



Department of Public Works | 860.584.6125

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 6, 2021

TO: Mayor Jeffrey Caggiano
Board of Public Works

FROM: Raymond A. Rogozinski, P.E., Director of Public Works

RE: Bridge Construction Updates – Jerome Ave/Mem Blvd/Downs St/ Mellen St & East St

The Department of Public Works is currently in the process to replacing/rehabilitating several City bridges. A summary of the current status is provided below:

Jerome Ave – Freeman Brook:

The Jerome Ave. Bridge scheduled to be replaced is located between Coolidge Ave. and Sturbridge Court. The public information meeting to present the proposed project to the public was conducted on December 6, 2021 and was lightly attended (1 residents). A recording of the presentation will be posted on DPW's website. The bridge design is approximately 30% complete and is scheduled for construction in 2023. Funding for the bridge replacement will be through the State/Local bridge program that will reimburse City 49.5% of the estimated \$2,970,000 cost (\$1,499,877 City). A link to the presentation provided at the public information meeting is provided below:

<http://ct-bristol2.civicplus.com/1076/Jerome-Avenue-Bridge>

Please note that the existing steel pedestrian bridge located east of the bridge will be eliminated and sidewalks will be incorporated into the bridge design along the roadway to provide pedestrian access. In addition, the referenced cost estimate of \$2,970,000 is based on a FULL road closure and detour during construction. The proposed Jerome Ave. detour plan will be longer (travel time) than DPW's typical detours and will increase traffic on Shrub Rd/ Burlington Ave and Stevens St/Stafford Ave. An option to stage bridge construction in two phases to provide alternate one-way traffic has been investigated, however it is estimated that cost will increase by \$320,000 increasing the City share by \$160,000. In addition, two phase construction will increase construction time approximately 8 months and prevent completion of the bridge in 2023 and result in Jerome Ave. traffic being impacted into 2024 (including a winter shutdown). As a result DPW recommends the following:

City of Bristol
Public Work Department
111 North Main Street
Bristol, CT 06010
www.bristolct.gov



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Direct DPW to proceed with replacing the Jerome Ave Bridge over the Freeman Brook as a single phase/ full road closure construction. Said action will reduce the traffic impact time on Jerome Ave by 8 months and decrease construction cost by \$320,000.

Based on the referenced schedule of 2023 DPW CIP budget will include a request of \$2,970,000 (\$1,499,877 City) as part of the FY2022-23 budget.

Memorial Blvd Bridge:

Memorial Blvd Bridge was paved and open for traffic on December 6, 2021. The DOT Mem Blvd/Riverside Ave/ Blakeslee St traffic signal timing has been returned to pre-construction timing. The contractor Trademark Construction will continue to work on the project outside the roadway pavement area. Construction of the architectural obelisks proposed at each corner of the bridge are being fabricated offsite and will be installed in the spring of 2022.

DPW does not anticipate construction cost overruns for the Mem Blvd Bridge budget of \$3,616,000. However, State reimbursement (49.5%) associated with the obelisk (\$677,000) is a concern and therefore may result in a revenue shortfall of (\$338,500). DPW proposes to mitigate the shortfall by eliminating the estimated \$300,000 lighting proposed by the architect QAM and transfer from DPW project (\$188,000) that have been completed below budget.

Louisiana Ave Bridge

The replacement of the Louisiana Ave Bridge is substantially complete. Fencing removed as part of the project on the north side of Louisiana Ave is being reset and Eversource has to remove temporary poles that were required to facilitate construction. The project is funded through the federal / local bridge program therefore the City receives 80% reimbursement of the estimated final project cost of \$3,100,000. The project budget established by CT DOT is \$4,200,000, therefore approximately \$900,000 will be un-used (\$180,000 City).

Downs Street Bridge

The design of Down Street Bridge is approximately 90% complete. The bridge is scheduled to be rehabilitated (foundation to remain in place). Construction is scheduled for 2022 with construction starting in the spring and being completed prior to winter. The work will include a full closure of



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Downs Street which will require Downs Street residents to take a right onto South Street in order to travel east.

The project budget is currently \$2,000,000 and will be funded with LotCip funds administrated by NVCOG. DPW has been advised by the engineer GM2 Inc. that project costs have increased \$330,000 due to construction cost increase and the need to replace the foundation of the bridge abatements. DPW has confirmed that the additional \$330,000 can be provided through NVCOG, however DPW will not request additional BOF funding until project bids are received and the required funding level is confirmed.

Mellen St/ East St. Bridge

The design of both the Mellen St and the East Street bridge is 50% completed. The project budgets are \$2,200,000 (\$440,000 city share) and \$4,100,000 (\$820,000 City share) respectively and will be funded through the Federal/local bridge program (80% reimbursement). The Mellen St project will be a rehabilitation and the East St bridge project will consist of a full replacement. Based on the referenced schedule Mellen Street will be bid in February 2023, therefore the CIP request of \$2,200,000 (\$440,000) will be part of DPW's CIP FY2022-23 budget request.

Due to availability of federal funding, construction will not start until 2023. Although the condition of the East Street Bridge currently requires weight restrictions, construction of Mellen Street is scheduled in 2023 prior to East St in 2024 due to required time to obtain state and federal environmental construction permits.

Please feel free to contact me with any question at 860-584-6113.