



Upper Valley Lake Sunapee  
Regional Planning Commission



January 3, 2017

Town of New London Planning Board  
Attn: William Helm  
375 Main Street  
New London, NH 03257

**RE: New Hampshire 2019-2028 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan**

Per RSA 228:99 and RSA 240, New Hampshire's Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan is evaluated and updated in a two-year planning cycle. According to this two-year cycle, the state's nine Regional Planning Commissions evaluate existing Ten-Year Plan projects, and solicit and prioritize new highway and bridge projects in their respective regions. Regional priorities are then submitted for consideration by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) and the Governor and Executive Council to create a statewide Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TYP). The Ten-Year Plan is ultimately reviewed, and potentially revised, by the New Hampshire Legislature and enacted into law.

State and federal funding limitations have resulted in the need to restrict the addition of new projects to the plan. With these fiscal challenges in mind, the UVLSRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) will evaluate and prioritize all projects currently on the Ten-Year Plan and all projects previously proposed for Ten-Year Plan consideration.

**The UVLSRPC TAC will consider the following:**

- **New emergency projects that address an immediate safety concern;**
- **New projects proposed for construction during the final two years (the "out-years") of the Ten-Year Plan (2027 and 2028);**
- **Projects that are no longer needed and can be removed from the Ten-Year Plan;**
- **Projects that need to be re-prioritized within the Ten-Year Plan (e.g. construction advanced or postponed).**

\* Current and previously proposed TYP projects for the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Region are presented for your review in the enclosed table entitled: "Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission 2015-2024 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan Summary." Note that this table does not include programmatic projects in the Safe Routes to School, Highway Safety Improvement, Transportation Enhancement/Alternatives, and State Aid Bridge Program.



The current Ten-Year Plan can be viewed in its entirety on the NHDOT 2017-2026 Ten Year Plan webpage at: <http://www.nh.gov/dot/org/projectdevelopment/planning/typ/>.

Transportation improvement project proposals from local government officials are reviewed and prioritized by the UVLSRPC TAC, which is a Standing Committee of the Regional Planning Commission and comprises municipal representatives who are appointed by their local governing bodies, local public transportation agencies, and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation. Each of the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee region's 27 municipalities is entitled to one TAC representative, as was described in a letter we sent to each municipality on November 14, 2016

**If you wish to nominate a new emergency project or an "out-year" project in your community, the UVLSRPC Transportation Advisory Committee and the New Hampshire Department of Transportation require that you complete the enclosed *UVLSRPC Ten-Year Plan Project Submission Form* in its entirety. UVLSRPC staff can provide technical assistance at no cost to your community in scoping a potential project and completing the required form.**

**If your community intends to submit a project for consideration, the enclosed form must be delivered electronically to [aricker@uvlsrpc.org](mailto:aricker@uvlsrpc.org) or in hard-copy to the UVLSRPC offices at 10 Water Street, Suite 225 in Lebanon, NH by no later than 4:00 PM on Wednesday, March 1, 2017.**

Please feel free contact Adam Ricker or me by telephone at (603) 448-1680 or by email at [aricker@uvlsrpc.org](mailto:aricker@uvlsrpc.org) or [jedwards@uvlsrpc.org](mailto:jedwards@uvlsrpc.org) if you have any questions about this correspondence or the process to update New Hampshire's Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan.

Sincerely,



Jonathan Edwards  
Executive Director

cc: Planning Board  
Public Works Director/Road Agent

# UVLSRPC Ten Year Plan Project Submission Form

This form is the submission form for new projects for the Ten Year Plan. If you have any questions about this form, please contact the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee RPC (contact information below).

Please Note: Several of the questions require the submission of additional information, including maps and supporting evidence/documentation for the project.

**These documents should be returned to:**

Adam Ricker  
Planner  
Upper Valley Lake Sunapee RPC  
10 Water Street, Suite 225  
Lebanon, NH 03766  
(603) 448-1680  
aricker@uvlsrpc.org

**1. Originating Agency**

Unless the originating agency is the NH DOT, please ALSO check "Other" and enter the name of the City/Town, Planning Commission, or Transit Agency.

Check all that apply.

- City/Town
- Regional Planning Commission
- NH DOT
- Transit Agency
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Contact Person Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Contact Person Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Contact Person Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**5. Contact Person e-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

*The Purpose and Need Statements attempt to distill the intent of the proposal and the appropriateness of any proposed solutions in solving the transportation problem and meeting any other listed goals and objectives.*

**12. Description of Proposal Location**

---

---

---

---

**13. Purpose - What problem(s) is the proposal addressing (Purpose)?**

---

---

---

---

**14. Need - Is evidence available to support the need for the proposed project (Need)?** For example: crash history, turning movement counts, signal warrant analysis, etc.

---

---

---

---

---

---

**15. Goals and Objectives - Beyond those mentioned in the Purpose statement, what other issues will be addressed by the proposed project (Goals and Objectives)?**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**20. Cost Estimate: Engineering - Enter the estimated engineering cost.**

---

**21. Cost Estimate: Right-of-Way - Enter the estimated right-of-way cost.**

---

**22. Cost Estimate: Construction - Enter the estimated construction cost.**

---

**23. Cost Estimate: Structures - Enter the estimated structures cost.**

---

**24. Cost Estimate: Capital - Enter the estimated capital cost (Transit).**

---

**25. Cost Estimate: Operating - Enter the estimated operating cost (Transit).**

---

**26. Cost Estimate: TOTAL - Enter the total operating cost.**

---

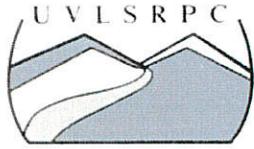
**27. Cost Estimate Details - What is the source(s) of the above cost estimate?**

---

---

---

---



Upper Valley Lake Sunapee  
Regional Planning Commission

May 8, 2015

Mr. William Cass, Acting Commissioner  
New Hampshire Department of Transportation  
7 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03302-0483

**RE: UVLSRPC Priorities for 2017-2026 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan**

Dear Acting Commissioner Cass:

The Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) has completed its solicitation for the 2017-2026 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan and has unanimously approved a fiscally-constrained set of project priorities. Per the LEAN Process improvements made during the last Ten-Year Plan update cycle, the TAC: 1) Prioritized projects according to the statewide project evaluation criteria; 2) Utilized the new Project Information Form for all existing and proposed Ten-Year Plan projects; and 3) Developed a fiscally-constrained Ten-Year Plan program based on the NHDOT-identified regional budget target. UVLSRPC's proposed 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan program of non-programmatic projects is fiscally-constrained to our regional budget target of \$82 Million, which assumes level funding from the regional budget target utilized in the development of the 2015-2024 Ten-Year Plan. This correspondence details UVLSRPC's proposed Ten-Year Plan program of projects (a summary of which is included in Appendix A).

**Overview of Needs and Strategic Priorities in the UVLSRPC Region**

During the course of UVLSRPC's 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan solicitation, the TAC received projects from our region's 27 municipalities, NHDOT District II, NHDOT District IV, and the NHDOT Bureau of Bridge Design. The 28 existing and proposed non-programmatic projects identified in the UVLSRPC region total approximately \$182 Million. If the needs of urban compact areas and non-federal aid state highways are included, this total climbs to over \$200 Million. Thus, UVLSRPC's \$82 Million budget for non-programmatic projects only covers a fraction our region's needs.

With these funding constraints, our TAC remains focused on the region's strategic priorities of improving safety and maintaining our existing infrastructure in a state of good repair by addressing our structurally-deficient bridges. In other words, there are no new roads or large-scale capacity improvements on our list of transportation needs. Rather, our region strives to "take care of what we have" and ensure that our transportation network is as safe as possible.

**Existing Projects to be Completed Prior to the 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan**

The UVLSRPC TAC identified the following non-programmatic projects to be completed prior to the 2017-2026 Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. It is assumed that these projects will be completed according to their current schedule (i.e. before the start of the next Ten-Year Plan), and will not impact the UVLSRPC's \$82 Million budget.

Community	Project	Total Cost	Construction Year
Claremont	North Street Intersection Relocation	\$3,730,000	2016
Enfield	Improvements to Rail Trail Crossing	\$692,000	2016
Lebanon	Bridge Replacement (U.S. Route 4) over Mascoma River-Adjacent to Intersection of U.S. Route 4/NH Route 4A	\$10,537,000	2014-2015
Lebanon-Hartford	Replace Bridge over Connecticut River (U.S. Route 4)	\$12,043,000	2014-2015
Walpole-Charlestown	Railroad Relocation along NH Route 12 (Breakout Project #14747A)	\$8,700,000	2016

**Existing Projects to be Considered “Funded” in the 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan**

Per NHDOT guidance, “all projects that are currently in the approved STIP can be considered as funded for TYP purposes based on their progress to date.” As such, the UVLSRPC TAC considered projects that: A) Start construction prior to 2017 and continued through 2017 or 2018; and B) Start construction in 2017. These projects are considered to be funded in their entirety with UVLSRPC’s \$82 Million budget impacted accordingly.

There are two projects that fall into this category.

Community	Project	Total Cost	Construction Year	Regional Budget Impact
Acworth	Replace NH Route 123A Bridge over Bowers Brook	\$1,400,000	2017-2018	\$1,400,000
Walpole-Charlestown	Reconstruction of NH Route 12 from Main Street in Walpole to NH 12A in Charlestown, Remove Concrete Base, Add Shoulders and Improve Drainage	\$9,000,000	2017-2018	\$7,200,000*

\* Assumes 20% cost sharing from SWRPC regional budget.

**Acworth- Replacement of NH Route 123A Bridge over Bowers Brook**

- **Project Synopsis:** This project involves the replacement of the NH Route 123A Bridge over Bowers Brook. In October 2005, a severe flood event affected the Cold River and its tributaries (including Bowers Brook). The flood shifted the position of Bowers Brook, and caused substantial structural damage to the NH Route 123A Bridge in South Acworth. The bridge is approximately 100 years old (built in 1915), is structurally-deficient, and has a deck rated as Serious (3) and a superstructure rated as Poor (4) by the NHDOT Bureau of Bridge Design.

NH Route 123A is the only numbered state highway in the Town of Acworth, and is a key east-west corridor for southern Sullivan and northern Cheshire County. Essentially, there are no feasible alternate routes to NH 123A. If the Bowers Brook bridge were to sustain further damage in upcoming flood

seasons and be rendered unusable, it would not only impact the mobility of residents, but also the ability of emergency services to effectively serve the towns of Acworth, Marlow, Langdon, and Alstead.

- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC commends the NHDOT for advancing the construction schedule of this project during the 2015-2024 Ten-Year Plan update process, and concurs with the proposed 2017-2018 construction schedule.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the Engineering and Right-of-Way phases of this project will be complete prior to 2017, with the estimated \$1.4 Million construction cost impacting the UVLSRPC regional budget.

#### Walpole/Charlestown- Reconstruction of NH Route 12

- Project Synopsis: This project involves the Reconstruction of NH Route 12 from NH Route 12A in South Charlestown to Main Street in North Walpole. This segment has appeared perennially on the “5% Report” of high crash locations in New Hampshire, and has an extensive fatal crash history. The roadway itself is threatened by erosion along the Connecticut River. The project underwent a full-scale Context Sensitive Solutions planning process and is currently in final design. This project was also identified as the top priority for NHDOT District IV within the UVLSRPC region, and has been designated as a project of regional significance by the UVLSRPC TAC.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: Our fiscal constraint analysis assumes that the Breakout Project (Project #14747A) for railroad relocation will occur according the current construction schedule (i.e. 2016) at a cost of \$8.7 Million. It is assumed that the cost of the Breakout Project will not impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

The second phase of this project, involving the reconstruction of Route 12 (Project #14747), is inter-regional with approximately 80% of the project occurring in the UVLSRPC region and approximately 20% of the project occurring in the SWRPC region. UVLSRPC and SWRPC have agreed upon an 80/20 split of the cost of this project against our respective regional budgets. Given the aforementioned assumptions, this project’s impact to UVLSRPC’s regional budget totals \$7.2 Million.

#### Project Priorities for the 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan

After accounting for the two aforementioned projects, the remaining UVLSRPC regional budget was \$73.4 Million. All remaining projects (i.e. those projects currently on the Ten-Year Plan starting construction in 2019 or later, previously deferred Ten-Year Plan projects, and newly-proposed projects) were prioritized against the statewide criteria.

UVLSRPC project priorities are summarized on the following page.

Priority	Community	Project	Total Cost	Proposed Construction Year	Regional Budget Impact
1	Lebanon-Hartford	Rehabilitation and Widening of Bridges over Connecticut River (Interstate 89)	\$30,500,000	2019-2020	\$23,185,200*
2	Lebanon	Exit 18 Improvements	\$4,635,350	2021	\$4,635,350
3	Lebanon	PHASE I- Interstate Rehabilitation (I-89) from Exit 17 to Exit 20, Includes 7 Bridges (#093/109 #094/108, #097/112, #098/111, #140/124, #141/123, and #099/111)	\$12,568,150	2019-2020	\$12,568,150
4	Enfield	Add Shoulders, Improve Horizontal Curves, Remove Clear Zone Obstructions along U.S. Route 4 from Maple/Main Street to the Lebanon City Line	\$8,238,000	2024	\$8,238,000
5	Charlestown	Reconstruct/Rehabilitate NH Route 12 from NH Route 12A in South Charlestown to Almar Street (Approx. 2.4 Miles)	\$4,275,000	2023	\$4,275,000
6	Newport	Capacity Improvements on NH 11/103 between NH 10 and Luxury Drive, Install Westbound Turn Lane to Cross Street, Improve Shoulders, Drainage, and Guardrail (1.0 Miles)	\$2,650,000	2025	\$2,650,000
7	Newport-Goshen	Reconstruct/Rehabilitate NH Route 10 from Newport to the Goshen/Lempster Town Line (6.7 Miles), Improve Safety at the Intersection of NH Route 10/NH Route 31	\$8,060,000	2025-2026	\$8,060,000
8	Sutton-New London	Pavement Rehabilitation (I-89) from Exit 10 to Exit 11 (4 Miles)	\$12,013,000	2022-2023	\$1,201,300**
9	Lebanon	Rehabilitate Interstate 89 Bridges over Hardy Hill Road (Bridges 155/117 and 156/117)	\$4,537,000	2018	\$4,537,000
10	Lyme-Thetford	Bridge Rehabilitation (East Thetford Road) over the Connecticut River, Remove Lead-based Paint and Recoat	\$4,500,000	2019	\$4,050,000*

\* Assumes cost sharing from the State of Vermont.

\*\*Assumes 90% cost sharing from the CNHRPC regional budget.

Priority #1- Lebanon/Hartford- Rehabilitation and Widening of I-89 Bridges over Connecticut River

- Project Synopsis: This project involves the rehabilitation and widening of the twin (northbound and southbound) bridges on Interstate 89 over the Connecticut River. Both bridges are on the State Red List, and this work is currently in the preliminary design phase. These bridges serve as the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Region's primary connection to the State of Vermont and points west, and the bridges see the highest traffic volumes anywhere in the UVLSRPC region with 39,000 AADT.
- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that this project be constructed over two years (2019-2020), with one bridge being completed during each year (starting with the southbound bridge in 2019).
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the State of Vermont will contribute approximately \$7.31 Million towards the cost of the project. As such, the UVLSRPC regional budget impact for this project is \$23.185 Million.

Priority #2- Lebanon- Exit 18 Improvements

- Project Synopsis: This project was added to the Ten-Year Plan during the last update cycle at the request of the UVLSRPC TAC. The project remains the top priority of both NHDOT District II and the NHDOT Bureau of Traffic within the UVLSRPC region. The project is intended to address the high crash rates that result from congestion and queuing onto the Interstate 89 travelway during peak hours. A diverging diamond interchange continues to be discussed as one potential construction alternative, but it is important that the NHDOT coordinate closely on the design of the project with the City of Lebanon and other regional partners to ensure both local and state support.
- Recommendations: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that an engineering phase for this project be programmed to begin in 2017 for a targeted construction date of 2021. The TAC recommends that the engineering phase be budgeted at \$535,500, ROW at \$100,000, and construction at \$4.0 Million.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the entire \$4.635 Million cost of this project will impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

Priority #3- Lebanon- PHASE I Interstate Rehabilitation from Exit 17 to Exit 20, Including 7 Bridges

- Project Synopsis: This project involves the rehabilitation of Interstate 89 from Exit 17 to Exit 20. When originally added to the Ten-Year Plan, this was a pavement rehabilitation project only. However, the scope was expanded to include the rehabilitation of seven bridges. Our TAC remains concerned that the scope of work for the project is disproportionately large.

As such, the TAC is reiterating its recommendation that this project be implemented in two phases. The TAC is proposing to fund PHASE I of this project at \$12.568 Million, with the scope of work for PHASE I jointly determined by the NHDOT Bureaus of Bridge Design and Highway Design based on the asset condition of the affected infrastructure. The "savings" achieved by implementing this project in phases allows the TAC to maintain fiscal constraint while including simultaneously programming the advancement of acute Red List Bridge needs, including the I-89 bridges over Hardy Hill Road and the Lyme-Thetford Bridge.

- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that this project be constructed in 2019 and 2020, and that construction be coordinated with the rehabilitation of the Interstate 89 bridges over Hardy Hill Road (see Priority #9 below) to achieve economies of scale.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the entire \$12.568 Million cost of this project will impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

Priority #4- Enfield- Add Shoulders, Improve Horizontal Curves, Remove Clear Zone Obstructions on U.S. Route 4

- Project Synopsis: This project was added to the Ten-Year Plan during the last update cycle at the request of the UVLSRPC TAC. The segment of U.S. Route 4 from the Lebanon/Enfield town line to Maple/Main Street in Enfield appears perennially on the “5% Report” of high crash locations in New Hampshire. The road lacks adequate shoulders, has structures within the clear zone (at the edge of pavement), and is located on a steep downgrade. A Road Safety Audit was completed on this segment that identified interim safety improvement alternatives. However, adding shoulders and removing clear zone obstructions would go beyond the scope of a Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) project. In addition, U.S. Route 4 is experiencing structural deterioration in this segment, and settling is occurring west of Adams Road.
- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC concurs with NHDOT’s suggested construction year of 2024.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the entire \$8.238 Million cost of this project will impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

Priority #5- Charlestown- Reconstruct/Rehabilitate NH Route 12 in from NH Route 12A to Almar Street

- Project Synopsis: This project is the two-mile segment of NH Route 12 in Charlestown immediately north of the aforementioned project in Walpole/Charlestown. The Ride Comfort Index (RCI) rating for pavement condition on this segment is among the lowest anywhere in the UVLSRPC region. This segment has poor drainage, lacks shoulders, and has a substantial crash history. Fortunately, this segment should not require railroad relocation, making this reconstruction project substantially easier and less expensive than the Walpole-Charlestown segment. This project is also an identified priority for NHDOT District IV.
- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that this project be constructed in 2023.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the entire \$4.275 Million cost of this project will impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

Priority #6- Newport- Capacity Improvements on NH Route 11/103 Between NH Route 10 and Luxury Drive

- Project Synopsis: This project involves constructing capacity improvements on NH Route 11/103 in Newport. The project includes installing a westbound turn lane to Cross Street, improving shoulders, drainage, and guardrail. This segment has a substantial crash history. Notably, NH Route 11 (from Interstate 89 to the Vermont State Line) is the only section of road other than Interstate 89 in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee region that is on the National Highway System. This project is also an identified priority for NHDOT District II.

- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that this project be constructed in 2025.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the entire \$2.65 Million cost of this project will impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

Priority #7- Newport/Goshen- Reconstruct/Rehabilitate NH Route 10, Improve Safety at NH Route 10/31

- Project Synopsis: This project involves the reconstruction and rehabilitation of NH Route 10 from Newport to the Goshen/Lempster Town Line (approx. 6.7 Miles). This project was previously included in the Ten-Year Plan (formerly known as Project #13952). However, the project was deferred due to budgetary constraints during the 2009-2018 Ten-Year Plan update process. Originally, the project encompassed approximately 15 miles of NH Route 10 in the towns of Newport, Goshen, Lempster, and Marlow.

The UVLSRPC TAC has split this project into two segments, as the originally-scoped project was unrealistically large. The two segments are: 1) NH Route 10 from Newport to the Goshen/Lempster Town Line; and 2) NH Route 10 from the Goshen/Lempster Town Line to the Lempster/Marlow Town Line. Notwithstanding previous deferral from the Ten-Year Plan, the needs along NH Route 10 have not disappeared. After evaluating both proposed segments, the Newport/Goshen segment emerged as a priority due to its crash history. This project is also an identified priority for NHDOT District II.

- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that this project be constructed over two years (2025-2026).
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the entire \$8.06 Million cost of this project will impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

Priority #8- Sutton/New London- Rehabilitation of Interstate 89 Exit 10 to Exit 11

- Project Synopsis: This project involves the rehabilitation of Interstate 89 from Exit 10 to Exit 11. This segment received an inlay in 2009, but the rehabilitation project is still needed and remains a priority for the NHDOT Pavement Management Section.
- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that this project be constructed over two years (2022-2023).
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: The New London/Sutton town line is located immediately south of Interstate 89 Exit 11, thus, approximately 90% of this project occurs in the CNHRPC region. As such, the impact to the UVLSRPC regional budget related to this project would be approximately 10% of the total cost of the project (which amounts to \$1,201,300).

Priority #9- Lebanon- Rehabilitate Interstate 89 Bridges over Hardy Hill Road

- Project Synopsis: This project involves the rehabilitation of the twin Interstate 89 bridges over Hardy Hill Road in Lebanon, and was added as a new project in the last Ten-Year Plan update cycle at the request of the UVLSRPC TAC. As detailed in the discussion of Priority #3 above, these bridges are the TAC's priority along the section of Interstate 89 between Exit 17 and Exit 20. As such, the TAC has recommended phasing the implementation of Priority #3 (Project #15880) to allow funding to rehabilitate these bridges while meeting the region's fiscal constraint requirements.

- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that this project be constructed in 2018, and that construction should be coordinated with the aforementioned rehabilitation of Interstate 89 between Exit 17 and Exit 20 to achieve economies of scale.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the entire \$4.537 Million cost of this project will impact the UVLSRPC regional budget.

Priority #10- Bridge Rehabilitation (East Thetford Road) Over the Connecticut River

- Project Synopsis: This is a long-standing project on the Ten-Year Plan, and recent bridge inspection results indicate that the bridge has a significant structural deficiency. As a result, the weight limit for the bridge was reduced and an emergency maintenance project completed. On July 9, 2014, the UVLSRPC TAC sent correspondence to the NHDOT requesting that the construction timeline for the Lyme-Thetford Bridge be advanced. In that correspondence, the TAC offered the Mascoma Street Bridge over Interstate 89 in Lebanon as a concession to maintain fiscal constraint. On July 29, 2014, NHDOT sent correspondence to the UVLSRPC concurring with this exchange of project priorities.
- Proposed Construction Year: The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that the construction of this project be advanced to 2019.
- Fiscal Constraint Assumptions: It is assumed that the State of Vermont will contribute approximately 10% of the total cost of this project, resulting in a UVLSRPC regional budget impact of \$4,050,000 (90% of the total project cost).

**Additional (Unfunded) Needs in the UVLSRPC Region**

As you are aware, the limited funding available to address deficiencies in our state's transportation system necessitates difficult choices. This reality is no different at the regional level. As mentioned in the opening paragraphs of this correspondence, the identified road and bridge needs in the UVLSRPC region (including those needs in urban compact areas and on non-federal aid eligible highways) total more than \$200 Million. Our 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan budget target of \$82 Million can only address a fraction of the region's needs.

The UVLSRPC TAC has directed me to present their unfunded needs to you in prioritized order to explicitly demonstrate how the region would recommend utilizing additional funding should it become available. Additional project needs in the UVLSRPC Region are listed in prioritized order below. ("AN" stands for "Additional Need".)

Priority	Community	Project	Total Cost
AN-1	Lebanon	PHASE II- Interstate Rehabilitation (I-89) from Exit 17 to Exit 20, Includes 7 Bridges (#093/109 #094/108, #097/112, #098/111, #140/124, #141/123, and #099/111)	\$7,850,000
AN-2	Lempster	Reconstruct/Rehabilitate NH Route 10 from the Goshen/Lempster Town Line to the Lempster/Marlow Town Line (8.3 Miles)	\$9,745,000
AN-3	Orford	Reconstruct/Rehabilitate NH Route 25A Bridge over Brackett Brook	\$4,800,000
AN-4	Lempster	Reconstruct/Replace NH Route 10 Culvert Serving Cold Brook	\$865,000
AN-5	Hanover	Improve Horizontal Curves, Install Sidewalk and Bicycle Lane on Greensboro Road from Great Hollow Road to NH Route 120	\$2,500,000
AN-6	Springfield	Georges Mills Road- Rehabilitate or Replace Twin 5' Diameter Culverts Carrying Star Lake Outlet at Intersection of Fisher Corner Road	\$927,000
AN-7	Claremont	Rehabilitate Bridge on NH Route 12A over Sugar River (Bridge #072/127)	\$6,990,000
AN-8	Lyme	Improve Geometry, Drainage, and Guardrail on NH Route 10 from Post Pond Road to the Orford Town Line, Including Safety Improvements at the Intersection of NH Route 10/North Thetford Road (2.8 Miles)	\$3,550,000
AN-9	Plainfield	Replace Deck and Repaint Stage Road Bridge over Blow-Me-Down Brook (Bridge 096/079)	\$1,800,000
AN-10	Lebanon	Rehabilitate Bridge on Mascoma Street over Interstate 89 (Bridge #103/116)	\$3,606,000
AN-11	Piermont-Bradford	Rehabilitate and Paint NH Route 25 Bridge over the Connecticut River (Bridge 032/103)	\$1,800,000

Related to the above list of additional needs, I would like to specifically note three projects that are on the 2015-2024 Ten-Year Plan that were not included in our region's recommended 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan program due to fiscal constraint. Those projects are:

- Springfield- Replace Twin 5' Diameter Culverts on Georges Mills Road Carrying Star Lake Outlet
- Claremont- Rehabilitate Bridge on NH Route 12A over Sugar River
- Lebanon- Rehabilitate Bridge on Mascoma Street over Interstate 89

There is broad recognition amongst the UVLSRPC TAC, NHDOT Bureau of Bridge Design, and NHDOT District II that these projects are needed and should be done expeditiously. However, when evaluating projects against the statewide criteria developed during the Ten-Year Plan LEAN process, it is difficult for these projects to compete with other non-programmatic projects because: 1) There is no (or minimal) crash history at these locations; 2) The best proxy for "facility importance" is federal functional classification; and 3) These roads see lower traffic volumes than other priority locations within our region.

The UVLSRPC TAC recommends that the Department review options for funding these projects programmatically. The TAC encourages NHDOT to review all of the projects listed as additional needs in the UVLSRPC Region, and where feasible, consider options for addressing the most acute needs on the list with Betterment-funded projects.

**MUPCA Needs in the UVLSRPC Region**

Through the course of Ten-Year Plan solicitations, municipalities also submit transportation needs within urban compact areas to the UVLSRPC TAC for consideration. The TAC recognizes that projects in urban compact areas would likely be funded programmatically (and managed locally) through the Municipal Urban Projects- Compact Areas (MUPCA) Program. While these projects would be programmatic, the TAC has prioritized our region’s MUPCA Program needs for your consideration.

Priority	Community	Project	Total Cost	Construction Year
STIP (Included)	Lebanon	Reconstruction of Mechanic Street (U.S. Route 4) from High Street to I-89 Ramps, Remove Concrete Base, Install Sidewalks, and Improve Drainage	\$3,147,000	2018
MUPCA-1	Claremont	Reconstruction, Improve Drainage, and Improve Sidewalks on Main Street (NH Route 12) from Opera House Square to Citizens Street	\$5,550,000	TBD by NHDOT
MUPCA-2	Claremont	Reconstruction, Improve Drainage, and Improve Sidewalks on Charlestown Road (NH Route 12) from Draper's Corners to Urban Compact Boundary	\$4,915,000	TBD by NHDOT

**Non-Federal Aid Highway Needs in the UVLSRPC Region**

Through the Ten-Year Plan solicitation process, municipalities also submit transportation needs on state highways that are not federal-aid eligible. The TAC recognizes that these needs would likely be funded programmatically through the Reconstruction of Secondary Roads (RSR) Program. While these projects would be programmatic, the TAC has prioritized our region’s RSR Program needs for your consideration. The UVLSRPC will also submit follow-up correspondence to the NHDOT providing additional details about these projects.

Priority	Community	Project	Total Cost	Construction Year
RSR-1	New London-Newbury	PHASE I- Reconstruction of NH Route 103A Segment 1 (Baker Hill Road to King Hill Road, 1.4 Miles)	\$1,825,000	2018
RSR-2	New London	Reconstruction of Main Street (NH Route 114) from Crockett's Corner to Homan's Corner	\$2,140,000	TBD by NHDOT
RSR-3	Grantham-Springfield	PHASE II- Reconstruction of NH Route 114 from NH Route 10 to Grantham/Springfield TL (2.5 Miles)	\$2,950,000	TBD by NHDOT

**Next Steps**

Per NHDOT guidance, UVLSRPC will submit our scoring/evaluation of each project to the NHDOT Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance on the statewide electronic template, and we will provide your staff with supporting documentation for the projects on our proposed Ten-Year Plan program. We look forward to working collaboratively with you and your staff as you work through the Decision Lens modeling process and develop the draft 2017-2026 Ten-Year Plan for consideration by the Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation (GACIT).

Please feel free to contact me at (603) 448-1680 or [nmiller@uvlsrpc.org](mailto:nmiller@uvlsrpc.org) if you have any questions about this correspondence.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nathan Miller, AICP  
Executive Director

Cc: Bill Watson, NHDOT Bureau of Planning and Community Assistance  
Bill Oldenburg, NHDOT Front Office  
Bill Lambert, NHDOT Bureau of Traffic  
Mark Richardson, NHDOT Bureau of Bridge Design  
Alan Hanscom, NHDOT District II  
John Kallfelz, NHDOT District IV  
Leigh Levine, FHWA NH Division  
Martin Calawa, FHWA NH Division  
Hon. Joseph Kenney, NH Executive Council  
Hon. Colin Van Ostern, NH Executive Council  
NH Representatives in the UVLSRPC Region  
NH Senators in the UVLSRPC Region  
UVLSRPC TAC Members (via e-mail)  
UVLSRPC Commissioners (via e-mail)

# **APPENDIX A**

## **SUMMARY OF UVLSRPC 2017-2026 TEN-YEAR PLAN PROJECT PRIORITIES**

