final Design and will incorporate lighting if appropriate for the proposed conditions.

Date: 7/15/11


George N. Campbell, Jr.
Commissioner
N.H. Department of Transportation