



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

January 13, 2020

The Honorable John R. Cloutier
Chairman
House Public Works and Highways Committee
Legislative Office Building
33 North State Street, Room 201
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Chairman Cloutier:

Pursuant to RSA 228:99 and RSA 240 of the Laws of New Hampshire, enclosed are two copies of the draft 2021-2030 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan (Ten Year Plan) for the State of New Hampshire.

The Department of Transportation ("NHDOT") first met with the Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation ("GACIT") on June 19, 2019, to kick off the update of the 2021-2030 Ten Year Plan process. GACIT members were updated and informed about federal funding challenges and issues, including the importance of articulating NH's needs, how to best solicit and receive input from our citizens and constituents, and provided a general status of the transportation network and condition.

NHDOT presented a financially constrained Ten Year Plan for 2021-2030 on August 14, 2019, for GACIT consideration, focusing on preservation, maintenance, and safety of the existing pavement and bridge infrastructure throughout the state, along with maintaining investments for transit, rail and aeronautics priorities. This plan also identified investments in active transportation projects across New Hampshire.

GACIT held twenty (20) public hearings throughout the state in September and October, received over 400 comments at the Hearings, and an online survey was made available at the same time. Over 1600 online surveys were completed. NHDOT met with GACIT on November 6, 2019, to summarize the online survey, to present specific requests heard at the 20 public Hearings with Department recommendations to address those requests, and to present new CMAQ projects to be included as part of the recently completed application process. The Department then met with each of the GACIT members individually to review the comments in each Council District. On November 25, 2019, GACIT met to provide direction to NHDOT about which projects and changes they wanted to be addressed in the Plan, and identified items to bring to my attention and that of the Legislature.

GACIT adopted the draft 2021-2030 Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan and forwarded it to me for my consideration and input.

At the conclusion of the GACIT phase, one project that had not been deliberated received a lot of attention, the renumbering of state highway exits. Exit numbers are a point of pride for many of us in New Hampshire, and the exits we use say something about us and our communities. Changing exit numbers is unnecessarily burdensome for business owners and citizens, as the State already uses mile markers along the highways for reference by travelers. Accordingly, I have removed this project (Statewide 40915) from my version of the draft Ten Year Plan.

In this draft Ten Year Plan NHDOT, GACIT, and my office have worked to fully fund prior Ten Year Plan commitments such as corridor improvements on NH 106 (Loudon -Canterbury), NH 16 (Dummer - Cambridge - Errol) and US 2 (Jefferson - Randolph), and I-93 Exit 4A (Derry - Londonderry). However, it is important to continue focusing on the preservation, maintenance, and safety of the existing pavement and bridge infrastructure throughout the state. To accommodate both of these strategies, and due to favorable current low-interest rates in financing, this draft Plan increased federal GARVEE bonding. In addition, state GO bonding has been proposed to advance municipal bridge projects currently enrolled in the State Aid Bridge Program.

In all, this is a financially constrained plan that identifies and addresses the transportation priorities that best align with the public input received from citizens, Regional Planning Commissions, and transportation stakeholders. I hereby present this recommended update to the Ten Year Plan for 2021-2030. As you review the Plan document and other supporting information, both my staff and NHDOT staff are available for any input you feel is needed.

Sincerely,



Christopher T. Sununu
Governor

Enclosures

1. Governor's Recommendations for the Ten Year Transportation Improvement Plan 2021-2030

cc: The Honorable Stephen Shurtleff, Speaker of the House
The Honorable Donna Soucy, President of the Senate
Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation