

Concord Public Works
Director's Report
April 2025

FACILITIES

Staffing: We are at full staffing level of 10 total staff. Working to cross train and improve efficiencies moving forward.

Building Structures:

- **Police and Fire - Station 1 (Walden Street)** – Continued support of the relocated dispatch center and water damage repairs at previous location.
- **Police and Fire - Station 1 (Walden Street)** –
 - Ongoing issues with HVAC devices are being addressed, hoping to utilize existing capex funding to upgrade several devices for better resiliency moving forward.
 - New carpeting is being planned for the police detective and admin areas to replace worn and failed carpet in place currently. Cap ex funds are available for this.
- **Rideout Park Fieldhouse** – This facility was opened 2 weeks earlier than planned due to identified need and favorable long-range forecast. Heating system was serviced, and new floor treatment is planned.
- **Gerow Recreation Park Restrooms** – This facility was opened 2 weeks earlier due to observed need and favorable long-range weather forecast. Upon energizing the water supply we discovered several leaks from frozen piping even though the systems were drained prior to closing. Assume some poorly installed piping that we will need to deal with this season.
- **Beede Recreation Center**
 - Second structural engineer visit to fine tune repairs and scope needed to ensure all issues are captured. Expect final plans in 4 weeks to allow us to go to bid
 - Roof restoration is greenlighted by the Recreation Department, will be going out to bid before June for completion this year.
- **Barrett's Mills Farmhouse:** Annual HVAC PM servicing was completed for the structure this past month by outsourced sources.

Building Systems:

Preventative Maintenance:

- HVAC:
 - Ongoing heating service needs and issues continued to be identified within as expected throughout the winter months

Non-Routine Facilities Repairs/Replacements

- **Public Works (133/135 Keyes Road)**
 - Completed current space utilization in both building office areas and have determined minor upgrades that can occur to allow for a 5-year lifespan for

admin on the existing campus. This will maximize the buildings; no new staff or operations will be feasible w/o a larger space.

- Preparing construction documents to go out to bid to repair roof issues at 133,135 and salt shed at the Keyes Road campus this summer. There is adequate cap funding existing dedicated to this repair.
- **Harvey Wheeler / COA**
 - Staff have been working with an acoustic consultant to address the poor sound quality at the auditorium.

Seasonal Service Needs:

- Seasonal rest room facilities – open remote restrooms on April 1, two weeks earlier than previously scheduled due to user needs.

Operations and Support of Town-Wide Functional Activities:

- Working with Town Clerk to set up election equipment.
- Assisting in the ongoing task related to space planning and relocation of town departments as illustrated in the 2020 Master Plan.

Sustainability/Energy Updates:

- Concord has received a grant through MassEVIP in the amount of \$67,727.40 to cover 60% of the total cost for 5-dual head level 2 charging stations at the CPW campus. The town's contribution is \$46,697.00 that will utilize existing cap funding. This will provide adequate charging capabilities for current and future fleet needs as we acquire more EV vehicles.
- ESCO draft RFQ has been developed and is currently under review by interested groups/legal and in-house staff. Expect final form to be out to bid sometime in June 2025.
- Reviewing possible Green Community projects for this grant cycle to further assist in reducing energy costs and GHG emissions.

Environmental Health & Safety

EHS & Facilities participated in building inspections of 133 & 135 Keyes Rd. With CFD, and the Building Department, collectively inspecting these buildings for life safety issues. Several minor issues were identified and in are the process of being resolved.

CPW Training and Outreach

- Preparations have been made for
 - Driver Simulator training scheduled for June 2025
 - Hand Fed Chipper user training (TBD)
- On-going
 - Fire Prevention and Emergency Action Plan training for CPW.
 - Onboarding/orientation for new CPW employees.

- Review and assessment of Facilities group to set training expectations throughout the Spring.
- Evaluating different technologies to support cemetery operations to minimize recognized hazards.

Routine Environmental Compliance Activities

- S1 Vapor Recovery Program inspections (weekly)
- Above ground storage tank inspections (monthly) – no issues
- Fire extinguisher inspections at both 133 and 135 Keyes Rd (Monthly) – no issues
- Maintenance of First aid supplies throughout CPW – on going

Communications/Partnership

- Participation with the town’s Risk Committee
- Development of CPW Safety Committee; roll out 2025
- Misc. support to 250th Celebration.

HIGHWAY, GROUNDS, FLEET & CEMETERY

Administration

- **New Hire: Equipment Operator** – Chris Doiron has been hired as an Equipment Operator for Concord Public Works, Highway & Grounds Division. Chris has experience driving trucks, landscaping, and general maintenance. Chris’ skills are an asset to the Highway & Grounds Division, and we welcome him to our team.
- **Concord250 Event** – CPW’s Highway & Grounds Division began spring cleanup operations to help support the large-scale Patriot’s Day events that will be occurring on April 19th, 2025. This included completing tree work needed along the parade route, raking and cleaning the green space areas and downtown parking lots, and completing maintenance of the stone dust sidewalks along Lexington Road, Heywood Street, Sudbury Road, and Main Street. Additional maintenance will continue to occur through April.

Highway

- **Winter Maintenance Update** – There were no winter weather events in March. CPW crews have responded to twelve winter weather events in the 2024/2025 winter season. Responses have included roadway treatment and snow plowing operations. A total of 27.3” of snow has been recorded in Concord this season. This month, CPW crews have begun to repair turf damage caused by snow plowing operations this past winter.
- **Roadway and Sidewalk Maintenance** – The Highway & Grounds Division continues to complete roadway and sidewalk repairs within the public right-of-way. CPW has

deployed roadway maintenance crews as weather allows. The crews have performed maintenance throughout the roadway network, prioritizing main roads and roadway hazards which have been identified by staff or reported by motorists. During the month of March, roadway and sidewalk maintenance was completed on the following roadways:

- Barnes Hill Road
- Barretts Mill Road
- College Road
- Conant Street
- Cottage Lane
- Elm Street
- Everett Street
- Fitchburg Turnpike
- Harrington Avenue
- Laws Brook Road
- Lowell Road
- Main Street
- Monument Street
- Old Marlboro Road
- Old Road to 9 Acre Corner
- Old Stow Road
- Orchard Road
- Powder Mill Road
- Stow Street
- Strawberry Hill Road
- Sudbury Road
- Thoreau Street
- Virginia Road

- **Sign Maintenance** – The Highway & Grounds Division continues to install new and replace existing roadway signage throughout Concord’s roadway network. Sign work was completed in March on the following streets:

- Bradford Street
- Brook Trail Road
- Central Street
- Keyes Road
- Laws Brook Road
- Main Street
- Thoreau Street

- **Street Sweeping** - The Highway & Grounds Division started the annual town-wide street sweeping program in March. The Division will perform street sweeping once on every public roadway throughout Concord. Weekly sweeping is also performed in the business districts, which include Concord Center, Thoreau Depot and West Concord.

Grounds

- **Athletic Field and Open Space Maintenance** – The Highway & Grounds Division monitors and inspects open space recreation areas for debris, such as branches leaves and trash, which is removed as needed. In March, crews installed tennis nets at the courts at Emerson Field and refreshed the jump pit. They also deployed the seasonal barrels to the open space recreation areas, completed infield clay maintenance on the baseball field, and marked out the soccer and ultimate frisbee fields.
- **Doug White Field – Replacement Project:** In support of the Town Manager’s directive to replace the Doug White fields as soon as practicable, with a goal of completing this work before the fall of 2025, staff participated in the technical review of preliminary designs being developed by Gale & Associates. This effort is being done in collaboration with representatives from the Town Manager’s office, Recreation Department, School Department, and “Friends of Concord Carlisle Playing Fields”. The project will be entirely funded by the Friends of Concord Carlisle Playing Fields.
- **Open Area Clean Up** – The Highway & Grounds Division started spring clean-ups in March with debris removal, brush cutting, leaf clean-up, and pruning at open spaces. Crews also focused on maintaining downtown areas, recreational facilities, parks, and parking lot areas.
- **Equipment Maintenance** - The Highway & Grounds Division has been working to prepare seasonal equipment for use as the weather has improved in preparation for the spring and summer maintenance season. Large area mowers, small mowers and other equipment were removed from storage and serviced during the month of March.
- **Public Shade Tree Maintenance** – During the month of March, CPW crews trimmed, uplifted and deadwood pruned trees throughout the town, as needed. In addition, under the direction of the Tree Warden, crews removed 11 hazardous trees as part of the forestry maintenance program.

Fleet

- **Vehicle & Equipment Maintenance**– The fleet maintenance team continues to maintain the Concord Public Works fleet to the highest level possible. Twenty-eight work orders and ten preventative maintenance items were completed in the month of March.

Cemetery

- **Burial Information & Lot Sales** – During the month of March, 1 full burial and 3 cremation interments took place, and 1 cremation lot was sold.

Solid Waste & Recycling

- **Spring 2025 Curbside Subscriptions** -- The Spring 2025 curbside invoices were mailed the week of February 24th and were due on April 1st for the April – September subscription period. The current 6-month subscription fee is \$245.00 for Curbside Solid Waste & Recycling Service, and \$197.50 for Recycling Only Service customers.
- **Curbside Collection Program Update** -- Subscribers increased by over 8% to over 3,700, during the first 6 months of the updated program. CPW staff continue to assist with requests to swap 96-gallon carts for 64-gallon carts. To date, just under 350 residents have requested the smaller recycle cart. The Solid Waste & Recycling page of the Town of Concord website has been updated to include information about the program, along with a link for residents to report any cart repair requests. CPW administrative staff also assist residents with those requests if needed and answer any questions regarding the program and the first re-subscription cycle of the new program.
- **Compost Facility** – The Compost Facility on Walden Street was closed for the winter season and will reopen to the public on April 5th, 2025. The site will be open Saturdays 9:00AM-3:00PM and Wednesdays 3:00PM-6:00PM, through the fall season. During the month of March, the Division moved piles and prepared the site for the spring opening.
- **Spring 2025 Curbside Invoices** -- The Spring 2025 curbside invoices were mailed the week of February 24th and were due on April 1st for the April – September subscription period. The current 6-month subscription fee is \$245.00 for Curbside Solid Waste & Recycling Service, and \$197.50 for Recycling Only Service customers. CPW administrative staff continued to assist residents with questions regarding the first re-subscription cycle of the new program.
- **Spring DropOff/SwapOff Event** – The Spring DropOff/SwapOff event is scheduled for May 3rd, 2025. An informational flyer was included in the utility billing and additional information was be shared on the Town website. Preregistration will open on Thursday, April 3rd, 2025.
- **Household Hazardous Waste** -- The Town of Concord is a member of the Minuteman Regional Household Hazardous Waste Facility (MMHWF), which consists of eight member communities. This facility, located in Lexington, is generally open one Saturday per month, April through November, and accepts a wide variety of hazardous wastes. 2025 events scheduled to date will be held from 9 am – 2 pm on Saturdays April 12th, May 3rd, and June 14th. MMHWF is currently discussing additional dates with the vendor and as they are scheduled, they will be added to the website. Please note that you must register in advance online at www.concordma.gov/hhw, at least 48 hours prior to the event.

Curbside subscribers can attend one event each year at no additional cost. For non-curbside subscribers or those who want to attend more than one event each year the cost ranges from approximately \$35-60 for up to 25 gallons or pounds.

- **Mattress Recycling** – Although the Compost Site was closed for the winter season, Concord residents were still able schedule an appointment to drop-off their used mattresses or have them picked up. For details, please call Concord Public Works at 978-318-3240, or visit www.concordma.gov/mattress

Curbside Program Monthly Statistics

Description	March 2025
Trash disposal-Tons	142.07
Single Stream recycling-Tons	109.47
Percent recycled	44%
Compost site visits	Closed
Number of Trash & Recycling Customers	3,772

WATER & SEWER DIVISION

Outreach

- **Drought Status:** The Drought Management Task Force (DMTF) met on April 8th to assess current conditions through the month of March. Based on precipitation, groundwater levels and other indicator parameters, the Division anticipates that the DMTF will recommend that the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary keep the Northeast Region at a Level -3 (Critical Drought).
- **Annual Statistical Report:** On March 24th, 2025, the Division completed and submitted (electronically, via eDEP) to MassDEP the *2024 Public Water Systems Annual Statistical Report ('ASR')*. Key metrics reported in this report are detailed below:

Water Statistics	2024	2023	2022
Total Water Demand (million gallons)	649	650	696
Daily Average Demand (million gallons)	1.81	1.78	1.91
Peak Day Demand (million gallons)	3.05	3.13	3.29
Unaccounted for Water (percent)	8.6	12.6	8.5
Residential per Capita per day (gallons)	57.2	55	63.6

Water Quality

- **Routine Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting:** Staff continue to perform routine water quality monitoring activities for regulatory compliance and treatment optimization at all operating stations and throughout the distribution system. There are no resulting water quality exceedances to report.

Water/Sewer Main & Service Activities

- **Seasonal Water Main Flushing:** Routine flushing that is required to maintain and improve water quality throughout the distribution system was performed from March 17th through 28th, Monday – Friday, from 9 AM – 3 PM. Areas covered in this round of flushing included: Cambridge Tpke., Lexington Rd., Virginia Rd., Bedford St., Old Bedford Rd. Liberty St., Monument St., Lowell Rd. (South of Barrett’s Mill) and Lowell Rd. (North. of Barrett’s Mill)
- **Water Service Line Identification & Validation:** As part of the recent Lead and Copper Rule Updates, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandated that every public water supplier inventory the water service lines in their distribution system. The primary goal is to identify and remove lead service lines. A water service line is the small pipe that brings water from the water main into your home. These lines are typically made of plastic, copper, galvanized metal or lead.

Starting in April 2025, Concord Water will be conducting limited excavations using the Division’s vacuum excavation truck to determine the materials of certain water service lines and is often referred to as ‘potholing’. The potholing investigation area is chosen based upon potential workload, and will often mirror the Roads Program. Prior to potholing, Division staff will provide affected customers with outreach, letting them know what to expect.

If the customer’s water service has been classified as “non-lead”, they will get a generic lime-green door hanger letting them know Division staff will be working in the area. If the customer’s service is classified as “Lead”, “Galvanized Requiring Replacement”, or “Unknown – Potentially Lead”, they will receive the same generic door hanger, a copy of the notice they received in November of 2024, instructions on how to flush their home plumbing, and a call from an Environmental and Regulatory coordinator walking them through the process. Additional information can be found on our website at: <https://concordma.gov/lead>.

- **Water Infrastructure Improvements Project - Silver Hill Road Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements Phase 1:** Commonwealth Construction & Utilities, Inc. (CCUI), of Watertown, MA, completed the installation of the new 8” ductile iron watermain early January. The total length of installed main was approx. 3,553 LF. CCUI then proceeded with transfer of services from the old main to the new main. In Spring 2025, CCUI will complete drainage improvements, paving work and loaming and seeding (restoration).

- **Water Infrastructure Improvements Project - Silver Hill Road Neighborhood Infrastructure Improvements Phase 2:** In late January 2025, the Town's consultant (Wright-Pierce) provided "final draft" plans for Water & Sewer Division and Engineering Division review and comment. On April 23rd, 2025, the Notice of Intent application hearing for the Phase 2 project will open with the Concord Natural Resources Commission. Phase 2 is intended to be publicly bid in Spring 2025, for Summer and Fall 2025 construction.
- **Sewer System Maintenance Activities:** In March, operations crews jetted approximately 11,860 L.F. of sewers on various streets in Town. This jetting/cleaning is performed as preventative maintenance, in order to reduce risks of potential flow obstructions attributed to settled debris while removing build-up on the walls of the sewer pipe.

Water Main/Service Leaks and Sewage Overflow

- **Great Road, Acton:** In the early morning hours on March 14th, the Division was alerted to a possible water leak in the area of 133 Great Road, in Acton, MA. A failed coupling fitting on the 16" diameter cast iron water main was discovered to be leaking. The failed fitting was replaced with replacement couplings and a short length of water main, and the line was repressurized and returned to service at 12:30 PM. The event temporarily interrupted water service to approximately 45 water service connections and 12 fire hydrants along Great Road in Acton, as a result of the isolation valve location (Great Road at Pope Road) and with no ability to bypass flow around the water leak location.

Water & Wastewater Pumping Stations

- **Nagog Pond Filtration Plant and Intake: Consultant** engineers Environmental Partners (EP) continues to perform construction administration services following the failed intake rehabilitation project by contractor D&C. Currently, EP is exploring other options to address the intake pipe rehabilitation. These options will then be presented to the Town for review. In July 2024, Project Evaluation Form (PEF) application was submitted to MassDEP Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program for the Nagog Pond WTF Project inclusive of PFAS treatment and Rt. 2A water mains improvements. Regrettably, based on the competitive nature of these limited funds and criteria that favored small, disadvantage communities, Concord did not qualify for this funding.
- **Pilgrim Road Sewage Lift Station – Emergency Generator:** A contract was awarded to Kraft Power Corporation (Woburn, MA) for the installation of an emergency generator at the Pilgrim Road Lift Station. The generator has been installed with startup scheduling to allow for commissioning in the near future.
- All other water and wastewater facilities are presently in active operation or standby ready, with normal inspections and preventive maintenance (PMs) ongoing.

Wastewater Treatment Plant

- **Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP') and Capacity:** The Town executed a services agreement with Weston & Sampson Engineers (WSE) in May 2024 for wastewater management and planning support services. Their work will include:
 - Reviewing existing and future wastewater capacity conditions and needs, coordinating with the Department of Planning and Land Management on planning/housing initiatives.
 - Re-assessment of potential options to add wastewater capacity to the community (including the review and evaluation of MCI Concord's WWTF) providing strategic level review of options and associated planning-level costs.
 - Provide preliminary recommendations to move forward with capacity initiatives.
 - In addition, WSE will also review the need to update or modify the current Sewer Improvement Fee (SIF').

Weston & Sampson have been holding ongoing planning and coordination meetings with CPW and DPLM staff to advance the potential assignment of the former MCI Concord wastewater treatment facility with specific consideration as to how such an effort would factor into Town-wide wastewater capacity needs.

- **Contract Operations:** Staff continued to manage the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) contract operations, including tracking and analyzing monthly data, oversight of contract obligations, preparing and attending monthly meetings, tracking, and assisting in the planning of necessary equipment repair and other capital improvements, and monitoring of septage hauling activities.
- **Capacity Update:** The NPDES NetDMR reporting periods of January 2025, February 2025, and March 2025 are summarized below:

NPDES NetDMR Reporting Period	Period Average Flow	12-Mo. Rolling Ave., Ending the Reporting Period
January 2025	0.83 MGD	0.99 MGD (down 0.07 from Dec.)
<i>January 2024</i>	<i>1.670 MGD</i>	<i>1.19 MGD</i>
February 2025	0.79 MGD	0.95 MGD (down 0.04 from Jan.)
<i>February 2024</i>	<i>1.250 MGD</i>	<i>1.20 MGD</i>
March 2025	1.01 MGD	0.91 MGD (down 0.04 from Feb.)
<i>March 2024</i>	<i>1.55 MGD</i>	<i>1.22 MGD</i>

Staff are pleased to report that the 12-month rolling average flow at the Wastewater Treatment Plant continues to be below the Town's 1.2 MGD NPDES Permit limit. Following wetter than average spring and early summer, the late summer, fall and winter weather has been relatively dry, reducing the influence of wet-weather I/I into the sewer system, and lowering the 12-month rolling average metered plant effluent.

In addition, an extensive I/I Control Plan was developed to control inflow and infiltration into the Town's sewer system. In June 2024, the Division received a new proposal from Weston & Sampson to re-start a sewer system investigation program (interrupted in 2021 by COVID-19 and shortage in Staff). The new proposal scope has the following goals:

- Completing the flow isolation in the areas not done during Phase 1.
 - Updating the Phase 1 Report by compiling the flow isolation data, MH inspection data (to be conducted by Town Staff), sewer database, and GIS layer.
 - Conducting camera inspections of the remaining subareas (total of 11 areas) not included in Phase 1.
- **Wastewater Treatment Facility – Roof Replacement:** The contract for the replacement of a section of the plant's roof (above the CoMag building extension) was awarded to Greenwood Industries (of Worcester, MA), in May 2024. The work started on March 3, 2025, with demolition of the old roof. The contractor uncovered substantial corrosion around the soffit, which is being evaluated by the architect for possible replacement or repairs as needed. The work should resume once the corrosion issue is addressed. Completion of this project is now expected by the end of April.
 - **Sewer Improvement Fund (SIF):** There have been no recent changes to the SIF Chart submitted with the February 2021 report, which tracks requests for sewer uses that will increase approved flows to the Plant. Currently, WSE has been tasked with reviewing the need to update or modify the current Sewer Improvement Fee (SIF').

ENGINEERING

- **Engineering Staff** – CPW is pleased to announce the hiring of Devon Greer as the new Public Works Engineer to replace Nexwan Norelus. Devon will spearhead the use of Permiteyes in reviewing the right-of-way and driveway permits, perform inspections, and assist on several other projects undertaken by the Engineering Division.
- **2025 Pavement Management Projects** – During the March PWC meeting Engineering presented the list of proposed streets to be resurfaced, as well as the various types of treatments to be implemented during the 2025 construction season. This list was developed using the pavement condition data of the town's road network by utilizing Streetscan's asset management software to prioritize road resurfacing projects for the 2025 construction season. The list of streets has been sent out to utility companies that currently have infrastructure within these streets, requesting them to conduct any planned work ahead of our construction. In addition, Engineering is planning a virtual meeting to inform the residents abutting the proposed project location areas. The final bid documents will be completed with bids going out in April.
- **2024 Pavement Management Projects --**
Phase I: Engineering is in the process of executing the contract for the micro-surfacing and fog sealing project with Indus D/B/A Sealcoating Inc. This project is a continuation

of CPW's pilot testing of pavement preservation techniques that started a couple of years ago. It is anticipated that work will begin in the spring.

Phase II: Lazaro Paving Corporation will resume this contract in the spring to mill and pave a portion of Laws Brook Rd.

- **2023 Pavement Management Phase III** – The remaining outstanding work includes milling and paving two sections of Main St in West Concord. Engineering is working with Lazaro to get this work scheduled for the spring.
- **Fair Share Award** – MassDOT has informed the Town that its share of the State's FY25 Fair Share \$45M funds is \$152,569.97. These funds have been distributed using standard Chapter 90 language and expenditures are reimbursement-based and must comply with Chapter 90 guidance and all applicable regulations. CPW intends to use these funds to incorporate pedestrian improvements in the 2025 pavement management projects.
- **Barrett's Mill Rd Pavement** – The section of Barrett's Mill Rd on which the asphalt rubber pavement preservation applied under the 2022 pilot program did not hold is being priced for a repair this spring.
- **Main St/Walden St Intersection Improvements** – The Main St and Walden St intersection project is nearing completion. As of April 1st, CPW's contractor has begun installing the textured brick-like crosswalk inlay. It is anticipated to take 3-4 days to complete the surface treatment. Given this work cannot take place during cooler temperatures nor during wet weather, it is anticipated it will be complete over the first two weeks of April in time for the 250th parade. The last outstanding item to be completed is the installation of the lighted bollards that are currently on order and anticipated to be delivered by the end of April. Following installation of the lighted bollards, the project will enter the warranty period.
- **Walden Street Sidewalk** – Engineering staff are reviewing a proposal from a consultant for the survey and design of the proposed sidewalk extension on Walden St from Magnolia Dr to Brister's Hill Rd. This project received a Complete Streets grant from MassDOT of \$0.5M.
- **Silver Hill Comprehensive Infrastructure Improvements Project** – Phase I water infrastructure work has been completed as of the 2nd week of January. This was a month and a half beyond the original completion date following delays caused by utility conflicts and the need to remove ledge that was not anticipated at the start of the project. Commonwealth Construction was also able to complete the installation of roadway underdrains along a portion of Turning Mill Rd and replacement of two deep sump catch basins. The remaining work includes reconstruction of Silver Hill Rd from Monument St to Turning Mill Rd, Turning Mill Rd, and Cress Brook Rd and is scheduled for the spring of 2025. Phase II design, consisting of water infrastructure improvements and road rehab for the remaining portion of Silver Hill Rd is nearing completion. The design consultant, Wright-Pierce and Engineering are planning to attend the April 23rd Natural Resources Commission hearing to present the scope of the project and request the required wetlands

permit. Additionally, a recent meeting was held with members of the Silver Hill Association to discuss the Phase II design and how it is addressing roadway stormwater runoff.

- **Sign Inventory** – Engineering staff continue to review a proposal from Streetscan to obtain a complete town wide inventory update of our traffic and parking signs within the public rights-of-way. This inventory is anticipated to include the location, type, and condition, of signs along with the signpost material. This inventory would be created using the existing survey data that was previously collected by Streetscan when they surveyed the Town’s roadway pavement condition in June 2024.

- **Transportation Planning and Evaluation** – After finalizing and submitting the asset management plans for street pavement and for sidewalks, the consultant, Stantec continues to develop criteria for the selection of traffic and safety improvements and identify transportation improvement projects needed. A workshop with Town staff is scheduled for Stantec to review the work related to the safety projects after which Stantec will provide a draft report which will be submitted to the Transportation Advisory Committee. Additionally, the new Director of Community Development, Alyssa Sandoval is making arrangements for Stantec to proceed with remaining tasks in the initial contract for the Comprehensive Transportation Study. Regarding Stantec’s evaluation of the Rte. 2 study, an introductory meeting with MassDOT engineers was held and plans on the development of concepts for the rotary were discussed.

- **Main Street, Baker Avenue and Cottage Street Intersection Improvements** – The engineering design by Jacobs on the reconfiguration of this intersection and replacement of the obsolete signal system is proceeding as more positive feedback from impacted abutters were received in recent months. With verbal agreements regarding easements in place with most of the abutters including Chase Bank and TD Bank, Jacob’s has started to advance the design to final. Discussions with the #7 Cottage Street owner, which involved an acceptance of land for the placement of a signal mast as well as the giving of excess right-of-way were held to finalize the agreement between the Town and the abutter. Progress has been made with the #113- #1141 Main Street abutter as well. Staff will be working with legal counsel and the projects land surveyor to produce easement plans and documents for all abutters. A community at large meeting will be scheduled within the upcoming months. Engineering will post the more refined concept plan to a webpage that is under development once Jacobs has updated the plans based on the bank’s feedback. National Grid has provided plans for upgrading of their gas infrastructure within the project limits.

- **Stormwater Utility** – Work continues in the development of the stormwater utility in preparation for its implementation in FY26. Below are the key steps that are ongoing, and others identified for further action for establishing and implementing the rate:
 - The Evaluation of a Stormwater Enterprise Fund report was finalized and published on the Stormwater web page.
 - Conducting public outreach through April 2025, including presentations to the Finance Committee, League of Women Voters, Concord Bridge, and the Select

Board.

- Conducted an interview with *The Concord Bridge* municipal reporter, Dakota Antelman, to provide an overview of the work completed to establish the stormwater utility. Discussed the necessity of the utility for the town and discussed the various fee structures under consideration by the Public Works Commission.
- Public hearing to finalize stormwater fee structures and credit policy at the May 2025 PWC meeting. Fee structures to be approved by the PWC will be conditioned to allow for adjustments commensurate with the budget approved at the annual town meeting.
- Present the projected FY 2026 stormwater enterprise budget (operations and capital) for approval at the 2025 Annual Town Meeting in June.
- Contract with NISC, the same billing platform as Water and Sewer, and CMLP. NISC has submitted a proposal for the development of the billing for the stormwater utility which the Town plans to contract for by March. The goal is to issue the first bills in early FY26.

Staff will continue to add detailed tasks to these steps and set milestones within the anticipated schedule leading to the implementation of the stormwater utility.

- **Stormwater MS4 Permit** –The Engineering Division has begun work to meet the Year-7 requirements of the MS4 Permit, which must be submitted to both the EPA and MassDEP. The MS4 Permit mandates that the Town conduct wet weather sampling to identify potential illicit discharges caused by high groundwater or excessive runoff. Approximately 55 outfalls require sampling to complete this analysis, which must be finalized by June 30, 2028. The contract with Comprehensive Environmental Inc. (CEI) has been executed to initiate wet weather sampling efforts for 2025 and the work is being scheduled.

Public outreach efforts including presentations to school classes are ongoing, in alignment with the Town’s objectives to educate residents about pollution mitigation. These educational messages will focus on reducing pollutants that contribute to surface water contamination within the Town.

The draft of the new MS4 permit was released by the EPA on November 22, 2024, and is currently in the public comment period, which has been extended from February 20, 2025, to May 21, 2025. The Engineering Division is working on preparing comments on the draft permit.

- **Drainage Improvements** – The following outlines drainage-improvement efforts made by the Engineering Division over the past couple of months:
 - Ripley Hill Road – Drainage issues were highlighted during the design of roadway improvements. An in-depth analysis by the Engineering team led to the development of drainage improvement plans. These plans include the addition of 5 leaching catch basins, 1 regular catch basin, 2 gutter inlets, replacement of the

existing pipe that is blocked, and the installation of a perforated HDPE pipe. This work is expected to start this spring.

- Turning Mill Road – A design by Wright-Pierce to address the flooding issues regularly experienced on Turning Mill Rd was incorporated in the Silver Hill Improvements Phase I project that is under construction. The design includes the installation of an underdrain, replacement of identified failing drainage structures, and a new street profile. This work was completed in December 2024, except for the amended road profile, which is scheduled to occur in spring 2025.
 - Silver Hill Road – The design of the Silver Hill Improvements Phase II project addresses deteriorated drainage infrastructure but also incorporates stormwater treatment measures to improve the quality of the street runoff being discharged.
 - Church St. Parking lot – This parking lot rehab project, described further under Parking Lots will include grading, drainage and improved stormwater management being designed by McClure Engineers.
 - Spencer Brook Rd Culvert - Engineering staff are reviewing a consultant proposal for the design of the replacement of the culvert on Spencer Brook Rd that is in a deteriorated condition. This is the same location where the guardrail was damaged by a moving vehicle and temporary barriers are in place.
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- **Petition for Temporary Repairs to Private Ways: Dover Street & Darton Street** – The design consultant HSI/IMEG has completed the field survey and soil borings and continues on the design of a feasible and sustainable solution for the persistent flooding problems at the intersection of Dover St and Darton St. CPW received the concept plans and a preliminary cost estimate and presented them to the project abutters. A Town Meeting article has been finalized to seek approval for a budget to fund the construction. A public hearing on the petition for the Temporary Repair of a Private Way in the White Pond Watershed is scheduled for the April 2025 PWC meeting. Questions regarding the petition process, ownership of the proposed drainage system, easements, and other related matters are still under review with Town Counsel. The easement from Wombat Real Estate on land at 20 Darton St and 4A Shore Dr to allow portions of the proposed stormwater system to run along and through these properties has been executed and recorded.

 - **Landfill Gas and Water Monitoring** – State-mandated environmental monitoring of the capped landfill at 755 Walden Street is ongoing under a new three-year contract with OneAtlas. OneAtlas conducted the first landfill gas and water monitoring of the year on March 24 and submitted the report to MassDEP on April 1.

 - **Baker Avenue Culvert Sinkhole** – The consulting engineer, Wright-Pierce is finalizing the design of the permanent repair which includes the installation of a significant concrete structure to provide better access to the triple culvert system. Additionally, permitting and coordination with utilities and affected abutters are occurring in preparation for bidding the project to have the construction work begin late spring. A preliminary meeting with the Natural Resources Director was held to discuss what stream repairs may be proposed by this project. A National Grid project to relocate a gas

main that is within the sinkhole area is being designed and will need to occur in advance of the culvert project.

- **Church Street and Conant Street Parking Lots Improvements** – The pavement in these parking lots needs repair. The design improvements aim to enhance accessibility and convenience for the community. An engineering consultant, McClure Engineers is in the process of finalizing conceptual plans for the project on the Church St lot that will improve the site layout, access and circulation routes, grading, drainage, and utility function. Additionally, the project will include enhanced stormwater management, landscaping, and the installation of EV charging stations. The concept plan for the project has been shared with the abutters and comments have been provided to the consultant and they are working on finalizing the design.

Additionally, CPW Engineering staff have begun the survey work for the Conant Street parking lots. The design for Conant Street parking improvements will be completed in-house by Engineering staff. The plan is to finalize the design and prepare bid documents for both parking lots, with construction targeted to begin in the late summer of this year.

- **West Concord MBTA Parking Lot Repairs** – The Engineering Division is preparing plans and bid documents for a pavement overlay to maintain the parking lot in acceptable condition until the Assabet River pedestrian trail and bridge project is constructed in the next 4-5 years. It is anticipated that the project will be added to the 2025 Pavement Management Project for bidding purposes.
- **Warner's Pond I&M Plan** – The final Inspection and Maintenance (I&M) Plan for dam inspections, prepared and submitted by Pare Corporation, has been completed and reviewed. The plan outlines detailed schedules and procedures for routine maintenance and inspections to assess and ensure the structural integrity of the dams. It has been distributed to the Highway and Grounds Division and the Natural Resources Commission.
- **Warner's Pond Task Force** – Engineering staff have been attending the Warner's Pond Task Force monthly meetings and have been actively involved in reviewing and providing comments on the proposal, plans and studies completed. The Warner's Pond – Public Forum for the community meeting is scheduled for 7-9pm at the Concord Town House on 4/3/2025.
- **Gerow Recreation Area** – The remaining item to be dealt with under the construction contract with Cole Contracting is related to the survival of plantings installed last summer and it will be addressed in this spring when the plantings start leafing again. Final project closeout will follow.
- **2025 Guardrail Project** – Engineering staff presented to the Public Works Commission during their March meeting to recommend changes to the guardrail materials used for

guardrail replacement projects. Bid documents are being finalized for the 2025 Guardrail Replacement Project using standard galvanized beams in areas outside of historic districts. The guardrail locations selected for the project were based on Engineering's priority list for improvement and is primarily focused on the extent of deterioration and traffic volume of the road the guardrail protects.

- **Harvey Wheeler Community Center Entrance Improvements** – Greenman-Pedersen (GPI), the designer of the repair project submitted for the Town's review contract and bid documents to address the deteriorated basement entrance and the deficiencies of the main building entrance. The contract documents have been sent to the Town's procurement office for review and are expected to be advertised in April with construction expected to begin this summer.
- **DPLM Project Reviews** – Engineering continues to perform reviews through an iterative process on application plans, calculations, and reports submitted for proposed developments and redevelopments in town. The more significant and complex private development projects are typically performed by third parties and paid for by the respective applicants. Also, Engineering staff certify that conditions of approval pertinent to CPW are satisfied. The projects that received significant engineering reviews include: 61B Walden Street; 275 Forest Ridge Road - The Residences at Thoreau; 1400 Lowell Road - Middlesex School Field House; 1200-1224 Main Street - Alpine Property Management Corp; 300-310 Baker Avenue; 1440-1450 Main Street.
- **Utility Coordination** – Engineering continues to provide utility coordination with private utility companies performing work within the Town's rights-of-way (ROW). Monthly coordination meetings with National Grid are held because of the number of upgrade and pipe replacement projects on their capital plan as well as the extent of their leak repair program.

Each installation of new utility mains and appurtenances, extensions, upgrades, or replacements – underground and overhead within the public ROW requires Select Board approval of petitions for a Grant of Location (GOL) by the respective utility company. Engineering reviews the proposed project plans, coordinates with other Town interests and submits a comment letter to the select board prior to the scheduling of the public hearing.

The ongoing projects involving Grants of Location for utility projects and status include:

- National Grid's 475-806 Monument Street GOL request. Plans have been revised and reviewed by CPW. A comment letter has been submitted to the Select Board which will schedule the public hearing.
- National Grid's 4 - 195 Thoreau Street GOL request. Awaiting National Grid's plan revisions due to moratorium streets.

- National Grid’s Main Street GOL requests from Edgewood Road to Winslow Street. Awaiting National Grid’s plan revisions due to moratorium streets.
 - National Grid’s GOL Request for Crescent Road, Hosmer Road, Garland Road, Wilson Road, Nashoba Road. Staff prepared a comment letter for this project and the public hearing was held on September 9, 2024, where the GOL was approved.
 - National Grid’s 1-28 Sudbury Road request. Awaiting National Grid’s plan revisions due to work proposed on moratorium streets.
 - National Grid’s 21-92 Old Bridge Road, Main Street, Cottage Street GOL request. CPW’s review being finalized.
 - National Grid’s 1200 Main Street GOL request for a Regulator Station. CPW’s review being finalized.
 - National Grid’s 3-46 Pond Street GOL request. Awaiting CPW’s initial review.
 - National Grid’s 21-92 Old Bridge Rd, CON & Old Marlboro Rd request. Awaiting CPW’s initial review.
 - National Grid’s Simon Willard was approved by the Select Board and construction started in November 2024.
- **Right-of-Way/Driveway Permitting** – As of April 1st, the winter moratorium, prohibiting non-emergency road work during the winter months has ended. Engineering is now accepting, reviewing and issuing driveway and right of way permits. Last construction season, Engineering processed 103 right-of-way and 74 driveway permits.
 - **Parking Meter Removal Project** – K. B. Aruda Construction Inc. has completed the parking meter removal project, which included the removal of 103 parking meter posts and surface restoration (asphalt, concrete sidewalks, or grass) on several streets throughout the town. With the parking meters gone, signs like the PAY PARKING 3 HOUR LIMIT are to be replaced with signs indicating the time limit. The Highway and Grounds Division has ordered new signs to replace the existing 36 signs.
 - **Miscellaneous Items** – the Engineering Division is planning to use the services of a contractor to perform spot repairs on sidewalks to reduce trip hazards identified along the 250th parade route, to be completed before the 250th celebration.