

City of
Fitchburg



Department of
Public Works

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DPW Weekly Update June 21 - June 28, 2019

Dear Mayor, Councilors, and Colleagues:

This week marks a transition period in DPW leadership with the retirement of longtime Commissioner Lenny Laakso. Lenny and the DPW team have been very welcoming and gracious in transferring institutional knowledge prior to his departure. Please accept the following report outlining the achievements of DPW this past week.

Roadways

A 1,700-foot section of Scott Road/Richardson Road from Ashby State Road (Rt 31) to Saima Park started reconstruction this week. The roadway was reclaimed - a process consisting of grinding up the existing asphalt and sub-base and recycling it into a strong and uniform base.

The bottom pavement layer (binder course) was laid down on the new base and the final layer (wearing course) will be laid down the week of July 8th following the holiday week. PJ Albert is the contractor and the total cost will be approximately \$130,000 paid from the Chapter 90 (state) funds.



Figure 1 - Richardson Road

Potholes were filled at the following locations:

- John Fitch Highway
- Clarendon Street
- Arn Howe Farm Road
- Billings Road
- Williams Road
- Summer Street
- Simmonds Street
- Main Street
- Hannigan Court
- Airport Road
- Depot Street

Sink holes were repaired and paved on Hartford Street.

Catch basins were repaired and paved at the following locations:

- Summer Street
- Boulder Drive
- Forest Hill Cemetery

Old Princeton Road was regraded.

Bridges & Culverts

MassDOT has awarded a \$500,000 grant to the City under the Small Bridge Program for repairs to the Westminster Hill Road over Philips Brook. Engineering services are being procured to design the improvements.

Civic Days

Street sweepers continued to clean the downtown area in preparation for next week's festivities. Trash was picked up on Main Street and Riverfront Park. The Common was mowed and landscaped. Potholes along the Longsjo Race route will be patched in the upcoming week. DPW will continue to assist with preparations.

Parks & Recreation

Nate Larose and Nicolas Bosonetto attended an award ceremony in Lowell to receive a \$50,000 MassTrails design grant from Lt. Governor Polito. The grant was awarded to the Fitchburg Board of Park Commissioners for the Cogshall Mirror Lake Accessibility Project Phase I.

The swimming pool at the J. Robert Crowley Swimming Complex at Coolidge Park opened June 22. The kiddie pool is under repair. The City received a pool wheelchair through a generous donation by IC Federal Credit Union through the Fitchburg Disability Commission. A press conference will be held in the upcoming weeks.

The bathroom toilet and the outside shower drains at the pool house were fixed.

Parkhill Park Splash Park opened June 26 (Regular Hours: 11-6 Seven Days a Week)

Crocker Park Splash Pad opened June 27 (Active 8am - 7pm)

Training for 13 Summer Playground Leaders was concluded on June 24.

Grass was cut at the various parks.

The Monument Park irrigation system was fixed.

Loam was installed at the soccer field in Coolidge Park. Hydro-seeding will be completed in the upcoming weeks.

DPW continued to assist in the construction of the trail for Rollstone Hill.

Piping that crossed the river at the Steam Line Park were removed.

Cemeteries

Five funerals were held this week. Meetings were held with families at need and pre-need of funerals.

Developed an RFP for the acquisition of cemetery records management software.

Maintained Forest Hill Cemetery by cutting grass, brush, picking up litter, and weeding flower beds.

Mausoleum and graves were cleaned.

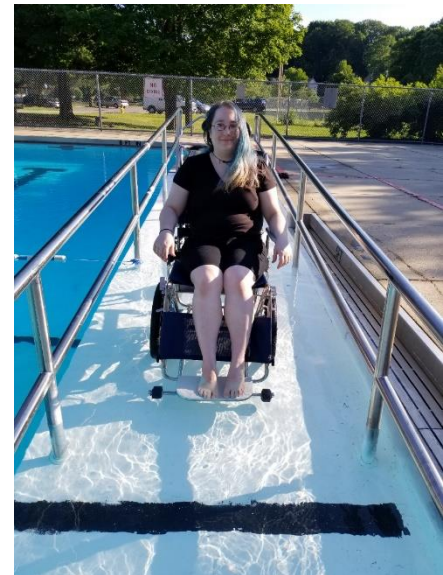


Figure 2 - Pool Access Wheelchair

Waste Water

Waste Water Division continued routine maintenance of plant equipment and facilities.

Rain event on June 25 caused approximately 306,000 gallons of combined flow to bypass the Secondary Treatment System. This discharge received preliminary treatment and disinfection prior to entering the Nashua River. Completion of the combined sewer separation project will reduce the frequency and volumes of this types of releases.

Due to the abnormal wet weather this spring, the waste water facility is using above average quantities of flow based chemicals (Sodium Hypochlorite, Ferric Chloride, Sodium Bisulfite, and Magnesium Hydroxide).

Crews responded to sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) on Hassett Street at Albee Street. About 20 gallons of sewage likely spilled onto pavement. Jetted and video inspected sewer line, and removed a chunk of brick that was causing blockage. Sprayed down road.

Located and raised a buried sewer manhole at #110 Depot Road.

Two employees attended confined space awareness training.

Conducted dye test at #72 Charlton Street in Lunenburg. A large pump chamber was present, so dye got diluted, but resident confirmed they are connected into the Fitchburg System. Will need to work with Lunenburg to rectify any billing issues.

Year #2 Rain Barrels Program distribution event will be Saturday morning (6/29).

Water

Performed various coordination tasks for SCADA project, including records search and scheduling site visits/meeting for week of July 15th.

Engineering

Engineering continued support of City Hall reconstruction project by inspecting installation of new sewer main and manhole installation in Wood Place and on site. Attended City Hall Building Committee meeting to coordinate work.

Coordinated with Community Development Department on Main Street 2-way conversion project. Members of Water, Waste Water, and Engineering Divisions reviewed existing utility plans to determine conflicts with proposed work. Coordinated schedule of proposed combined sewer separation, drainage issues, and waterline work.

Began reviewing Emergency Action Plan updates done by interns for various City dams. Inspected McTaggart's Pond check water levels. Pond is still full and spilling over after this week's rain.

Coordinated with and attended US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) inspection of the Nashua River Flood Damage Reduction System and attended inspection

Attended presentation by Weston & Sampson on their iDataCollect GIS asset management system

Administration

Applied for and received \$147,303.89 reimbursement from FEMA for the March 2018 snowstorm.

Submitted request to City Council to accept the Community Foundation grant of \$12,000 for the Rollstone Hill Trail. Also signed the acceptance forms required by the Community Foundation of North Central.

Submitted request to the Mayor and City Council to accept a gift of up to \$290,000 from Unifit for paving of roadways after gas line work. A total of \$265,688 has already been agreed to, the balance of the \$290,000 is for expected future work.

Sincerely,

Nicolas H. Bosonetto, PE
Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer