

ON THE MOVE

New Hampshire Department of Transportation Newsletter



Winter 2023



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Thank You NHDOT Employees!

We all know that the last several years have been challenging. COVID-19 and remote work, new software programs (Share Point, WOFL), historic vacancy rates and many retirements have added work to everyone throughout the department. Despite all that, I am encouraged and impressed by everything that has been accomplished and that you all have found a way to get done!

This issue of the *On the Move* highlights just some of the more significant calendar year (2022) accomplishments.

Specifically:

- Our Division of Project Development often leads the way for the NHDOT. Our project leaders in bridge design, highway design, and planning & community assistance turn ideas into plans that become new intersections, safe routes to schools, roundabouts, safer roads, and wider bridges and highways.
- Our Division of Aeronautics, Rail and Transit continues to work on projects that are essential to travelers in and out of New Hampshire. The NHDOT is multi modal and busses, trains and airports are key parts to our transportation system.
- Our Division of Operations is ready 24/7, 365 days a year. The crews plow in the winter, apply pavement markings in the summer, maintain and preserve bridges, signs, signals, ITS devices, vehicles, culverts, guardrail and much more. We manage and operate the Transportation system that provides travelers with real-time information and collects tolls. This newsletter includes only a small slice of what they have accomplished in 2022.

- Our Division Policy and Administration continues to excel. Filling positions throughout the Department has been challenging and they have embraced new ideas that have led to new hires. The audit and policy teams and the Office of Federal Compliance continue to build on earlier successes.
- The Division of Finance has lost some key people but that has not slowed them down. We are fortunate to have people that are stepping up to complete normal work and push through new initiatives that will improve work-flows.

The NHDOT has a great team of people that show up every day and get things done and I am very proud of what we have accomplished in 2022.

As Commissioner I am looking forward to the year ahead.

I believe we have overcome many challenges because we have dedicated people in every bureau and district. We have succeeded because we have prioritized and focused on what we can accomplish and have worked together and supported each other. I encourage everyone to do the best you can and to have faith in the mission of NHDOT and our leadership - we are making progress!

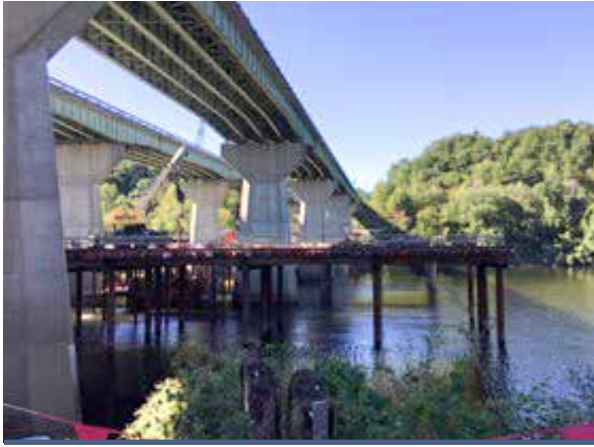
I am confident that 2023 will be the year that we rebuild our teams and grow the best asset we have – our people. Keep up the good work, we got this.

Proud to be, NHDOT!

Bill Cass, NHDOT Commissioner

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT



The bureaus of the Division of Project Development work together throughout the year to plan, engineer, advertise and construct a wide variety of transportation projects. Project leaders in the design bureaus manage a process that includes public meetings and many internal meetings involving design, utilities and traffic considerations, and bicycle and pedestrian needs. Each leader manages an average of 40 projects – many that require intensive environmental and right of way reviews.

Bridge Design Bureau

- Improvements to 35 bridges were included in 16 separate projects.
- Performed 2,300 bridge inspections
- State Red List total was reduced by 4, to 114

Highway Design Bureau

- Advertised 80 Projects for construction with a Total Contract Value of \$286M.
- Advertised 24 paving projects valued at \$110M.

Environment Bureau

- Processed 89 environmental reviews and monitored more than 50 construction projects and maintenance activities for environmental compliance.

Planning and Community Assistance Bureau

- Completed the NH 2023-2032 Ten-Year Plan (for projects to be developed) and updated the 2021-24 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).
- Oversaw development and expansion of tablet-based GIS Asset Collection and Management devices and software for collection of sidewalks, culverts, guardrail and other assets.

Right of Way Bureau

- Negotiated with 44 property owners affected by Department projects, while avoiding the use of eminent domain powers in 82% of those cases.

- Completed sales of surplus property for a total of \$4,304,855 of revenue to the Highway Fund, Turnpike fund, and Railroad fund.

Material & Research Bureau

- Completed over 3,000 tests on materials.
- Brought a new data collection truck into service and collected/processed 2,250 miles of existing pavement data.

Construction Bureau

- Oversight on 84 active projects – Total combined value, \$750M. Work on I-89 Lebanon - Hartford bridge, I-93 Exit 4A in Derry, and the Everett Turnpike projects have made great progress.



2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The bureaus and districts of the division of operations work to maintain and repair a wide variety of road issues that develop during and after heavy rain and snowstorms throughout the year.

The following pages include just a few of the projects they completed in 2022.

District 1 Accomplishments

The district replaced and installed 3,425 linear feet of drainage, including approximately 600 feet of closed drainage on NH Route 142 in Bethlehem.

The district also replaced over 13,000 linear feet of guardrail and completed 41 miles of ditching work.

District 2 Accomplishments



The district replaced the Closed Drainage System (northbound) on Main Street in Newport.

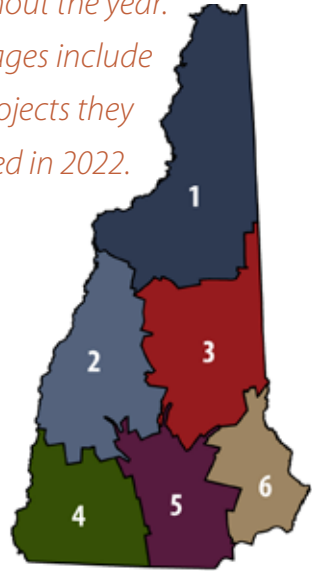
The district also repaired approximately 60 linear feet of retaining wall on NH Route 135 in Bath in the "Narrows", see cover photo. Bridge Maintenance

formed and installed rebar and placed the concrete slab that capped the retaining wall.

District 3 Accomplishments

Ossipee, NH Intersection of Route 16&171 and Granite Road-Safety Improvements

This high-speed intersection had a history of accidents associated with left turning movements from NH 16 to NH 171 and Granite Road. The NH Route 16 Corridor Safety Assessment completed by the Lakes Region Planning Commission (June 2015) recommended construction of exclusive left turn lanes on NH 16 to improve safety. District 3 engineered and constructed the widening of NH Route 16 approaching the intersection (both northbound and southbound) to accommodate exclusive left turning lanes while maintaining the existing exclusive right turn lanes. After the widening was completed, the intersection was overlaid and pavement markings were applied as part of the Statewide District 3 Project 43061. All work was completed within the State's right-of-way.



Sandwich, NH Route 113 Twin Culvert Replacement

Project - District 3 replaced two failed 15-inch corrugated metal pipe (CMP) culverts with two 15-inch reinforced concrete pipe (RCP) culverts with headwalls. Failure of the two CMP culverts caused sinkholes on NH Route 113 at an environmentally sensitive area surrounded by wetlands, prime wetlands, and a FEMA designated flood plain. The project area was also adjacent to the Thompson Wildlife Sanctuary. Challenges included a low roadway profile in an area that is predominantly submerged, which contributed to the failure of the CMP culverts. Also, culvert replacements had to be completed ahead of the Holderness-Tamworth 43528 resurfacing project. District 3 was able to secure a full standard wetland permit to engineer and replace the crossing on schedule and ahead of the resurfacing project.

North Conway, NH Sloped Culvert Replacement

Project - District 3 replaced 75 feet of failed 24-inch CMP



NH Route 113 after construction of twin 15-Inch RCP culverts with headwalls.

down a 2:1 slope on town property in North Conway. The existing manhole on the slope was beginning to undermine and starting to list to the west. The pipe is an outfall for a small closed drainage system on NH Route 16 as well as stormwater from a portion of Memorial Hospital on the opposite side of NH Route 16. Maintenance crews replaced the pipe on the steep slope with 18-inch corrected plastic pipe donated by District 5.

District 4 Accomplishments

District 4 replaced 25 drainage culverts in advance of this year's scheduled resurfacing contracts.

The district also

- Successfully coordinated field staff to assist the Bureau of Traffic, Bureau of Materials & Research and Bureau of Bridge Maintenance complete several projects.
- Supplemented the Department's Paving Resurfacing Program on NH Route 101 in Dublin, and on NH Route 123 in Peterborough.

District 5 Accomplishments

- Completed the majority of site work for the Manchester 527 Patrol Shed.
- Performed significant repairs to the backwalls of the salt storage structures at Patrol Sheds 525 and 527

District 6 Accomplishments



Two thousand feet of dated cable and creosoted wood posts were replaced with Nu-Guard posts and standard "W" beam rail. Four SoftStop terminal units were also installed. Route 108 was closed



at the project location where the two bridges cross over the railroad at Rockingham.

CWS Fence & Guardrail was the guardrail contractor with District Six patrol crew 609 playing a major support role.



The district replaced a 42-inch RCP under NH Route 108 in Dover. The work required a four-day road closure with utility coordination.



The Turnpikes Bureau also repaired or replaced 35 locations of damaged guardrail/terminals utilizing Statewide Contract, Betterment Funds, and the Operating Budget.

Transportation Systems Management and Operations (TSMO) Accomplishments

The Bureau completed a new Tri-State Advance Transportation Management System-New England Compass Contract - This includes Software Modernization, ESRI/GIS Features, Sync with NHDOT's Linear Referencing System, statewide Probe Data and enhanced cybersecurity requirements.

Deployed an improved New Traveler Information System - NewEngland511.org provides up to the minute traffic and transit information for New England.

The bureau also integrated 24 traffic signals on the ITS network for remote control by traffic signal technicians and viewing by specific TSMO supervisors.

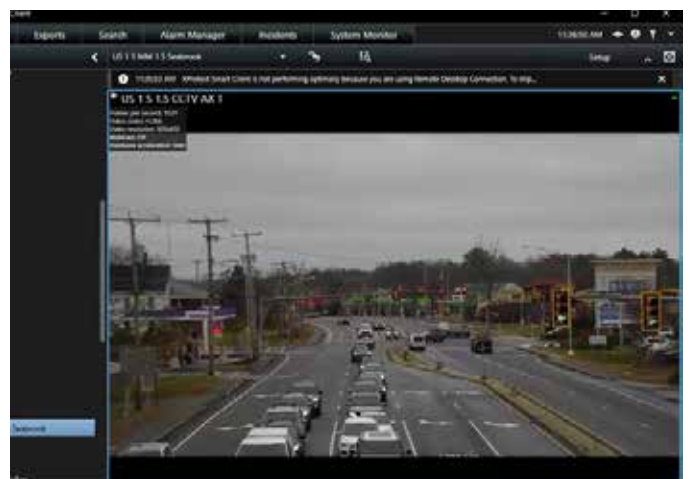


Constructed two new 3-Bay Spreader Hangers at the 610 Rye and 613 Kingston Patrol Sheds.



Turnpikes Accomplishments

Dover/Rochester Switch over to All Electronic Tolling (AET). All-Electronic Tolling, is a booth-less, cashless tolling system that allows vehicles to travel through a tolling area at the full speed limit. The Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) is a process that evaluates the equipment during and after the assembly process by verifying that it is built and operating in accordance with design specifications. The tests were done in Texas and AET will begin this summer.

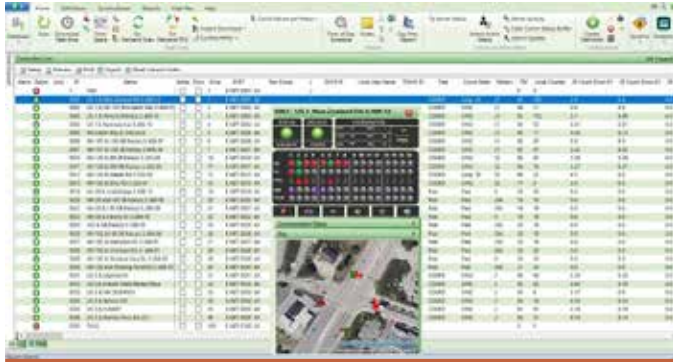


Bureau of Traffic Accomplishments

Traffic Signal Asset Management and the Implementation of ATMS - The NHDOT now has the ability to manage traffic signal assets from a base location. The work required significant coordination with, and contributions from the bureaus of AMPS, TSMO, and with the NH Department of Information Technology.

Successfully Addressed the FHWA Corrective Action Plan (CAP) Related to Our Traffic Monitoring System

NHDOT staff needed to assess the current condition, and then develop and implement a plan of action. In just a few short months, the bureau advertised projects to replace existing Weigh In Motion systems, adding one additional



site. We also advertised projects to add 23 new vehicle classification sites and to replace or add 51 traffic volume count stations. The bureau is also working with TSMO and AMPS to identify department-wide traffic data needs and available resources in an effort to improve efficiency and to take advantage of current data resource technology. Lastly, the bureau took the lead role in a regional traffic monitoring work group, hosting an FHWA training session attended by states from as far away as Illinois.

The engineering staff successfully supported the increased capital program, including projects funded through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)/ Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) while integrating new personnel with virtually no traffic engineering experience.

Highway Maintenance Accomplishments

The Bureau received reimbursements of \$1,558,374.38 from Federal Emergency Relief Funds for storm damage caused by the July 2021 Storms.

Issued 47,623 Oversize/Overweight (OS/OW) Permits generating \$383,782 on Permit Income. 63.1% of OS/OW permits were self-issued. Prior to the new OSOW permitting system, no permits were self-issued.



Bridge Maintenance Accomplishments

Removed three bridges from the Department Red List and replaced the Route 202 bridge deck and superstructure in Barrington.

Completed 12 bridge Preservation and Rehabilitation Projects:

- Bearing preservation Ashland 066/127 and New Hampton 134/051
- Goffstown 054/116 Concrete invert
- Wentworth 147/136 Deck preservation
- Franconia 085/104 Deck Replacement
- Jefferson 127/077 Expansion joint replacement and girder end preservation



- Monroe 110/125 Deck preservation/Epoxy deck overlay
- Tamworth 150/105 Deck preservation/Epoxy deck overlay
- Sanbornton 127/099 CB preservation
- Westmoreland RR Arch Rehab
- Columbia 233/128 and Campton 108/058 abutment toe wall undermine repairs



Mechanical Services Accomplishments

The Bureau transitioned our Fleet Management System (M5) to the new Fleet Anywhere (FA) System (also known as WOFI).

The Bureau also deployed 66 employee I-pads to streamline work order information, and constructed and deployed 21 new plow trucks.

The bureau started the assembly of 52 plow trucks to be placed into service next year, all while reviving many existing trucks.



Bureau of Human Resources

Personnel within the Bureau of Human Resources develop and implement programs that support the recruitment, selection, development, and maintenance of a workforce capable to safely, effectively and efficiently meet the mission of the Department. The Bureau has five sections; Workforce Planning and Development, Core Business Transactions, Risk Management, Occupational Safety & Health and Administration.

Major accomplishments in FY 2022 included:

- Conducted 172 workplace safety audits
- Processed 2600 applications, 4400 personnel transactions, and 265 FMLA cases
- Offered 350 wellness activities
- The Bureau has been at the front line of the COVID-19 pandemic since March of 2020. While HR's regular workload continued, HR also became responsible for implementing statewide and DOT specific guidance as well as field employee and supervisor questions related to COVID.

Division of Finance and Contracts

The Division of Finance and Contracts provides management of encumbrances, payment of invoices, billings and receipt of payments, and payroll processing. The division also provides financial programming and management of the FHWA program; the on-going management of the agency budget; preparation and coordination of the G&C and Fiscal items; audit preparation and management prequalification, advertising, bidding and awarding of agency projects; and print shop services for the agency.

In addition the Finance & Contracts Division also had the following major accomplishments.

- Initiated, coordinated, and completed a \$100M refunding of Turnpike Series B & C Bonds resulting in value savings of \$6.2M on future payments;
- Made available an additional \$32.9M of Federal Funds through project closures and funding release;
- Coordinated efforts to minimize project inactivity resulting in a rate of 0.83%, significantly lower than the Federal maximum threshold of 2%.
- Advertised, bid and awarded 65 NHDOT construction projects
- Produced plans, proposals and project specification books for 65 Project Development construction projects totaling \$270M, and 25 Public Works projects totaling \$63M.

2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



The Division of Aeronautics, Rail & Transit is comprised of two bureaus: (1) the Bureau of Aeronautics that works to support the state's 25 airports, heliports, and aviation users and (2) the Bureau of Rail & Transit that supports public transit, commuter and intercity bus, and specialized transportation providers as well as railroad operators, whether operating on state-owned or privately-owned railroad lines.

Aeronautics Bureau

- **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) (Drone) Program** became fully operational. The Bureau works with other State agencies regarding UAS use and regulatory matters. The Department currently owns four UAS aircraft that have a wide range of capabilities and functions for specific mission requests.
- **Jaffrey Runway** – A joint State/Local project to repave the Jaffrey runway was completed. The airfield was built in 1946 to serve Jaffrey and the surrounding area and turned "75" in 2020. It has not been repaved since 1960-61. Despite heroic and ongoing patch and repair efforts, the old pavement has reached a point well past its useful life.

Rail Bureau

- Detailed culvert inspections and data collection were completed on 2,400 culverts on state-owned railroad corridors with resulting data being managed in SADES **(Statewide Asset Data Exchange System - Culvert inspection program)**. This railroad culvert data has allowed staff to identify culverts in need of critical repair so that existing funding can be appropriately prioritized these critical repairs.
- Repairs to several late 1800s railroad bridges to restore to full freight loading capacity. Managed to accomplish this with no loss time in moving existing freight.



- Completed the State Rail Trails Plan – This plan details the successes achieved over the last several years.

Transit Bureau

- Continued to support public transit providers and commuter and intercity bus operators with Federal recovery funds as commuter and travel behavior and ridership continues to adjust.
- The Bureau is working to create a statewide mobility management network that endeavors to improve the coordination, capacity, accessibility, quality, and sustainability of mobility services statewide. Mobility management is an approach to designing and delivering transportation services that starts and ends with the customer. It begins with a community vision in which the entire transportation network—public transit, private operators, volunteer driver programs, etc.—works together with customers, planners, and stakeholders to deliver the transportation options that best meet the community's needs.



Personnel Updates

New Hires:

Gene C. Lozey - Tpk-Dover Maintenance
Jeffrey A. Simons - Mechanical Div-Ossipee
Miles A. Collette - District 3, Crew 9
Adam R. Doucette - Traffic Pave Marking
Richard A. Quintal - District 5, Crew 14
Bailey P. Couture - District 1, Crew 8
Colin E. Ferguson - Highway Design
Leo E. Lavoie - District 1, Crew 2
Kevin J. Barclay - District 1, Crew 2
Patricia A. Murdoch - Finance And Contracts
Miguel D. Picanco - District 2, Crew 20
Jordan A. Roode - District 3, Crew 16
Jonathan L. Sawyer - District 4, Crew 15
Ryan H. O'Leary - District 2, Crew 7
Hayden H. Gonyer - District 1, Crew 4
Riley M. Reed - District 3, Crew 16
Ryan C. Reera - District 6, Do 20
Rhona C. Thomson - Environment
Bruce R. Brun - District 4, Crew 7
Vincent L. McCants - Highway Design
Ryan P. Linehan - TSMO Dispatch Operations
Christeen B. Sadek - Fuel Distribution
Natassia S. Simons - Turnpikes-Hooksett
Caitlin A. Twomey - Right Of Way
Gisela B. Weber - Right Of Way
Cody J. Oliphant - Commissioners Office

Promotions

Matthew Heath - Highway Maintainer III, D2
Teri Tie - Administrative Secretary, Hwy Maintenance
Paul Phelan - Asst Highway Patrol Foreman, District 2
Levi Byers - Senior Engineer, Bridge Maintenance
Gary Morrison - Asst Highway Patrol Foreman, D6
John Micciche - Highway Maintainer III, District 1
Rocco Russell - Warehouse Superintendent, Mech Svs
Marc Cotnoir - Supervisor III, District 3
Scott Nielson - Highway Maintainer III, District 3
Brian Tibbetts - Highway Maintainer III, District 1
Stephen Lowe - Eng Tech IV, Construction/Eng Audit
Jennifer Lane - Program Spec II, Commissioner's Office
James Sullivan - Asst Highway Patrol Foreman, D2
John Stockton - Civil Engineer V, Bridge Design
Jay Gehrig - Eng Tech IV, Construction/Eng Audit
Jeremy Breton - Eng Tech IV, Construction/Eng Audit
Ronald Dimambro - Highway Maintainer III, District 5

Jeremie Marquis - Asst Hwy Patrol Foreman, District 1
Amanda Furlong - Program Assistant II, Turnpikes
Brent Medas - Highway Patrol Foreman, District 3
Joseph Bolduc - Bridge Const Foreman, Bridge Maint
Benjamin Demers - Traffic Signal Technician IV, Traffic
Thomas Dupere - Highway Maintainer III, District 6
Emery Myshrall - Highway Maintainer III, District 6
Corey Matthews - Highway Maintainer III, District 5
Raymond Beaudoin - Highway Patrol Foreman, D5
Hunter Harris - Highway Maintainer II, District 1
Jessica Barton - Bldg Cleaning Wkrs I, District 2
Jeff Lacroix - Highway Maintainer II, District 4
Andrew Pacuk - Right of Way Agent II, Right of Way
Brian Mason - Highway Maintainer II, District 2
David Silvia - Civil Engineer III, District 3
Wendy Webb - Program Spec. I, Commissioner's Office
John Scully - Highway Maintainer II, District 6
Jeffrey Matthew - Highway Maintainer II, District 3
Cody Eastman - Bridge Maintainer III, Bridge Maint
Lucas Zalenski - Highway Maintainer II, District 5
Timothy Mallette - Civil Engineer V, Highway Design
Sally Gunn - Civil Engineer VI, Planning & Comm Assist
Gregory Tedeschi - CE V, Construction/Eng Audit

Retirees:

David Bernier - Traffic (35)
Ted Bennetter - Right-Of-Way (33)
Caleb Dobbins - Highway Maintenance (33)
John Leonard - District 4 (31)
Michael Boylan - District 5 (27)
Fran Buczynski - Commissioner's Office (27)
Darryl Peasley - District 5 (18)
Robert Hudson - Planning & Community Assist (12)
Ronald Descheneau - Turnpikes (10)
Charles Corliss - Turnpikes (8)
Lynne Albee - Turnpikes (6)

Service Awards

5 Years:

Larisa Djuvelek-Ruggiero - Federal Labor Compliance
David A. Cloutier - District 4
Bramwell H. Hepburn - Bridge Maintenance
Jarrett T. Hansen - Construction/Eng Audit
Ryan D. Nickerson - Construction/Eng Audit
Ryan K. Worsman - Highway Maintenance
Ryan E. Andersen - Traffic

10 Years:

Kenneth G. Savell - Traffic
Peter E. Powers - District 2

15 Years:

Jillian L. Edelmann - Environment
Greg R. Lingley - District 5
Frederick J. Butler - Rail & Transit
Lee R. Savary - TSMO
Wayne B. Beaupre - Turnpikes
Matthew L. Labrake - AMPS

20 Years:

George M. Pearce - Bridge Maintenance
Martin L. Wilson - Mechanical Services
Eric S. Thibodeau - Materials & Research
Del O. Cass - Bridge Maintenance
Richard J. Cahoon Jr - District 6

25 Years:

Linda J. Ferguson - Bridge Maintenance
Milton A. Norcross - District 3
Arvid P. Bacon - Turnpikes
Wendy C. Webb - Federal Labor Compliance

30 Years:

William E. Watson Jr - Planning & Community Assist
Thomas D. Clement - Bridge Design
Marc S. Brodeur - District 1
Glenn L. Davison - Planning & Community Assist
Jonathan A. Hebert - Highway Design
Mark W. Marshall - Construction/Eng Audit
Lysa R. Bennet-Crouch - Highway Design

NHDOT People



Ted Kitsis, Construction Administrator; retired after 38 years of service.



Director of Policy and Administration **Fran Buczynski** retired after almost 28 years of Service.



Shawn Murphy - Civil Engineer III (Audit Supervisor); with NHDOT retired after 38 years of service.



Highway Maintenance Engineer **Caleb Dobbins** retired after 30 years of Service.



Mike Soper – Retired with 35 years of service. Mike worked in Highway Design and then in Planning & Community Assistance.



Jim Irwin - has retired after 39 years at NHDOT. He started his career in Construction, moved to Highway Design, and then ended in Planning doing GIS.



Arvid Bacon, Turnpikes Bureau, recently received his certificate and pin for 25 years of State Service.



Wendy Web, Office of Federal Compliance, recently received her certificate and pin for 25 years of State Service.

Committed to

Excellence, Safety,

Innovation, and

the Future...

Around the NHDOT

New Directors at the NHDOT

For those that don't know the NHDOT has several new Directors, all with many years of NHDOT experience.

Alexis Martin is the new Director of Policy and Administration. Alexis joined the Department in 2005 and most recently held the position of Bureau Administrator of Human Resources.



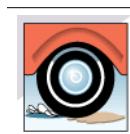
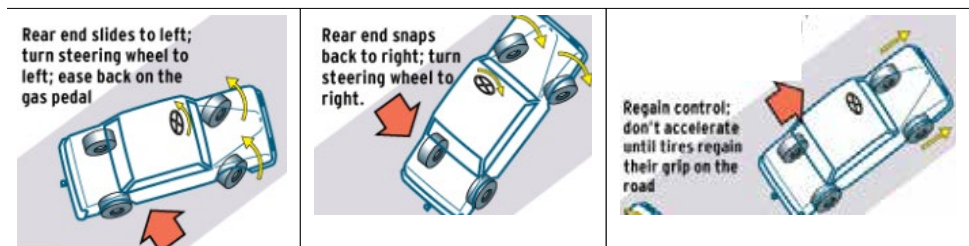
Danielle Chandonnet is the new Director of Finance. Danielle was the Bureau Administrator of Finance and has been with the NHDOT for 7+ years.

Shelley Winters is the new Director of Aeronautics, Rail and Transit. Shelley was the Bureau Administrator in the Bureau of Rail & Transit for 10 years and has 22+ years of NHDOT experience.

Safety Note: Road Ice

Road ice forms when the air temperature is warmer than the pavement. Moisture freezes quickly and creates a thin, invisible layer of ice.

- ✓ Occurs more often at night, early morning and in shaded areas.
 - ✓ Leave room: stopping distance is about nine times greater on ice!
 - ✓ Never brake while driving on ice. Pass over the ice; keep your wheels straight.
- If your vehicle starts to swerve:



Getting rolling:
If you are stuck, be patient! Dig as much as you can from the wheel area. Use sand, cat litter, etc. for traction. Start in 2nd gear; avoid spinning the wheels. **Be aware of traffic!**



Stopping a slide:
For anti-lock brakes, continuous firm pressure is recommended. If you don't have anti-lock brakes, pump the brake pedal as rapidly as possible. If the brakes lock, immediately ease the pressure until the front tires begin turning again.

Governor:
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Commissioners:
Bill Cass

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www.nh.gov/dot

Cover: Bridge Maintenance and District 2 Crews rehab the "Narrows" on Route 135 in Bath.