

December 9, 2019

Re: Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)
Beach Hill Road to Pit Lane

Dear Resident:

As the *Person in Responsible Charge* (PRC) for the Town of New Castle TAP Project, I wanted to reach out to you to share some preliminary information on the process and timeline for the TAP project.

It is still our plan to ensure that improvements made to this portion of Route 1B remain within the State of New Hampshire's existing right of way. The right of way has yet to be determined and will be surveyed prior to design and public meetings.

We have received the Award Notification Letter and signed the LPA Project Agreement. In July, representatives of the Town attended the required Scoping Meeting with our assigned New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) project manager to discuss the project scope, budget and tentative schedule. The agenda for this meeting can be found under the News & Announcements section (07.23.19 Scope Meeting with NHDOT) of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Reimbursement page of the Town's Website.

The approved warrant article and TAP stipulations allow for a maximum of five (5) years to complete the project. At this time, the State of New Hampshire has shared a tentative date of 2023 for potential Construction. This date is fluid and will change based upon the availability of federal transportation funds.

The Town is currently working with NHDOT in the beginning stages of the Qualifications Base Selection Process (QBS). Our request has been submitted to NHDOT for review. Once approved, we will work towards consultant selection as well as consultant negotiations.

All work related to this project will be divided into three (3) primary phases:

1. **Preliminary Engineering:** (Date TBD) Engineering Study, Preliminary Plans, Construction Plans, Bid Package Development, Environmental Reviews, Bid Process & Review, ROW incidentals including title research, abstracting, public hearings
2. **Right of Way:** (Date TBD) Property Valuation, Relocation Assistance, Documentation, Acquisitions – easements or fee. Not all of these will apply as it is the Town's objective to remain within the State of New Hampshire's existing right of way.
3. **Construction:** (Tentatively 2023) Project Construction, Materials Testing, Construction Administration, Transit Capital, Transit Operating Funds.

There will be a minimum of three (3) public meetings where residents will be asked to participate. These meetings will be conducted within the Preliminary Engineering phase described above. We strongly encourage you to attend these meetings. Notification of these meetings will be sent in advance to abutters via regular postal mail. In addition, we will post the meetings on the website.

1. **Local Concerns Meeting:** Present existing conditions, present project area, present funding schedule, present project scope without a final design, ask public for local concerns.
2. **Proposed Action Meeting:** Present design alternatives (incorporating public concerns from previous meeting), pros and cons, purpose and need statement, abutter impacts, ask public for local concerns.
3. **Public Hearing:** Present preliminary final design, demonstrate compliance with State construction standards, ask public for local concerns.

The Town has dedicated a landing page on the Town's Website just for TAP. You can access this page by going to Boards & Committees and then select "*Tap New Castle Reimbursement Program*". Updates, documents and meeting notices will be posted here and we encourage you to visit it for regular updates as we move through this process.

In addition, we have added the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Reimbursement as a selection within "Notify Me". You can sign up to receive email notifications related to this project by going to the "Citizen Action Center" on the home page and then click on "Notify Me". When new information is posted to the Tap New Castle Reimbursement Program page, you will automatically be sent an email with a link to the information.

Sincerely,

Ben Jankowski