





## TOWN OF MERRIMACK INTER-DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

DATE: November 18, 2019

AT (OFFICE): Department of Public Works

**FROM:** Kyle Fox  
Director of Public Works

**SUBJECT:** CIP Sidewalk Projects Suggestions

**TO:** Eileen Cabanel  
Town Manager

The pace of completion of the Souhegan River Trail project has caused concern for the Town Center Committee as their goals are not being realized as expected and hoped. Following are five suggested sidewalk projects that the Town could complete outside of the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) at a cost of around \$200,000 each that are in line with the Town Center Committees objectives. Also included is a summary of what has been completed and what projects remain in the Federal/State funded programs.

1. **Woodbury Street** – The Woodbury Street sidewalk is the #6 priority in the 2009 Town Center Committee Pedestrian Plan (The Plan). This section would involve constructing approximately 1,250 feet of sidewalk that would connect existing sidewalk at DW Highway to McElwain Street where it would connect to existing sidewalk via a crosswalk. This project is estimated at \$200,000 for design and construction. An easement would likely be required from Merrimack School district for placement of the sidewalk on the south side of Woodbury Street. Placement on the north side would likely require private property easements.
2. **Twin Bridge Road** – An approximately 1,000 foot sidewalk on Twin Bridge Road would connect DW Highway (and future sidewalks constructed as part of the US 3 bridge replacement project) to the trail system in Twin Bridge Park that leads to Kids Kove and Bise Field below the MYA building. Additionally, this would give connection through the Merrimack Commons development (Tractor Supply) to the apartments on Front Street. This project is estimated at \$160,000 for design and construction. Placement of this sidewalk would likely be on the south side of Twin Bridge Road where there appears to be ample right of way except for the parcel at the intersection of DW Highway and Twin Bridge Road (Parcel 5D3-119) where an easement will likely be needed.
3. **DW Highway at the Chamberlain Bridge to Railroad Avenue (Fraser Square)** – This project would construct approximately 600 feet of sidewalk on the west side of DW Highway (Priority #7 on The Plan) and 155 feet in front of Fraser Square (Priority #5 on The Plan). This would complete a gap in sidewalks on DW Highway. The estimated cost for this project is \$200,000 for design and construction. There appears to be sufficient right of way available to complete this project with no private property easements required.
4. **East Chamberlain Road to Wright Avenue** – This project would construct approximately 950' of sidewalk on the west side of DW Highway from the second parcel south of East Chamberlain Road to Wright Avenue, connecting internally to an existing



sidewalk section at New World Gas (392 DW Highway). The estimated cost to design and construct this sidewalk is \$240,000. There appears to be sufficient right of way available to complete this project with no private property easements required.

5. **Baboosic Lake Road from Library to O’Gara Drive (north side)** – This 1,500’ section of sidewalk would connect the existing sidewalk adjacent to the library to O’Gara Drive, past the police station. This section is part of the #7 priority on The Plan. This project is estimated at \$300,000 for design and construction. Private property easements will likely be necessary from the church, cemetery, daycare, and a house lot.

Although current progress on the 2009 Town Center Pedestrian and Trail Master Plan is slow, I do want to mention the amazing progress the Town and the Town Center Committee have achieved, both in completed projects and future funded projects. A list of those accomplishments follows.

#### **Completed Projects:**

- Two Transportation Enhancement projects (Federal TE which is now the TAP program) completed sidewalks on the east and west sides of DW Highway from Loop Road south to the Chamberlain Bridge on the east side (past and into Watson Park) and to Buckley’s on the west side. These were project priorities #1b and 7 on The Plan.
- With the assistance of Merrimack Rotary, a stepped path now connects DW Highway through Abbie Griffin Park to the Town Hall complex. This was priority #1a on The Plan.

#### **Funded Projects:**

- Souhegan River Trail – this project is in the final stages of design and will be ready for advertisement for bid in 2020 (pending the 80% federal funding availability which is currently projected as FY2024). This project is priority #1 in The Plan.
- Wire Road intersection connection sidewalks – the realignment of Wire Road with DW Highway project is scheduled for FY 2027. The 80% federally funded project will include sidewalks that are priority #2 and #7 on The Plan.
- US 3 bridge replacement over Baboosic Brook – this 80% state/federally funded project will include sidewalks on both the east and west sides of DW Highway. Although the Town may need to contribute to sidewalk extensions from this project to complete the goal of The Plan, this project would complete priorities #3 and #7.

Please let me know if you have questions on any of these items.

Kyle

CC: Paul Micali, Finance Director/Assistant Town Manager  
Dawn Tuomala, Deputy Director/Town Engineer  
File

# Town Center Pedestrian & Trail Master Plan Priorities

## Merrimack Town Center Committee

### Sidewalks

- 1A Abbie Griffin Park to Route 3
- 1B Frontage on Watson Park
- 2 Merrimack Library North to Wire Road
- 3 East side of Route 3, Twin Bridge Park to Twin Bridge Road
- 4 West side of O'Gara Drive
- 5 East Side of Route 3 Chamberlain Bridge to Frazier Square
- 6 South Side Woodbury Street, High School of Route 3
- 7 West Side Route 3, Chamberlain Bridge to Rite Aid; Classic Gas to Twin Bridge Park; Wire Road to Duncan Donuts; North side Baboosic Lake Road, Library to FEET Overpass

### Trails

- 1 Shoreline Watson Park
- 2 Souhegan River Trail
- 3 Watson Park to Twin Bridge Park

The Town Center Committee was created by the Merrimack Town Council in 2009 to implement the Town Center Pedestrian and Trail Master Plan developed with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission.

### Volunteer Committee of Representatives from

Town Council  
Planning Board  
School District  
Library

Chamber of Commerce  
Merrimack Citizens at large

### Assistance Received from;

Merrimack Town Council  
Merrimack Public Works Dept  
NH Dept of Transportation  
Nashua Regional Planning Commission  
Merrimack Conservation Commission  
National Park Service  
Pennichuck Water Works  
Merrimack Rotary Club  
Lettering Design Co.

### Interested?

Join our Committee!  
[www.merrimacknh.gov](http://www.merrimacknh.gov)  
Boards & Commissions  
Town Center Committee

# Town of Merrimack Town Center Pedestrian Trail & Sidewalk Master Plan



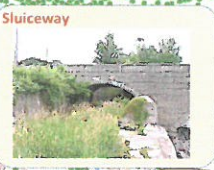
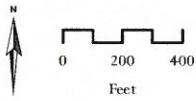
2017



# Merrimack Town Center Pedestrian & Trail Master Plan

June 2017

- Existing Trail/Path
- Conceptual Trail
- Desired Trail Connection
- Trail Priority
- Rail Line
- Future Pedestrian Bridge
- Building
- Water
- Existing Sidewalk
- Sidewalk Need
- Sidewalk Priority (see brochure for descriptions)
- Sidewalk recommended



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