

Public Statement
Northfield-Tilton 16147

The NHDOT Bureau of Environment has the responsibility of investigating the potential impacts that our projects will have on the surrounding natural, cultural, and social environment. Identifying key resources early in the project development process enables the Department to avoid or minimize impacts as design proceeds.

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Department is reviewing the project area to determine if there are historic resources within the area that would be impacted by the construction of this project. Historic properties can include buildings and structures fifty years or older as well as archaeological sites. Studies are underway to determine if historic resources exist in the project area.

In complement to this review, we are asking that if anyone has concerns about historical or archaeological resources in or adjacent to the project area, they bring them to our attention tonight or contact us after this meeting.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act offers those that possess a direct interest in historical resources, including town officials and Historical Societies, an opportunity to become more involved in an advisory role during project development as “Consulting Parties.” Those interested should indicate so in writing to the Federal Highway Administration. Please see me after the meeting if you would like more information.

Regarding natural resources, potential resources and concerns are still being investigated. There are three that I’ll mention briefly. First, we are aware of the property adjacent to the project area that is protected by a conservation easement held by the Town of Tilton. This property will not be impacted by this project. Second, measures will be taken during construction to avoid the spread of invasive species. Finally, it is anticipated that wetland permits will be needed from the NH Department of Environmental Services and the US Army Corps of Engineers.

As the project proceeds, we will continue to coordinate with the appropriate agencies and local organizations to avoid or minimize impacts to the Winnepesaukee River and other environmental resources.