

## Town Manager's Report

Monday, June 29, 2009

**To: Board of Selectmen**  
**From Douglas Meagher, Acting Town Manager**

### *Public Works Matters*

- **Crosby's Corner TIP Project** - Concord Public Works staff and Town of Lincoln representatives received notification from the Central Transportation Planning staff that some members of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) have requested MPO Planning staff submit a FY 2010 - FY 2013 TIP amendment for review with an option to both include and NOT include the Crosby's Corner Project. The intent is likely to determine which projects may be potentially constructed with the funding currently dedicated to the Crosby's Corner project. A discussion is planned during the MPO meeting scheduled for July 9 at 10:00 AM at the State Transportation Building. Lincoln has contacted the legislative delegation and other stakeholders to request support and attendance at the July 9 meeting. CPW is planning on attending the July 9 meeting as well.
- **Main Street (Route 62 Footprint Project)** - MassHighway contractor EH Perkins has completed the installation of the erosion control for the project. The contractor has largely completed clearing and grubbing and tree removal within the limits of work. Work is now focused on the construction of the retaining wall to the west of the Starmet site. Drainline is on site and drainage work is scheduled to begin however this is dependent on the arrival of the manhole structures. Below is the projected sequence and status of construction activities.
  1. installation of the required erosion and siltation control barriers. (completed)
  2. installation of signage and staging of the project (on-going)
  3. survey work to establish the limits of the project (completed)
  4. clearing and grubbing within the limit of work line (largely completed)
  5. construction of the various retaining walls along the roadway (on-going)
  6. removal and replacement or improvement of drainage structures and outfalls (possibly commence week of 6/29/09)
  7. roadway reconstruction and resurfacing between the Assabet River at the Acton town line to approximately Water Street to the east
- **Pine Street Bridge** - Mass Highway's project contractor, MAS Building and Bridge, installed final top course pavement to the bridge project's limits the week of June 1. CPW will install final course pavement on Pine Street and Upland Road the over the next 2 weeks. This will complete the pavement work within this area. Remaining bridge work

includes the installation of the deck's railing. The bridge is anticipated to be reopened prior to the July 4 weekend.

- **Wheeler Road Culvert Replacement** - Concord Public Works will replace the failed culvert and headwall as part of the Verrill Farm water main extension being constructed by a private contractor. All permitting has been completed and installation of environmental controls is underway. Wheeler Road traffic is scheduled to be detoured at times during construction. This work will commence during the week of July 6.
- **Sleepy Hollow Deeds House Restoration** - Work is progressing on the Deeds building with roofing and new/refurbished windows and doors being installed. Roof insulation and wiring is almost complete. New water and sewer street connections have been made by Highway and Water and Sewer staff. Internal plumbing is scheduled to begin shortly. CPW was successful in securing the "Habitat for Humanity" crew from MCI Concord which is providing personnel for the roofing project as well as assisting with internal framing.
- **Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Alternative Fuel** - An informational meeting took place with National Grid & AVSG to discuss the feasibility of developing a CNG fueling station in Concord to be used by Concord's CPW fleet with the potential to expand to other departments. There are presently eleven CNG fueling stations in MA, most of which are public. Some CNG users in MA include MHD, MASSPORT & the MBTA. CPW has scheduled a meeting with School Department Transportation staff to discuss the CNG option. A full economic and environmental analysis will be conducted as part of this feasibility study.

## *Planning & Land Management Matters*

### Natural Resources

- **Old Powdermill Road Slope Failure:** Natural Resources received notification from DEP today that Leo Bertolami withdrew his appeal of the Order of Conditions and that the Order issued by the Commission is the Final Order. Mr. Bertolami has also signed a Notice of Intent application prepared by FTN (current owners of the former ESSCo site) for slope work in Acton. Approval of the Acton project would provide a comprehensive restoration of the slope failure rather than a steep wall at the Concord/ Acton town line. The NOI will be heard in Acton on July 1.
- **Nashoba Brooks School** - Natural Resources staff held a preconstruction meeting for the construction of four tennis courts and a multipurpose athletic field at the school. Construction is expected to begin next week. An existing garage to be demolished was instead gifted to the Town and relocated to Sleepy Hollow for use by CPW.
- **Wetlands Applications exceeding last years pace.** To date this year, the NRC has received 23 Notices of Intent (NOI) applications and 3 Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineations (ANRAD). Last year at this time the NRC had received 18 NOIs and 4 ANRADs.
- **Cousins Field** - This week, Conservation Crew completed shrub plantings at Cousins Field between the garden and abutters. Blueberries, bayberry, winterberry, and elderberry have replaced the invasive species of Norway maples, honeysuckle, bittersweet, and winged euonymus. The Crew will also be responsible to regularly weed this newly planted area.

### Planning

- **Town Building Energy Audit-** Senior Planner Julie Vaughan compiled the facility managers' edits into a revised document and met with Doug Meagher, Jon Harris and John Minty on Wednesday to discuss the edits. The revised document was emailed to the consultant, ADI, with a request that they revisit the 9 Town buildings included in the audit on Tuesday, July 21. In addition, Julie is coordinating a meeting between ADI and Keith Ingram of the CMLP prior to the July 21 site visit, to determine whether ADI's primary energy conservation measure recommendation, an Energy Management System, will work in conjunction with or be duplicated by Smart Grid.
- **Planning Board meeting-** Monday night the Planning Board voted to recommend that the ZBA approve a special permit for construction of a patio in the Flood Plain Conservancy District at 35 River Street. The Planning Board then heard a presentation on the Planned Residential Development at 506 Old Bedford Road but continued discussion on outstanding issues regarding architectural styles and ongoing groundwater

problems in that area of Town. The Planning Board also discussed a new preliminary plan submitted by Concord Wold for land at 110 Commerford Road, which shows a 15-lot subdivision with a nearly 2,000-foot long road, a second wetland crossing, a 10.8-acre open space lot and 7.46 acres of land to be permanently restricted for conservation purposes. The Planning Board was granted an extension of time from the Applicant to consider a reduced length of road, reduced number of lots and enhanced public benefits.

- **Bruce Freeman Rail Trail:** Mass Highway held a public hearing on the 25% design for the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail on June 25. There were approximately 40 - 50 people attending the meeting from Concord, Sudbury and Acton. Comments made were 2:1 against the design of the trail as submitted/reviewed, primarily from those who expressed opposition to the trail during the design process in 2007-08. Additional public comment on the 25% design can be submitted to Mass Highway by July 6 and should be considered to the extent possible in the next phase of design. Director Rasmussen attended the hearing and prepared a draft letter of support for consideration by the Board of Selectmen.
- **Historical Commission:** The digital documentation of the Samuel Hoar House, completed last winter by the BU Digital Imaging Program, was submitted to the Commission. The HC is very pleased with the quality of the photos, and will be giving them to the Library's Special Collections for archiving. The HC also received an update on the Caesar Robbins House at 324 Bedford Street, and reviewed an email sent to the Drinking Gourd project by an Old Manse volunteer questioning the age of the structure. The HC has agreed to ask Preservation Architect Larry Sorli to meet with them to view the house in order to confirm the construction date and answer these doubts. The HC had been asked to comment on the proposed playing fields on the Burke land and had no concerns about the proposal. The HC has also been asked to provide comments on the Town's Sign Bylaw as it is being reviewed by an appointed Review Task Force; the only potential concern raised at this time was whether it would impact the Historic Marker Program.

### Health

- **National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Annual Conference:** Public Health Director Brent Reagor, who serves as the National Co-Chair for Onsite Wastewater for NEHA, attended and participated in the Annual Conference this past week in Atlanta, GA. Brent moderated a "Hot Topics in Onsite Wastewater" discussion and represented local environmental health officials on a panel discussion of the role of wastewater technology product certification in the development of regulatory and management schemes for wastewater programs. During the conference, Brent also attended presentations from the CDC on the latest guidance related to the novel H1N1 influenza outbreak and had a tour of the CDC Emergency Operations Center. The conference was attended by almost 1,000 environmental health regulators, private sector employees, and Federal agency staff from across the United States and throughout the world; allowing for numerous opportunities in networking and idea sharing which will lead to stronger programs here in Concord.
- **Crisis Intervention Meeting:** A meeting was convened at 141 Keyes on Thursday afternoon to discuss necessary and available interventions from Town staff and departments for residents who become a risk to themselves or others. Attendees from the COA, Fire Department, Veterans' Services, Community Services, and the Health Division discussed individual roles, responsibilities, and regulatory pathways involved in the crisis response process. The meeting has already led to a strengthening of the integrated approach taken by the Town of Concord when assisting our at-risk residents.
- **Camps, Pools, and Onsite Systems (even in the rain):** Unbeknownst to Mother Nature, summer is in full swing at the Health Division. Inspectors Gabrielle White and Stan Sosnicki are spending their days in the field during one of the Health Division's busiest seasons of the year. Just this past week, 11 Day Camp programs had pre-opening inspections, 2 swimming pools opened, 3 beaches were tested for water quality, Nashoba Brooks Bakery had a final inspection on its expansion, soil testing prepared for the siting of 2 onsite wastewater systems, and another 10 onsite systems were under construction.

### Building and Inspections

- **New cell tower applicants:** This month staff will be receiving two new Board of Appeals special permit applications seeking to co-locate cell tower equipment. The first of these applications is to place equipment on the second cell tower (recently constructed), located on the Town of Concord property, at 400 Annursnac Hill Road. The second application is a request to place equipment on the existing monopole cell tower located at 200 Baker Avenue. This will be the third company located on this monopole.
- **Sign Bylaw Review Group:** The new Sign Bylaw Review Group met this week to start work on the sign bylaw. The group is comprised of Jeff Wieand, Marcia Rasmussen, Mark Bobrowski, Jim DiGiovanni and John Minty. The purpose of the Sign Bylaw Review Group is to undertake a review of the Sign Bylaw and make recommendations considering possible improvements or modifications of the Bylaw. Initially the committee

is proposing to set up a series of meetings with members of the business community, farm stand operators, Town institutions and other pertinent Town Boards and Committees to determine the extent of the concerns and complaints and the extent of changes that should be considered for the Bylaw.