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MEMORANDUM

TO: Eileen M. Donoghue, City Manager

FROM: Christine Clancy, PE, City Engineer  
Natasha Vance, PE, Transportation Engineer

DATE: November 12, 2019

SUBJECT: INFORMATIONAL UPDATE - CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The following report addresses the current status and anticipated schedule for the construction projects that are currently under construction or design in the City of Lowell.

Streets F&G – punchlist utility work remains to be completed. Site work and bridge deck installation will continue through the end of November 2019.

TIGER Bridges:

1. Merrimack Street over Merrimack Canal – bridge work has been completed. Punchlist work remaining.
2. Merrimack Street over Western Canal – bridge rehabilitation work has been completed. Sidewalk and punchlist work remains to be completed.
3. Pawtucket Street over Northern Canal – currently underway and closed to vehicular traffic. Students/pedestrians can cross. Bridge completion is anticipated by November 2020.
4. Central Street over Pawtucket Canal – The contractor has demobilized from the site and travel lanes were restored in early September. The City is working with MassDOT, the contractor, design team, and other stakeholders to consider design alternatives to the current design. The current expectation is that construction will start back up in spring 2020. Updates will be provided as they become available.
5. Pawtucket Street over Pawtucket Canal – currently underway for utility relocation. The TMP is in place, closing the lane for one lane of traffic inbound to Lowell. Detour signs are in place at Broadway and Walker Street. Bridge completion is anticipated by April 2022, which is also the anticipated date for the entire program complete.

VFW/Aiken Street Intersection and Rt 113/Mammoth Road Improvements: Final paving has been completed. Punchlist work remains to be completed.

VFW Bridge Replacement over the Beaver Brook: This work includes full bridge replacement (both sub and super structure replacements). The contractor is working on the substructure of the bridge. Phase 1, which includes the completion of the first half of the bridge closest to the Merrimack River, is anticipated to be completed by summer/fall 2020. Phase 2, which will include the second half of the bridge replacement, is anticipated to be completed by summer/fall 2021. Lane shifts on VFW are in place for Phase 1 and will be in place for Phase 2.

Lord Overpass: The City is reviewing bids and project funding. At this time, construction is anticipated to begin in spring 2020. It is anticipated that most of the construction work will be completed at night and project duration is anticipated to be 36-40 months.

Route 38 Improvements: MassDOT's contractor, J. Tropeano, has started utility work. Drainage structures, utility work, and traffic signal conduit will be installed in 2019 and continuing into 2020. The sidewalks, curbing and masonry wall will be built in 2020. The final paving courses, signage and landscaping will be installed in 2021. The anticipated construction duration is 25 months with project completion scheduled for September 2021.

HCID Garage: Shawmut Construction has started site and foundation work. Delivery of Reinforced Concrete (RC) panels to construct the parking garage will begin in the winter of 2019/2020. Expect minimal traffic delays at Dutton and Broadway as traffic will be stopped to allow delivery trucks (85' lengths) to use the intersection. The anticipated construction duration is 18 months with project completion scheduled for October 2020.

Beaver Street over Beaver Brook Bridge: Per MassDOT's recommendation, the City has closed the bridge to vehicular traffic as a result of recent findings in a bridge inspection report. The bridge is open to cyclist and pedestrian traffic. Localized or short term repairs are not feasible. A design consultant is developing bid documents for a bridge superstructure replacement and substructure repair. Depending on the availability of funds, the City anticipates construction beginning in spring 2020 and being completed in spring 2021. The bridge is expected to remain closed in the interim.

Lowell Connector Bridge Deck Replacement over Industrial Ave East: MassDOT's contractor, S&R Construction, will begin bridge rehabilitation work beginning in November 2019. The Project is anticipated to be completed by the summer of 2021. Any proposed traffic management plans or detours are being reviewed with the City and will be made available to the public once finalized.

Walker Street Bridge Repairs: MassDOT recently completed bridge deck rehabilitation on the Walker Street Bridge between Waugh Street and West Adams Street.

City-Wide Roadway and Sidewalk Improvement Projects: In addition to above mentioned projects, the City has two roadway and sidewalk improvement contracts underway. Work will stop for the winter and resume in the spring and summer 2020. The City's contractor, P.J Keating, is working on the following streets: Belmont Ave, Butler Drive, Carriage Drive, Clithroe Street, Evergreen Road, Heritage Drive, Mansur Street, Nob Way, Old Canal Drive, O'Neil Street, Sanborn Street, Starr Avenue, Vaughn Street, Warren Court, and Wyman Street.

The City's contractor, Newport Construction, will be completing work on the following streets: Highland Street, Dummer Street, Suffolk Street, Perkins Street, Hildreth Street, Birch Street, Sycamore Street, Wentworth Ave, Hovey Street, Williams Street, Arthur Street, Hutchinson Street, and Liberty Street.

Two other roadway improvement projects include city-wide miscellaneous paving and bridge deck paving projects. The city-wide miscellaneous paving project will be worked on this Fall and will continue into spring 2020. The bridge deck paving repair project will be completed in the spring/summer of 2020.

National Grid Gas Main Replacement: National Grid continues to complete gas main replacement throughout the City. This work will continue into the winter 2019/2020, weather dependent. Current streets where gas main replacement is occurring includes Rogers Street, Hazel Street, Chelmsford Street, Liberty Street, Middlesex Street, Nelson Street, Thornclif Street, Stevens Street, Bond Street, Hutchinson Street, Mount Hope Street, Fifth Avenue, Sixth Avenue, Seventh Avenue, and Lakeview Ave, and Pine Street (This is not an all-inclusive list).

Other Miscellaneous Infrastructure Projects: In addition to the above mentioned projects, there is ongoing utility work by municipal and private utility companies. Traffic management considerations for these smaller projects are evaluated in conjunction with the larger projects mentioned above.

**Construction within the ROW will be permitted through the end of November. The last date to obtain permits is November 15<sup>th</sup>. Necessary work within the ROW beyond December 1<sup>st</sup> requires permission from the DPW Commissioner and is weather permitting.**

NV/ns

cc: Ralph Snow, DPW Commissioner  
Claire Ricker, DPD Chief Design Planner