BELKNAP ROAD EXTENSION REQUEST FOR CORRIDOR FUNDS

FROM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT STAFF REPORT

January 22, 2025

PURPOSE: To construct an extension of Belknap road, connecting it to Lowell Road at the signalized intersection of Lowell and Birch Roads. This project will enhance safety for drivers on Lowell and County Roads, and is pursuant to priorities outlined by the Planning Board and Highway Safety Committee in 2019.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Memo from Town Engineer to Interim Town Planner, Jay Minkarah, & Planning Board, dated January 14, 2025 Attachment "A"
- B. ROW Plan and Profile Sheet C-5 Attachment "B"

COMMENTS:

The Town is currently pursuing the extension of Belknap road to connect at the current intersection of Lowell and Birch Street, per recommendation of the Planning Board and Approval by the Board of Selectmen prior. The next step of the project will be completing federal NEPA permitting and purchasing the required ROW from the neighboring parcels. This project is supported by the Hudson Highway Safety Committee. Funding will be pulled from both Zone 1 and Zone 2 Traffic Improvement accounts.

DRAFT MOTIONS

APPROVE funding of the ROW purchase with corridor accounts:

I move to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the purchase of property for establishment of a Right of Way connecting Belknap Road and Lowell Road using Corridor Account# 2070-000-701 and 2070-000-702 funds received after August 2018, not to exceed \$100,000.00, in accordance with the request made by Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer.

Motion by:	Second:	Carried/Failed:

APPROVE funding of the NEPA permit with corridor accounts:

I move to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the expenditure of funds pursuant to the NEPA application associated with the extension of Belknap Road using Corridor Account# 2070-000-701 and 2070-000-702 funds received after August 2018, not to exceed \$65,000.00, in accordance with the request made by Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer.

Motion by:	Second:	Carried/Failed:
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TOWN OF HUDSON

Engineering Department



TO:

Planning Board

Jay Minkarah, Acting Town Planner

FROM:

Elvis Dhima, P.E., Town Engineer

DATE:

January 14, 2025

RE:

Lowell / Birch / Belknap Road – Update and Proposed Tasks

In 2019 Planning Board initiated an assessment and evaluation of Lowell and County Road improvements which resulted in multiple scenarios, including the building a new road segment from Belknap Road to Lowell Road.

We are currently working on finalizing the design and state permitting for \$181,300 by utilizing Corridor 1 and Corridor 2 funds. We are in the process of pursuing federal funding for the construction phase and making our case that this project is a shovel ready project and the Town will cover the expenditures for the design, permitting and the necessary right of way. We have completed the design and ready to start the purchase of the right of way and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) which is a federal law/permit required to be completed prior to receiving federal funding.

I'm asking the Planning Board to recommend to the Board of Selectmen to utilize corridor funds for the right of way and NEPA permit at this time

Below are two motions for your consideration.

First Motion

To recommend the expenditure for up of \$100,000 for expenditure and purchase of right of way to Board of Selectmen, using funds received after August 2018 on account Zone 1 Traffic Improvements 2070-000-701 and Zone 2 Traffic Improvements 2070-000-702, as recommended by Town Engineer.

Second Motion

To recommend the expenditure for up to \$65,000 for completion of the NEPA permit to Board of Selectmen, using funds received after August 2018 on account Zone 1 Traffic Improvements 2070-000-701 and Zone 2 Traffic Improvements 2070-000-702, as recommended by Town Engineer.