

To: Town Councilors and Transportation Committee Members
From: Mike, Shaw, Public Works Director, Angela Blanchette, Town Engineer and Dan Bacon, Planning Director
Date: March 14, 2016

Oak Hill Intersection Construction Project - Safety and Pedestrian Improvements

In the '14 and '15 Fiscal Years the Town Council approved Capital Improvement Projects (CIPs) to make changes to the Oak Hill intersection to make it safer for pedestrians, to update the traffic signals and lighting, and to complete some missing sidewalk segments along Black Point Rd.

These improvements are a key piece of the larger effort to make the Oak Hill area a safer and more attractive environment for pedestrians. This larger initiative has also included new sidewalks along Black Point Rd; new crosswalks and sidewalks at the Route One / Hannaford Dr. intersection and at Biddeford Savings Bank / Starbucks; the new crosswalk at Hannaford Dr. / Gorham Rd; and the preliminary design for a bicycle / pedestrian trail along Gorham Rd. toward Maple Ave.

We had tried to complete this project last fall, but only a few contractors expressed interest and were well above our budget, so the project was delayed. Over the past few months we've worked on arrangements to execute the project under budget and are now in a position to move on the project swiftly with favorable pricing before the typical construction season. Given this, we want to make the Council and Transportation Committee aware of this construction activity (we will also be conducting other forms of public notice).

In terms of specifics, <u>the project will occur over the course of fifteen (15) working days</u> <u>starting the week of March 21st with a completion date of May 1st</u>. The overhead signal work will be performed separately and later in the spring season.

The improvements that will be made are as follows and as shown on the attached plan:

- Two (2) additional crosswalks will be added to the Oak Hill intersection as well as new pedestrian signal heads, push buttons and sidewalk tip-down adjustments
- Street lighting will be added to safely illuminate the intersection
- Dynamic "no right turn" signs that light up when the crosswalk is in use
- A new Black Point Rd sidewalk along the Citgo Station with a narrowing of their driveway to help address this high crash location

• A new segment of sidewalk along Black Point Rd from the Bellavita elderly house facility to the Oaks Apartments



As a final note, this improvement project is paid for through the Town's Oak Hill impact fee account that collects fees on new development that contribute traffic to this intersection, so this is being funded in this proportional way and not through Town appropriations or bonding.

Given the prominence of this project at our busiest intersection and its importance, we wanted to be sure the Town Council is aware of this effort and the background behind. We also want to thank the Transportation Committee for their work planning for these improvements.

Thank you.



Oak Hill Pedestrian Plan

Intersection Improvements at US Route I, Blackpoint Road, and Gorham Road Scale: NTS









Oak Hill Intersection Ground Level and Aerial Perspectives