

Route 106 road work begins this week

By GAIL OBER, LACONIA DAILY SUN

BELMONT — Commuters and visitors alike will be seeing the beginning of a two-year Route 106 road construction project in the area of Seavey Road by the end of this week.

According to Chuck Flanders, who is the head of the state Department of Transportation Construction Bureau, crews will begin by cutting trees and excavating land across the street from where Seavey Road meets Route 106 on Thursday morning.

Flanders said they need to do this first because seven or eight utility poles will need replacing and "It will take quite a few weeks dedicated to that," he said.

The Seavey Road intersection project has been planned for about three years now and was initially identified as an unsafe intersection by the state and was put on the list to be rebuilt.

Flanders said the state decided to rebuild the nearly 5 miles of road between Perkins Road and the city of Laconia urban compact line, so they combined the two projects.

Flanders also said on Monday that when the project is complete there will be a left-turn lane for traffic headed north on Route 106 and a right-turn lane for traffic headed south. He said he is aware that the Belmont School District begins classes in the end of August and said the department will be coordinating construction with the district and with First Student Bus Company.

He also said that the Seavey Road intersection won't be completed until the summer of 2017.

When asked what motorists could expect, Flanders said initially, there will be very little disruption around Seavey Road except for the excavation across the road for the utility poles.

The project requires the replacement of the Tioga Bridge and Flanders said there will be two lanes of traffic going each way but they will be jogged to one side or the other. On rare occasions, he said they may need to move traffic one lane at a time but said those instances will be driven by necessity and when traffic is not at peak travel.

He said he expects all of the reclaiming work on the 5-mile section of road should be completed by the end of this construction season.

The 2017 part of the project will have the bridges along the Laconia Bypass over Routes 107 and 106 replaced and the Seavey Road intersection completed.



Excavation will begin late this week on the banking across from Seavey Road as part of a two-year construction program along Route 106 between Belmont and Laconia. (Gail Ober/Laconia Daily Sun)

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