


Yovani Baez-Rose
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Camilo Espitia
Deputy Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden, Jr., City Manager 

FROM: Yovani Baez-Rose, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

CC: Elizabeth Oltman, PE, City Transportation Engineer

SUBJECT: MOTION RESPONSE: 9/27/2022 – Councilor Nuon and Councilor Gitschier - Request City Manager Report On The Rourke Bridge And Timeline To Completion

The existing Rourke Bridge was built in 1983 as a temporary bridge. The Bridge’s vehicle capacity is deficient and its bicycle and pedestrian features do not meet current multi-modal and ADA standards. It is nearing the end of its useful service life and its supporting substructure is showing signs of deterioration. Based upon the recommendations of a Corridor Study and Feasibility Analysis conducted in 2013, MassDOT is moving forward with the replacement of the Rourke Bridge.

Per MassDOT Project Information: “The proposed project replaces the temporary Rourke Bridge structure with a permanent bridge. The bridge will have increased capacity providing two travel lanes in each direction, plus shoulders (able to accommodate bicycles) and sidewalks on either side of the bridge. Intersections at either end of the bridge will be reconstructed, as well as portions of Wood Street, Pawtucket Boulevard, and Old Ferry Road. The improvements include geometric changes, new signal systems and roadway widening.” The \$169,000,000 project is to be designed and constructed with Transportation Improvement Project (TIP) funding through NMCOCG. This will be a design/build project starting in 2024 and funding is programmed through 2030.

The City of Lowell Construction Projects Page has been updated with the latest information on the project and the link the MassDOT project website. It is noted that the MassDOT project website has not been recently updated. The City of Lowell page can be accessed by clicking on this link: <https://www.lowellma.gov/1152/Construction-Projects>

The Construction Projects Page has also been updated with the latest information on the 330 Jackson Street Garage, the Central Street Bridge replacement, the Lord Overpass project, the Concord River Greenway, and the Shared Streets implementations.

An Informational Construction Projects memo will be prepared by DPD and DPW to update the Council and the public on anticipated projects to occur during the 2023 construction season.

EMO