


Diane Nichols Tradd
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eileen M. Donoghue, City Manager

FROM: Diane N. Tradd, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director 

SUBJECT: MOTION OF 6/26/18 BY COUNCILOR CONWAY
REQUEST CITY MANAGER AND DPD MEET WITH MASSDOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF
ADDRESSING AND MITIGATING THE TRAFFIC IN THE CITY DURING CONSTRUCTION
PROJECTS ON THE ROADS AND BRIDGES; PLAN TO INCLUDE TIMETABLES FOR
COMPLETION OF THE MULTIPLE PROJECTS AND A PRESENTATION OF THE PLAN FOR
THE PUBLIC

Representatives from MassDOT will be at the City Council meeting on August 28 to present and discuss current and future projects in the City of Lowell. MassDOT specifically wishes to present conceptual designs for Lowell Connector Reconstruction and Exit Reconfiguration between Thorndike Street and Gorham Street to the Transportation Subcommittee and the full City Council.

The Department of Planning and Development (DPD) continues to be in close communication with Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) regarding the Department's current and planned projects in the City of Lowell. DPD and MassDOT are aware of the number of transportation construction projects both planned and underway in the City of Lowell and have coordinated construction schedules and Traffic Management Plans (TMP) insofar as is possible. For example, the (TMP) approved for the Lowell Canal Bridges (TIGER) project is considered a baseline traffic condition for the current development of construction phasing and TMP for the Lord Overpass project and other planned City of Lowell/MassDOT projects. Phasing/TMP for future projects are iterative based on approved plans for projects already underway. The approved TMP for the Lowell Canal Bridges (TIGER) project is available for viewing on the City's website via a link to lowellbridges.com. Available TMP for MassDOT projects are available at MassDOT project website. Please see the City of Lowell/MassDOT Major Construction Projects timeline developed by DPD for scheduled construction durations attached.

To date, MassDOT has three projects under construction and three projects planned for construction in Lowell beginning in the spring of 2019, including the following:

- Under construction:
 - Replacement of Market Street over Western Canal Bridge
 - Intersection improvements at Route 113 and Mammoth Road
 - VFW Highway Paving and Aiken Street Intersection improvements
- Construction planned for spring 2019:
 - Route 38 Improvements
 - Rogers Street and Douglas Road Intersection Improvements
 - Rogers Street and Fairmount Street Intersection Improvements
 - Nesmith Street/Andover Street/East Merrimack Street Intersection Improvements and widening

Moreover, MassDOT has several projects in conceptual design and engineering phases, some with construction funding programmed over the next five years. Please note that the following projects in design are not included on the attached timeline as design and funding schedules may change.

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- In design with programmed construction funding, FY 2019:
 - Lowell Connector over Industrial Avenue East Bridge Deck Replacement
- In design with programmed construction funding, FY 2020:
 - Lowell Connector Reconstruction and Exit Reconfiguration between Thorndike Street and Gorham Street
 - VFW Highway Reconstruction and Related Work
 - Pedestrian Walkway and Bicycle Connection at Pawtucket Falls Overlook – Vandenberg Esplanade to School Street (with NPS and City of Lowell)
- In preliminary design with no programmed construction funding:
 - Replacement of Rourke Bridge and Wood Street Extension over B&M Railroad and Merrimack River

DNT/ns

Attachment

7/19/18

cc: Claire V. Ricker, Chief Design Planner