

Report for the City Manager

Community Services: Engineering

Date: February 8, 2023

The purpose of this document is to summarize the work the City of Dover Engineering Department through **January 31, 2023**.

Service Calls

Engineering staff is working with CS Admin to refine the process for Service Call logging to reduce the response time to requests.

Standard Operating Procedures:

Engineering staff kicked off weekly meetings to assess/update current department operating procedures and to create an updated set of Standard Operating Procedures for Community Services to operate under. Input has been requested from Admin and Operations supervisors as well as the City's Legal Department. It is anticipated that much of 2023 will focus on establishing the process and the development of the most critical of tasks first. The focus of the staff is to annually assess the procedures to improve cross training of employees.

Public Outreach:

City Website Updates: Engineering staff has been working with media services to identify pages on the city's website that are outdated or that are not loading properly to avoid misinformation regarding CS operations.

CIP Projects

Pudding Hill Water Treatment Plant: Contractor continued to work towards enclosing building prior to beginning any interior plumbing or other work. The project will continue through 2023 with the hope of being online in early 2024.

Tollend Landfill: The City of Dover, along with the remainder of the Dover Landfill Group, continued to work on EPA coordination with the hope of establishing the next steps for this project. The EPA named a new employee as the federal project manager. Gretchen Young presented an update to the City Council at their January 11th workshop.

MS4 Permit: Staff focused on salt and chloride reduction practices during snow and storm events.

TNG Permit: Environmental Projects Manager held a meeting of the Municipal Alliance for Adaptive Management. A 6-month review of the submitted Adaptive Management Plan was discussed.

CIP Planning: Bill Boulanger has taken the lead on the initial review of the current Capital Improvement Plan versus the Engineering Department's list of priority projects. This review will serve as the basis for capital project recommendations during the 2023 CIP update.

Waterfront Redevelopment: The Waterfront project was put out to bid the last week of January with a pre-bid meeting occurring on February 2, 2023. Bids are due in mid-March.

River St Pump Station: The City's engineering consultant, Wright Pierce, has been working to address City comments on the 90% documents and are working towards having 100% biddable documents by the end of February 2023. It is anticipated that the start of construction will occur in summer of 2023.

Downtown Pedestrian Improvements: The Engineering staff has been working closely with Planning staff on the redesign of the downtown core including reviewing potential changes from one way travel to two-way travel, and improvements to three significant intersections. The City's consultant, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. will be taking the Downtown Pedestrian and Vehicular Access and Streetscape Study, completed by the Cecil Group in 2015, through construction documents. A public meeting was postponed due to the winter storm on January 23rd but will be held on February 13th at City Hall.

Chestnut Street Bridge: City engineers and the contractor for the Chestnut Street bridge rehabilitation project are close to completing the assessment of the work that will be needed to rehabilitate the bridge. Since starting work on Jan. 3, the contractor has removed the bridge pavement and membrane, granite curbing, bridge railings, and most of the two concrete sidewalks. With the deck and membrane removed, the contractor has been sound-testing the concrete to locate repair areas. Sound testing involves striking the concrete surface and interpreting its sound. Solid concrete creates a ringing sound, while delaminated, or failing, concrete produces a flat or hollow sound. In the areas where delaminated concrete is found, it is cut out and prepped for new concrete, which is poured when weather conditions allow. The rehabilitation work remains on schedule to allow the bridge to reopen by mid-May.

Traffic Calming: City Engineer Ken Mavrogeorge sat down with Lt. Marn Speidel and Deputy City Manager Chris Parker to discuss traffic calming for the Dover Download Podcast.

Portland Ave Retaining Wall: Engineering staff met with the consultant to discuss the re-bid of the wall project. It is anticipated that minor changes to the plans will be made in the spring of 2023 so that it can re-bid for a potential 2024 construction.

Cochecho St Outfall Replacement: Engineering staff have selected a preferred alignment for the new outfall along Cochecho St and will be working with the property owners to secure easements for the construction to proceed.

Lower Central Ave Reconstruction: The City has been awarded federal funding for this project and will be working with their consultant to refine the plans (currently at 90%) to bid ready for spring of 2023. It is anticipated that construction would start in 2024.

Facilities Projects:

Fish Ladder Park: Facilities Project Manager, Eric Sanderson, has been working with CS Operations staff to advance utilities for the Fish Ladder Park project. In addition, funding to finish the hardscaping has been obtained and a Request for Bids is anticipated in February 2023 for a Spring 2023 Construction.

City Hall Clock Tower Restoration: The City Hall Clock Tower Restoration was substantially completed. The contractor is working with City staff to complete final punch list items. The project included interior painting of City Hall in addition to exterior improvement to the tower and dome.

Jenny Thompson Pool Assessment: Engineering staff has been working with the Recreation Department to determine the extent of repairs required at the Jenny Thompson pool based on a feasibility study conducted by a consultant, Weston and Sampson, during the summer of 2022.

Special Projects:

UNH Capstone Project: In the fall of 2022, Engineering staff worked with a senior capstone project team from UNH to develop a testing program to identify a baseline for PFAS throughout the City. Testing results were received in January and weekly meetings will be starting in February to discuss the findings and outline the scope for the spring semester. UNH has also received a grant for additional PFAS testing and will be working with Dover to collect rainwater samples in 2023.

Permits:

Permit Summary for January 2023:

Driveway Permits:	1 in Review
Utility Licenses:	0
Paving Licenses:	0
Excavation Permits:	2 Issued
Obstruction Permits:	1 in Review

Technical Review Committee: Two projects came to TRC in January that required Engineering review. A mixed-use residential development at 30 Grapevine Dr and a 104-unit housing development off of Tolend Rd.

Wastewater Review Summary:

Wastewater Connection Permit: 2 Reviewed

Septic Design Reviews: 3 Reviewed

Construction Oversight: Engineering Technician, Jordan Chambers, continues to conduct oversight of private construction projects approved by the Planning Board. Projects that are underway or have opened include:

- Accupet (Littleworth Rd.)
- Bluebird Self Storage (Littleworth Rd.)
- Dupont Service Center (Littleworth Rd.)
- 5-unit Residential Property (Rutland St.)
- Copley Commons (Leathers Ln.)
- 54 Tiny Homes (Back River Rd.)
- 9 Lot Subdivision (Porchlight Dr.)

In addition, a preconstruction meeting was recently held for a new subdivision on the proposed Copper Dr.

