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Commission approves 106/Seavey Road project

By TIM CAMERATO | Jul 26, 2014

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BELMONT — A three-member commission appointed by the Governor and Executive Council voted unanimously on Wednesday to approve a project that will add turn lanes to the Route 106/Seavey Road intersection in Belmont.

Construction will widen the highway near the intersection and build a right-turn lane for vehicles traveling southbound and a leftturn lane for those traveling northbound. Crews are also expected to perform slope work, move utility poles, and buy parcels of property along the two roads.

A need for the two lanes grew out of safety concerns at the intersection, which

how many people get from Belmont High School to Route 106.

According to New Hampshire Department of Transportation statistics, there were 31 crashes at or near the intersection between 2003 and 2012, 15 of those resulted in injuries. Every one of the accidents was a multiple-vehicle accident, and two required hospitalization.

Project Manager Victoria Chase told commissioners officials are in the process of addressing is the driveway of Jeanne and Steven Price.

During a hearing before the commission on April 29, Price expressed concern that the project will take away her business' top parking lot and make it difficult to use the driveway.

"We work on 40 to 50 foot motor homes, RV, government stuff that bottoms out the minute it comes down that driveway to get on 106 because the driveway goes down, and the highway comes up," Price said. "If they're proposing to move the highway a little higher, it's going to make our driveway even more treacherous."

Chase said they the project will not be working near the steep area of the driveway, but they may be able to make some improvements.

"We need quite a bit from her, some big slope easements and some right of way," Chase said. "So we will be talking with her as we do that. There may be may be something that can be done."

Chase said Price also expressed interest in acquiring a DOT owned piece of property abutting her land.

"We'll be considering that," Chase said. "It appears now that our maintenance forces need it, but that will be part of the process."

Construction on the highway is scheduled to begin around the same time as Route 106 is repaved. Bids are expected to be advertised around April 1, 2016.



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