

CLD | Fuss & O'Neill

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MEETING: Springfield 20509 Public Informational Meeting

DATE: February 26, 2018

LOCATION: Springfield Town Offices
2750 Main Street

ATTENDEES: NHDOT: Joseph Adams
Michael Licciardi
Melilotus Dube

CLD | Fuss & O'Neill: John Byatt
Jaime French

Public Attendees: See attendance sheet

MEETING MINUTES

On the above date a Public Informational Meeting was held to present project information to the public and gain public input. The Town Offices were open at 6:30 pm for the public to view presentation materials, including a detour map, colored plan, and photos of the site and bridge condition.

The formal presentation began at 7 pm. Mike Licciardi presented the project, which included the following in a PowerPoint presentation:

- An overview of the project location, the bridge condition, and the project constraints.
- The project design considerations including the bridge condition, hydraulic capacity, truck turning movements through the intersection, overhead utilities, roadway and drainage improvements, and maintenance of traffic during construction.
- The bridge is located at the intersection of George's Mills Road, Fisher Corner Road and Stryker Road. It was noted that a bridge crossing diagonally across an intersection like this is unusual and presents some unique challenges.

- Meli discussed the impacts to natural and cultural resources. The resources are first identified and the impacts are minimized. Cultural resource impacts are currently not anticipated. Meli did note that anyone can become a consulting party regarding the cultural resources and she has information on how to do this if anyone is interested. Natural resources, namely the stream, will be impacted and permits will be acquired. In addition stormwater treatment will be provided.
- Options to maintain traffic during construction include phased construction with one-way alternating traffic and closing the bridge and detouring traffic.
 - Phased construction will increase the length of the bridge approximately 30 feet, which will increase the environmental impacts, right-of-way impacts, and the project cost. Bridge construction will take 14 weeks. Plans depicting the truck turning movements and the limits of phased construction were shown. Safety concerns and the inability for large trucks to come in and out of Stryker Road were noted as part of the phased option.
 - Closing the bridge and detouring traffic would be required for 3 to 4 weeks. The remaining roadway work would be completed with temporary lane closures. Access to Fisher Corner Road to and from the north would remain open and access to and from Stryker Road would be maintained from the south only. The closure minimizes the project impacts, reduces projects costs and overall construction duration, and is safer for the public and contractor. Two proposed detours were shown. One is a loop from George's Mills Road to Newport Road to NH Route 114. The other detour sends traffic from I-89 south off of Exit 13 and down NH Routes 10 and 114 to George's Mills Road.
 - Several attendees noted prior to and during the meeting that the turn from Newport Road onto Route 114 is very sharp and trucks will not be able to maneuver it. Joe indicated that they drove the detour prior to the meeting and agreed that turn will have to be re-considered. He also noted that the NHDOT uses State Routes for detours. Trucks will likely have to use Exit 11 as a detour from I-89 north.
- The bridge cannot be rehabilitated due to its condition and will be replaced. The bridge replacement options include a precast concrete rigid frame and a precast concrete box culvert.
 - The rigid frame option would be a 31-foot span and is fully compliant with the NHDES Stream Crossing Rules.
 - The box culvert option would be a 20-foot span and would require the Department to follow the alternate design process for environmental permitting, as it does not meet the NHDES Stream Crossing Rules. This option has the lowest costs and the quickest construction duration.

- The next steps in the project are to complete the bridge evaluation, the historic and utility coordination, the environmental permitting, the right-of-way process, and prepare the contract plans and documents.
- The project is currently scheduled to advertise in October 2019 with construction starting in summer of 2020.
- Questions were then taken from the audience:
 - Q: Does the construction have a set time of year, or is it weather dependent?
A: Construction is typically during the summer months to avoid school bus route impacts and to take advantage of low flow conditions. Weather can delay a project. Since this would be a short duration closure, the contract will include incentives and disincentives for the contractor to complete the work in time.
 - Q: Does the time to complete the permit change with the box option?
A: There is no time change in the review; however there is more detail required in the permit application.
 - Q: Why does the utility relocation take 24 weeks to complete?
A: There are many overhead lines to move so it takes more time. The relocations are completed prior to construction.
 - Q: Will the new headwalls have any stone?
A: The proposed headwalls and wingwalls are concrete.
 - Q: What are the expected impacts for the stormwater swale?
A: The design of the stormwater treatment has not been fully completed, but may include approximately 100 feet of vegetated swale. John showed the limits on the colored plan and noted that the water would not go back into the stream but will flow north into an infiltration basin. A representative of the property owner was concerned that access be maintained to the property even though the house is abandoned and may be demolished.
 - Q: Joe asked if phased construction or a closure was preferred.
A: Some thought that a short closure would be preferred. The owners of the golf course on Route 114 voiced safety concerns with the additional truck traffic during their busy summer hours; pedestrians frequently cross the road.
 - Q: John asked if Georges Mills is a bus Route.
A: Yes, four buses use the road in the morning and afternoon.
 - Q: Have emergency services been contacted about the potential closure?
A: Not yet, but NHDOT will follow up with them.
 - Q: John asked if the Town receives mutual aid.

Meeting Minutes

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A: Yes, they do.

- At the conclusion of the meeting Joe noted that there will be a project website available to review the information presented at tonight's meeting. There will also be another informational meeting when the design has progressed further.