



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

*EMD*

TO: Eileen Donoghue, City Manager  
FROM: Christine Clancy, P.E., DPW Commissioner  
DATE: January 28, 2020  
RE: C. Elliott – Request City Manager to provide an update regarding bridge construction on VFW Highway at Beaver Brook.

The VFW Highway over Beaver Brook Bridge is under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation. S&R Corporation was awarded the contract by MADOT to repair the bridge in 2016. Construction of the bridge commenced in 2016, but has been met with environmental challenges resulting in delays. Despite these delays, the construction of the project has been progressing over the past year.

S&R Corporation is currently working on concrete components of the sub-structure, located below the bridge deck elevations and typically not visible to vehicular traffic.

MADOT has notified the City of Lowell that they have been routinely monitoring the conditions of the existing bridge structure and sidewalks. MADOT informed the City that the latest repairs made to potholes on the existing bridge were made on January 3, 2020.

MADOT was able to provide an updated milestone schedule, with a current anticipated final completion date of September 2021. Please see the anticipated completion dates at major milestones for the remainder of the project below:

Phase 1 (South side)

March 2020 – Structural Steel Erection  
May – June 2020 – Bridge deck placement  
July 2020 – Completion of Phase 1

Phase 2 (North side)

July 2020 – Demolition of the existing bridge on the North side  
Sept 2021 – Anticipated final project completion date

Phase 2 (North side) bridge construction will be similar in appearance to Phase 1, but will shift traffic onto the South portion of the bridge, completed in Phase 1.



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The City Engineer's office will continue to monitor the progress of Phase 1. Upon completion of the traffic shift, The City will request an updated schedule for Phase 2, and the remainder of the project.

Although, not directly related to this motion, the council requested an update on the Pawtucket Street Bridge over the Pawtucket Canal, which is part of the Tiger Bridge Replacement Project. Work is currently being completed on the inbound side of the bridge. The contractor, MAS Construction, has reported they are targeting the week of February 10 for steel erection, which will be followed by 1-2 months of utility installations, which then will be followed by deck installation. Upon completion of the inbound side of the bridge, work will begin on the outbound side. Bridge completion is anticipated by April 2022, which is also the anticipated date for the entire program complete.

Thanks,

CC: Natasha Vance, Transportation Engineer  
CC: John Gleason, Interim City Engineer