



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer

DATE: July 16, 2025

SUBJECT: East Side Drive Bridge over I-393 water infrastructure improvements – NHDOT Utility Agreement and Resolution appropriating funds for completion of improvements in conjunction with NHDOT bridge rehabilitation project (Concord 44556)

Recommendation:

1. Accept this report; and,
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Utility Agreement with the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) for the construction of water infrastructure improvements at the East Side Drive Bridge over I-393; and,
3. Set for public hearing on September 15, 2025, the attached resolution appropriating the sum of \$300,000 for the completion of water infrastructure improvements at the East Side Drive Bridge in conjunction with the State of New Hampshire's Department of Transportation bridge rehabilitation project (Concord 44556).

Background:

The David E. Powelson Bridge (156/138), NH Route 132 / East Side Drive over I-393 / US 4 / US 202 is maintained by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT). The City of Concord maintains a 16-inch water main in East Side Drive that is hung underneath this bridge.

NHDOT has designed a project (Concord 44556) for the repair/ rehabilitation of East Side Drive Bridge. During development of this project, NHDOT observed portions of the City's water main near the bridge parapet walls that are in a deteriorated condition. NHDOT approached the City of Concord about coordinating repairs / improvements to the City's infrastructure in conjunction with the construction of their bridge rehabilitation project. Staff from the Engineering Services Division and the General Services Department have agreed that improvements to water main infrastructure near the north and south parapet walls is recommended.

Discussion:

Completion of water infrastructure improvements, including new 16-inch water main through both the north and south parapet walls, new 24-inch steel casing pipe on either side of the bridge, expansion joints, transition couplings, temporary 12-inch water main to maintain service during construction, and other associated fittings, is recommended to be completed during the NHDOT bridge rehabilitation project (Concord 44556) for coordination of construction. NHDOT has offered to include the water improvement work in their construction contract; however, this arrangement requires a Utility Agreement signed by both the City of Concord and NHDOT, as well as funding for the water improvement work from the City.

The condition of the City water main at the bridge's north and south parapet wall penetrations warrants repair/ replacement of portions of the water main in the near future. NHDOT plans to construct their bridge rehabilitation project (Concord 44556) during the 2026 construction season. NHDOT will need payment from the City of Concord prior to awarding the water infrastructure improvement work with their construction contract; cost estimates for the water work have ranged \$250,000 - \$300,000.