FairPoint License Form

EXHIBIT A



MEMO

TO:	File									
PREPARED BY:	David E. McNamara, P.E FST									
DATE:	September 5, 2012									
PROJECT:	City of Portsmouth – DPW NH Route 1-A over Sagamore Creek (Bridge # 198/ Portsmouth X-A000 (417), 14493 - Final Design Co									
SUBJECT:	PIM Minutes									
ATTENDEES:	Steve Parkinson Tom Richter Paul Harrington David McNamara	 City of Portsmouth City of Portsmouth FST FST 								

Steve Parkinson, DPW Director for the City of Portsmouth thanked everyone for coming and provided a brief introduction of the project team and the project itself. He then turned the presentation over to Paul Harrington and David McNamara of FST to present the technical aspects of the project. Paul and David presented the following:

Paul Harrington:

- A. Project Need
 - i. The Sagamore Creek Bridge is structurally deficient and on the NHDOT's Red List
 - 1. The general history of the bridge includes:
 - a. It was built in 1941, with repairs completed in 1984 and 2010
 - b. The bridge is supported by two girders, making it a fracture critical design, which is generally not allowed per current code. The failure of one girder would result in the failure of the entire bridge.
 - c. The Sagamore Creek Bridge is a riveted steel plate girder design from the 1940's, and one of only 4 or 5 left in the State. Modern plate girders are welded rather than riveted.
 - d. The clearance over the Sagamore Creek is minimal, forcing commercial fisherman based upstream of the bridge to line up in the center of the channel and cross under the bridge at only low tide.
 - 2. The bridge was posted for a maximum 6-ton loading in 2009.
 - 3. Emergency Repairs took place in May of 2010 in order to allow the bridge to remain open, with the 6-ton load rating.
- B. Design

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- i. Bridge
 - 1. Process
 - a. FST prepared a Type, Size and Location (TSL) study, which was reviewed by the City and NHDOT. This resulted in the preferred bridge alternative. In addition to coordinating with the City and NHDOT, FST presented the project at the DOT's monthly Cultural Resource coordination meeting. New Hampshire Division of Historic Resources (NHDHR) concurred with the preferred alternative.
 - 2. Description of Preferred alternative, includes the following elements:
 - a. Variable Depth Steel girders, allows the bridge to gain clearance over the water while maintaining the existing profile. The two existing girders will be replaced with five new girders, further reducing their depth and improving the clearance.
 - b. Solid Deck The existing open steel grating will be replaced with a solid deck, which will be paved. This reduces the noise and also durability of the bridge, as the superstructure of the bridge is no longer directly exposed to the elements.
 - 3. Additional Clearance Maintain existing profile

David McNamara presented the remainder of the project, including roadway, permitting, utility, public involvement, and schedule.

- ii. The proposed roadway design includes the following elements:
 - 1. New sidewalk on the west side of the roadway. It will extend an existing sidewalk that terminates at the northerly project limit to the intersection with Route 1B.
 - 2. Drainage improvements Existing drainage in the project area is allowed to discharge directly to Sagamore Creek, either via sheetflow, or through a couple of existing culverts. The new roadway will be curbed, allowing stormwater to be collected and treated prior to being discharged to the Creek. FST is working with the City and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to determine the most suitable treatment methods.
 - 3. Retaining Walls There are two planned retaining walls in the project, one along the southwest approach, replacing the steep gravel slope, and one on the northeast approach, replacing an existing stone block wall that is partially hidden in the tree growth behind the guardrail.
 - 4. Tree Clearing Limits Limits of work are shown on the color plan. There will be some clearing for the retaining wall in the northeast

quadrant of the project, along with miscellaneous clearing for utility relocations.

- 5. ROW
 - a. The project is currently designed to remain within existing ROW. The widening is able to take advantage of additional ROW left over from the old bridge layout. If ROW or easements are needed, the City will meet with the affected property owner and inform them of the process and options available.
- C. The permitting process is nearing an end, with several of the permits in hand.
 - i. The following permits have been obtained for the project already. These expire in 2016.
 - 1. Dredge and Fill (Wetlands)
 - 2. Shoreland Protection.
 - ii. The following permits are pending.
 - 1. Categorical Exclusion Checklist This just needs the finalization of the historical documentation, then this permit can be signed. It has already been reviewed by NHDOT/FHWA, and their minor comments addressed.
 - 2. Coast Guard This permit needs a signed Categorical Exclusion document in order to finalize. The application has been submitted and reviewed, the public comment period completed.
 - 3. Alteration of Terrain This is a State permit that deals with the water quality and erosion control issues. FST has discussed the project with NHDES, and a smooth process is anticipated in completing this last permit.
 - iii. The most significant issue raised in the natural resource permitting process was restrictions on working within the Creek.
 - 1. In-Water work restrictions are:
 - a. November 15 March 15 This is the time period where the contractor will be allowed to physically work in the water. Other construction can take place on the project outside this window, just not in the water.
 - b. There is some limited work after July 1st allowed, only to remove the temporary trestle erected for construction of the bridge.
 - iv. In addition to the natural resource permitting processing, the project was also reviewed for historic impacts, as described earlier.
 - 1. The bridge itself was considered an historic resource, therefore coordination and approval was required in order to demolish it. This was granted by the appropriate reviewing agencies, with conditions.

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- 2. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is in the process of being signed by City, DOT, and historic agencies allowing the demolition of the historic bridge. This document includes three conditions:
 - a. Conditions
 - i. Additional Documentation A second more detailed report is required to be written regarding the history of this bridge, the architect, and how the construction and materials tied in with war efforts during World War II.
 - Advertise the Bridge The bridge must be publicly advertised for sale. Anyone interested in removing the bridge and preserving at a new location can place a bid. The bridge must be preserved; it cannot be sold for scrap.
 - iii. NHDOT to include in their upcoming Statewide Report – NHDOT will be preparing Statewide Historic Bridge inventory, and they must feature this particular bridge type in that report. There is no involvement or cost to the City for this condition.
- D. The project does require the relocation of existing utility infrastructure within the project area, including:
 - i. Relocations
 - 1. Aerial Lines There are aerial lines crossing the Creek, which must be moved east to allow for the widening of the bridge. There is also a lateral crossing just north of the bridge that will be removed. These will trigger the replacement of seven poles in total. This work will be carried out by the individual utility companies at no cost to the City.
 - 2. Fairpoint has a line under the bridge, they will relocate aerially and not move back under the bridge
 - 3. The City's water line that currently crosses the bridge will be replaced, and a sleeve for a future sewer line installed.
- E. The City is committed to keeping the public informed and involved in the project moving forward and continuing through construction. Some of the outreach planned includes:
 - i. Business Open signage will be posted along the detours to alert the public that businesses within the detour and/or construction zones remain open.
 - ii. Advanced notifications of upcoming project related milestones and events will be provided via the following:
 - 1. Local Papers
 - 2. City Website

- 3. E-mail List Attendees were asked to provide their contact information if they were interested in being included on an e-mail list that will receive project news directly.
- iii. Work Hours are standard for City projects, as follows:
 - 1. No nights (7-6, longer only w/ City permission)
 - 2. Weekends w/City permission
- F. The following milestone schedule dates were provided:
 - i. Design Complete Winter of 2013
 - ii. Utility Work
 - 1. Fall 2012 Summer 2013
 - iii. Advertise
 - 1. Spring of 2013
 - iv. Sign Contract
 - 1. Summer of 2013
 - v. Construction
 - 1. Fall 2013
 - 2. Close bridge October 2013
 - 3. In Water work November 2013 March 2014
 - 4. Reopen bridge Late Fall of 2014

The meeting was then opened to the Public for comments/questions. The following comments and questions were raised. These are followed by the City/FST's responses.

- There was concern regarding an increase in traffic to through the streets of New Castle once the bridge is closed. The Town noticed additional traffic during the two week repair project in May of 2010.
 - The detour specifically routes traffic to Route 1, and not through New Castle. The City will look at additional signage to add to the package to further discourage traffic into New Castle. If the Town sees additional traffic during construction they should contact Steve Parkinson to discuss additional steps that may alleviate the problem at that time. David McNamara displayed a plan of the proposed detour, which drew no objection from the attendees.
- How wide will the channel be during construction? Will the Contractor be allowed to leave a barge used for construction in the channel during non-working times?
 - The temporary trestles are not expected to extend beyond the existing piers. There may be temporary shoring towers located in front of the existing piers, but would leave an open channel of greater than 120'. The channel will be required to remain open throughout construction. There may be temporary shutdowns while work is on-going but the channel will be open during all non-working hours.
- Has the project reconstructing the Route 1 Bypass bridges been taken into account with the planned detour route?
 - Yes, this project is being coordinated with the Route 1 Bypass work. That project could impact the Sagamore Creek Bridge schedule.

- Why is there only one proposed sidewalk, as opposed to new sidewalks on both sides of the bridge and approach roadways?
 - The addition of a second sidewalk would increase environmental impacts and bridge cost, while creating additional utility impacts. There is only the one sidewalk now beyond the project area, with no plans of adding a sidewalk along the easterly side of the roadway beyond the project limits.
- Traffic turning around after getting past the detour signs was a concern, as this was a frequent occurrence during the May 2010 closure.
 - Additional signage will be used, as well as more early notifications. The City is planning to repave and repair the existing Route 1A sidewalk north of the project, which should further reduce traffic ignoring the detour signs.
- It was suggested that Shaw Road be closed at the intersection with Route 1A to stop people from driving through the residential neighborhood if they made it through the detour signs to the bridge.
 - The City will consider this option as a part of the detour planning.
- Will there still be a steel grate deck on the bridge?
 - No, there will be a solid deck.
- Will there be lights on the new bridge?
 - No, the lighting will remain the same, with cobraheads located on the adjacent utility poles providing some roadway lighting.
- If there is a wall proposed along the southwest quadrant, how will people jumping from the bridge get back onto the bridge?
 - The City recognizes there is a local tradition of jumping off the bridge. However, the City does not condone the recreational use of the bridge, and will not provide facilities for this use.
- Where are the temporary trestles planned in relation to the existing docks?
 - \circ The trestles are expected to be located west of the bridge.
- Are there planned accommodations for a future gas line on the bridge?
 - There are none, but the City will reach out to the gas company to determine if they have an interest in establishing future accommodations. The City would provide a sleeve through the abutment, supporting the line under the bridge would be a cost born by the gas company.
- Are navigational lights proposed for the bridge?
 - No, the Coast Guard does not require them on this bridge.
- There is a large gap between hydrants on the south approach to the bridge, can one be added?
 - This will be looked at with the City's Water Department and Fire Department.
- Has placing the aerial utility lines underground been considered? This is similar to a project along Newcastle Ave, where the lines were moved temporarily, but not moved back for aesthetic purposes.
 - There was some talk with the utilities about alternatives or ways to eliminate the wires during construction. However, a permanent underground move would be costly, and the City would be required to pay a significant share of those costs.

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At the end of the meeting, all attendees were encouraged to add their contact information to a sign in sheet. The City and FST will develop an e-mail list from that, which will be used to provide notification of any changes, upcoming milestones, or other project related information.

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ISS 2, SECTION 627-210-018

EXHIBIT C

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TABLE M

COPPER CONDUCTOR CABLE, 16M STRAND SPAN LENGTH (FEET)

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