



Christine Clancy, P.E.
DPW Commissioner
John Gleason
Interim City Engineer

EMD

TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager
FROM: John Gleason, Interim City Engineer
DATE: February 20, 2020
RE: C. Nuon – Request City Manager to provide an update regarding bridge construction on Beaver St at Beaver Brook.

The Beaver St over Beaver Brook Bridge (Bridge No. L-15-055) is under the jurisdiction of The City of Lowell. In 2013, the bridge was identified to proceed with design as part of the City of Lowell's "2013 Engineering Services for 6 Bridges" Project.

In 2015, The City of Lowell's selected design consultant TEC (Lawrence, MA) progressed construction plans for a superstructure replacement to a 25% milestone, a point where a general concept of the design scope was defined. This is a typical milestone to reach when funding is not available for construction. The design plans were advanced again in 2017 to a 100% milestone that would be ready for MassDOT's Chapter 85 review.

In 2018, a MassDOT routine inspection identified a structural component that was compromised, and a small repair method was recommended in order to keep the bridge open to traffic. The repair was made in October 2018.

On July 29, 2019, after another routine inspection, MassDOT inspectors notified the City of Lowell recommending that the bridge be closed to vehicular traffic. The bridge remains open to pedestrian and bicyclist traffic. Upon notification of the bridge closure, The Engineering Department notified the design consultant to prepare to submit construction documents to MassDOT Chapter 85 review. The Construction documents were submitted to MassDOT and TEC has received comments, made some minor changes and anticipates approval for construction within the upcoming weeks. The bridge rehabilitation includes superstructure replacement as well as some substructure rehabilitation based on the recommendations from the latest bridge inspection report.



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Upon Chapter 85 approval, the construction bid documents are anticipated to be ready for bid spring or summer 2020 pending the availability of City funding. The estimated construction duration is 12-18 months and the estimated construction cost is approximately \$2 -2.5 million. At this time there is not enough funding available to receive bids for construction. The Beaver Street Bridge over Beaver Brook Bridge Rehabilitation Project will be submitted again as a FY 21 Capital Project Request, and if funded, the City anticipates proceeding with construction this summer or fall.

Thanks,

CC: Natasha Vance, Transportation Engineer
CC: Christine Clancy, DPW Commissioner