Public Works Department
2014 Highway Report

In 2014 the Department of Public Works (DPW) reconstructed 0.80 mile of Cocheco Road. In addition 0.90 mile of Chestnut Hill Road between Cocheco Rd. and Dodge Cross Rd. and 0.75 mile of Hornetown Road between River Rd. and 10 Rod Rd. were shimmed and repaved. The last 1.10 mile of Chestnut Hill Rd. was shimmed to restore the correct road profile. Meetinghouse Hill Rd. and the lower half of Ridge Rd. had the shoulders cut and re-ditched to provide better drainage. These two roads are scheduled to be repaved in 2015. We continue to work on gravel roads that we have identified to be lacking adequate gravel and with poor drainage. In 2015 and in years to follow, roadway rehabilitation and sidewalk improvements throughout the Town must continue to be one of the primary focuses for the DPW.

Our goal is to repave approximately 2.5 miles of roadways per year. However, the amount of roadways that are improved on an annual basis will be a function of the budget that is approved by Town of Farmington residents. The current cost to reconstruct a mile of road is aprox. $185,000 which includes grinding existing asphalt in place, reshaping road profile, compaction, and repaving. Ultimately, the DPW's mission will be to continue to improve the condition of the Town's roads and sidewalks for public safety and infrastructure longevity, and to develop long and short-term maintenance objectives. The Director of Public Works will work closely with the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen to develop a roadway and sidewalk rehabilitation and maintenance plan for the betterment of the Town in the years to come.

The DPW will also continue its focus on maintaining and repairing existing drainage ditches and storm-water swales, catch basins, culverts, in conjunction with gravel road and paved road improvements. In addition, pavement striping, painting of crosswalks for pedestrian's safety, the application of calcium chloride for dust control measures, and tree maintenance are also performed throughout the year.

The DPW continued to maintain roadways and sidewalks during the winter months by plowing, sanding and salting of the roadways, and patching potholes as they were discovered. Damage to Town equipment and to personal property continues to be of concern during the winter months. All boulders, stone posts (unless property boundary marker), stone and concrete walls, fencing and lawn ornaments must be outside of the limits of the Towns' right-of-way for maintenance purposes. Mailboxes should be set to a standard height and a standard distance off the roadway as specified by the local U.S. Postal Service.

The Department of Public Works maintains all Town-owned vehicles including Police, Fire, Water & Wastewater, Transfer Station, Buildings and Grounds Maintenance, Recreation, and its own fleet vehicles. The department is developing a systematic approach for performing routine and preventative maintenance of the Town's fleet vehicles with the intent of prolonging the life of the vehicles and equipment that it operates. The DPW will continue working on refining the maintenance schedules, and performing preventative maintenance repairs throughout 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dale Sprague
Director of Public Works