



New Hampshire
Department of Transportation

NH Route 125 Improvements

Plaistow-Kingston, NH

Public Involvement Plan



State Project No. 10044E
Updated 9/18/19

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1.0 Project Background and Overview

1.1 Purpose of the Public Involvement Plan

The purpose of this Public Involvement Plan is to describe a wide range of public involvement activities that will be implemented as part of the NH Route 125 Improvement Project (State Project No. 10044E). This New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) Public Involvement Plan will:

- Provide NHDOT Project Manager contact information;
- List the members of the community-based Working Group;
- Explain the NHDOT Project Development Process as it pertains to this project;
- Describe method of communicating upcoming public meetings and the project schedule;
- List anticipated communication products and methods so the public is informed of the progress and decisions made;
- Explain how the project team will provide timely and useful information through a variety of targeted means and methods.

The Public Involvement Plan will be revised periodically to reflect updates to the project meeting dates and locations, updates to the project schedule and other relevant items over the course of this multi-year project.

1.2 Project Background

This project proposes to reconstruct a 1.7-mile section of NH Route 125, located from just north of Old Country Road in Plaistow and ending just south of Newton Junction Road in Kingston. This 1.7-mile section is the last remaining section of the previously designed 6-mile corridor of NH Route 125 within Plaistow and Kingston. This 1.7-mile section is known as Contract E. Contracts C, D, F and G have all been constructed. Refer to Figure 1 for the location of Contract E in relation to the completed sections.

This project is currently in the Preliminary Engineering design phase, based upon the NHDOT Project Development Process. The start of construction will be based upon available funding and permitting. The construction of the project may require multiple construction seasons.

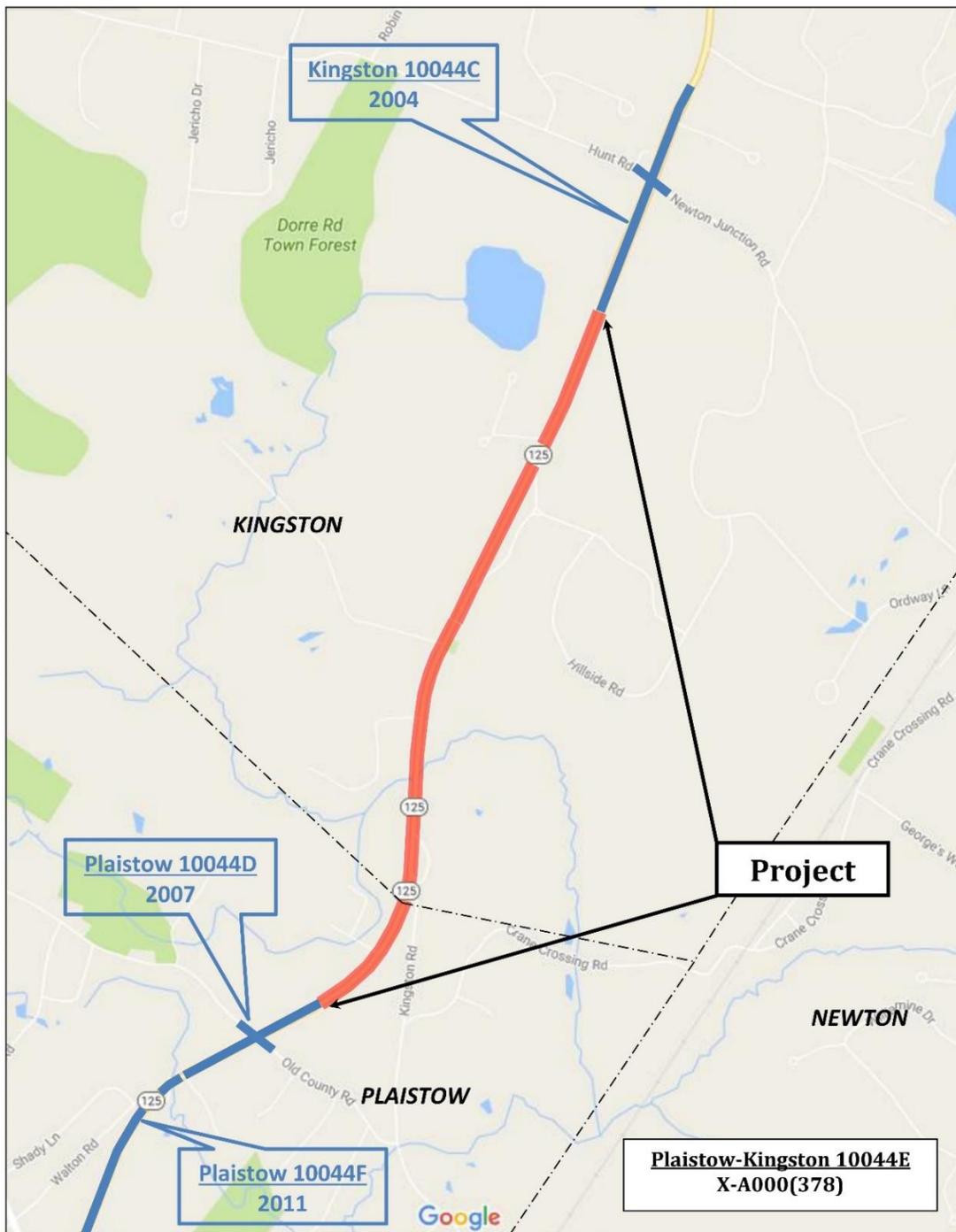


Figure 1: Location of Contract E (shown in red) in relation to Contract C, D and F. (Contract G is not shown for clarity).

Additional project information can be found on the NHDOT project website. Click the following link to access website. <https://www.nh.gov/dot/projects/plaistow10044e/index.htm>

1.3 Major Project Components and Benefits

The major components of the project include the following.

- Public participation events and opportunities to interface with the NHDOT design team including public meetings and the formation of a community-based Working Group that will advise the NHDOT on the project design and community needs.
- Preliminary Engineering (project design); and
- Re-evaluation the Environmental Document, completed in 2005, that was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The major beneficial effects of the project include the following:

- Improved traffic conditions throughout the project area; and
- Improved safety throughout.

1.4 Project Team and Stakeholders

The project objectives will be achieved through collaboration with town officials, town staff, members of the Working Group, the public-at-large, and the Rockingham Planning Commission. The project will be led by the NHDOT, the project sponsor. The NHDOT has retained a consultant team consisting of GM2 Associates, Inc. (GM2) and McFarland-Johnson, Inc. (MJ) to assist in the tasks necessary to complete the design phase of the project.

The point of contact for all inquiries is the NHDOT Project Manager, Loretta Girard Doughty, P.E. Her contact information is shown below as well as other key members of the NHDOT project team.

NHDOT Project Team			
Loretta Girard Doughty	Project Manager	603-271-2230	Loretta.Doughty@dot.nh.gov
Tobey Reynolds	Team Member	NA	NA
Margaret Baldwin	Team Member	NA	NA
Kathleen Corliss	Team Member	NA	NA

NA – Not Applicable

The following list includes key members of the project consultant team.

Consultant Team		
Darren Blood	Consultant Project Manager	GM2
Seth Hill	Project Engineer	GM2
Jennifer Zorn	Public Involvement Specialist	McFarland Johnson

The community-based Working Group has been formed and will act in an advisory capacity and help to inform NHDOT throughout the entire project. The members of the Working Group are listed below.

Working Group	
Name	Affiliation
David Walker	Rockingham Planning Commission
Michael Dorman	Town of Plaistow/Building Inspector
Glenn Coppelman	Town of Kingston/Planning Board
Richard St. Hilaire	Town of Kingston/Road Agent
Donald W. Briggs, Jr.	Town of Kingston/Police Chief/Selectman
Glenn Greenwood	Town of Kingston/Planning
Ellen Faulconer	Town of Kingston/Planning Board
Bill Seaman	Town of Kingston/Fire Chief
Tom Greer	Business Owner/Landscapers Depot
Brian Craven	Business Owner/Kingston Collision

2.0 PROJECT PROCESS

2.1 NHDOT Project Development Process

The project is following the standard NHDOT project development process. The project is currently in the Preliminary Engineering design phase, during which project design alternatives will be developed and analyzed for impacts. At the conclusion of the analysis, a recommended alternative will be identified. An environmental document will be prepared based upon the re-evaluation of the 2005 Environmental Assessment and the updated design alternatives. New resources and impacts not discussed in the 2005 assessment will be presented in the Environmental document.

After the completion of the Preliminary Engineering design phase and the selection of a preferred design, right-of-way and/or easements will be acquired as needed, agency permits will be secured, and construction contract documents will be prepared. The design is complete when the project is advertised for construction bids and is awarded to a contractor. The start of construction is based upon available funding and agency permitting.

2.2 Project Meetings

As part of Preliminary Engineering, NHDOT will hold at least one Public Informational Meeting to present project information to the public and receive feedback. The community-based Working Group will act in an advisory capacity throughout the project. The status and general timeframe of the anticipated meetings are detailed below. Materials presented at each public meeting will be available on the project website.

Public Meetings		
Entity	Time/Location	Date
Working Group Meeting #1	1pm/Kingston Town Hall	May 23, 2019
Working Group Meeting #2	1pm/Kingston Town Hall	June 20, 2019
Public Informational Meeting	6pm/Kingston Town Hall	October 17, 2019
Public Officials Meeting	<i>TBD</i>	<i>TBD</i>

TBD – To be determined

2.3 Project Schedule

The schedule is approximate and subject to change. As the project moves forward, the schedule will be updated to reflect more specific dates.

2018	Develop Conceptual Design Alternatives Research Environmental Resources
2019-2020	Conduct Working Group and Public Meetings Present Design Alternatives to the Public Select a Preferred Design Evaluate Environmental Impacts Complete Environmental Document
2020 to 2022	Right of Way Acquisitions and/or Easements Agency Permitting
2023	Anticipated Start of Construction

3.0 Communication Methods

Effective communication is essential to the on-going success of the project. Below is a description of the communication methods that are planned. As the project progresses, the effectiveness of the public involvement activities will be assessed to determine if the methods of communication in use are effective or if adjustments are needed.

3.1 NHDOT Project Website

Further details on the project are located on the NHDOT project website. Project materials are available for viewing and/or downloading by any member of the public. The website includes a description of the project, contact information, relevant links, maps and other visual aids, and meeting information. As the project advances, additional information will be added. Click the link below to access the project website.

<https://www.nh.gov/dot/projects/plaistow10044e/index.htm>

3.2 E-Mail

The primary method of communication for the project will be e-mail. Meeting agendas, graphics, visual aids and meeting minutes as well as other pertinent project information will be disseminated via e-mail. The exception to the use of e-mail is when a Notice to Abutters is undertaken, see Section 3.6.

3.3 Public Meeting

The purpose of a public meeting is to distribute information about the project, engage the public officials and general public as well as receive feedback. Materials presented at each public meeting will be available on the project website.

3.4 Social Media, Videos and Visualizations

Social Media has become the prime means for disseminating information to a large cross-section of people. The NHDOT will provide materials to the Towns of Plaistow and Kingston, as deemed appropriate by the NHDOT Project Manager, for their use on community based social media platforms and community calendars. The NHDOT has a [Facebook](#) page and electronic

newsletter that will be used to notify and inform the general public in advance of Public Informational Meetings. In addition, a project specific YouTube page may be created, where project visualizations and several video snippets focusing of key project elements will be posted for public viewing.

3.5 Project Fact Sheets

Project fact sheets, graphic presentations, and displays will be created specifically for this project and distributed at the project meetings and to the general public.

3.6 Notice to Abutters

The NHDOT will provide advance notice to the project abutters through the U.S. Postal Service prior to the Public Informational Meetings. The location, time and other details of the meeting will be provided in the notice.