

Victoria F. Sheehan Commissioner

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



William Cass, P.E. Assistant Commissioner

July 19, 2021

Re: Statewide 43062

Planning Board Chair Mark Avery 13 Town Hall Road Madbury, NH 03823

Dear Mr. Avery:

The NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT) is planning the subject resurfacing project on 10.8 miles of Tier 2 roadways located in the Towns of Dover, Durham, Lee, Madbury, Rochester, and Rollinsford. The purpose of the project is to preserve the existing roadway and prevent a more expensive repair from being needed in near future. Project activities include various pavement treatments, adjusting catch basins within the existing pavement limits, gravel shoulder leveling, upgrades of sidewalk tipdown units to meet current ADA requirements, replacing plug joints on bridges, and pavement markings. The need for upgrades to guardrail, existing drainage structures, and signage is under review and may also be included. Attached is a location map. All proposed work is within the State right-of-way.

Engineering studies have been initiated to refine the scope and limits of work necessary for this project. The Department's Bureau of Environment is in the process of evaluating the potential environmental impacts associated with the project. To assist in this evaluation, I am asking that you notify me of any concerns relative to the project's potential impacts on environmental, social, economic, or cultural resources, such as wetlands, historic properties, and invasive plant species.

Some transportation projects require mitigation for possible wetland/stream impacts. The natural resources in this project area have not yet been identified and investigations are forthcoming. Preliminary engineering studies have begun and the Department will attempt to avoid, and minimize impacts through design before determining if there will be any stream or wetland impacts that may require mitigation. *As a proactive measure the Department would like to request a list of the Town's preferred/priority mitigation efforts that the Department may evaluate and consider undertaking if it is determined that the project does in fact require mitigation. Please let us know if your Town has identified such priorities.* In the absence of any Town priorities to evaluate the Department will pursue permittee responsible mitigation through the Stream Passage Improvement Program (SPIP). If it's determined that no viable options exist through the SPIP, the Department will pursue a payment into the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund (ARM Fund), at which time those funds will become competitively available through the ARM fund grant process.

As such, does the Town have a list of priority mitigation efforts (Top 10 Priority List) that the DOT may evaluate and consider undertaking if it is determined that the project does in fact require mitigation? If so, please provide the list. (e.g. problematic culvert/bridge crossings, land protection, habitat restoration, etc.)

The tentative advertising date for this project is October 5, 2021. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or require further information regarding the project. This letter has been sent to the Planning Board, Historical Society, Conservation Commission, and Board of Selectmen.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Kenglyon

Kerry Ryan Environmental Analyst Kerry.ryan@dot.nh.gov

S:\Environment\PROJECTS\STATEWIDE\43062\Iniital Contact Letters\Madbury\planning.docx

. . . .

