

Town of Falmouth, Maine



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Jay Reynolds, Public Works Director

Phone - 781-3919

January 7, 2015

TOWN OF FALMOUTH COMPLETES FIRST PHASE OF THE ROUTE ONE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

Falmouth, Maine – The first phase of the Falmouth Route One Infrastructure Project has ended for the winter. Construction began May 5 and was heavy throughout the summer and fall. Major infrastructure elements that have been completed include:

- Underground duct banks, manholes, conduits, and portions of service lines for power and communications utilities, which includes Central Maine Power, Time Warner Cable, Oxford Networks, Fairpoint Communications, and OTT Communications
- All storm drain and sewer system infrastructure improvements
- Installation of traffic signal, street light, and pedestrian light pole bases and conduits
- Driveway apron and access management improvements
- Curb resets and realignments
- Catch Basin cover retrofits
- Hydrant relocations
- Sidewalks constructed and substantially completed
- Stormwater treatment devices (esplanade bio-filters)
- Natural gas main installation

Improvements that will occur during the winter are:

- Installation of new cable for underground power and communications (performed by the private utilities)
- Energizing/activation of new underground power and communications systems (performed by the private utilities)

--more--

Work to be completed in the spring includes the following:

- Transfer businesses from overhead to underground utility services
- Complete the removal of overhead power/communications poles and wiring
- New traffic signals and street/pedestrian lights
- Final sidewalk paving
- Street trees, landscaping, and esplanades
- Islands and crosswalks
- Repaving of Route 1

According to Jay Reynolds, Public Works Director, “We had a successful construction season. We lost some time because of weather and unforeseen utility issues. Any time you’re replacing decades-old infrastructure with new equipment, you’re likely to find a few surprises. The contractors adapted well and I’m extremely grateful for the support and patience of area businesses, residents and commuters along Route One.”

Throughout this phase, the Town’s communications plan included weekly e-mail updates to a dedicated Route One subscriber list with 270 members. These updates will stop during the winter and resume with construction work in the spring. On January 29, the Town will host an outreach meeting to communicate with Route One businesses. The purpose of this meeting is to obtain feedback about the construction process this year as well as discuss the scheduled work in 2015. The meeting will be held at 6:00 pm in the Russell Meeting Room at the Falmouth Memorial Library.

Approved by a voter referendum in June 2013, the Route One project will move all overhead utilities underground from Route 88 to Bucknam Road. Additional work includes streetscape improvements with multi-use sidewalks, street trees and lightning.

For more information about this project, please contact Jay Reynolds, Public Works Director, at jreynolds@town.falmouth.me.us.

#