



NHDOT to Hold I-293 Exits 6&7 Public Hearing: An Opportunity for Community Input on the Proposed Action!

➤ **Project Purpose:** For residents and visitors, commuters and businesses, I-293 (FE Everett Turnpike) provides essential links to and around the Greater Manchester area. In order to help maintain safe and efficient travel along this important highway, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) is leading an **effort to address capacity, safety, and access along a 3.5-mile segment of I-293** from north of Exit 5 (Granite Street) to Exit 7 (Front Street). The project is intended to correct geometric and safety deficiencies, accomodate future traffic growth, and improve access to the highway consistent with the long-term vision of the communities.

➤ What is the Proposed Action?

Based on an extensive engineering analysis and public involvement process beginning in 2012, the NHDOT proposes to reconstruct I-293 within the study area, including these three main elements:

1. Highway Widening

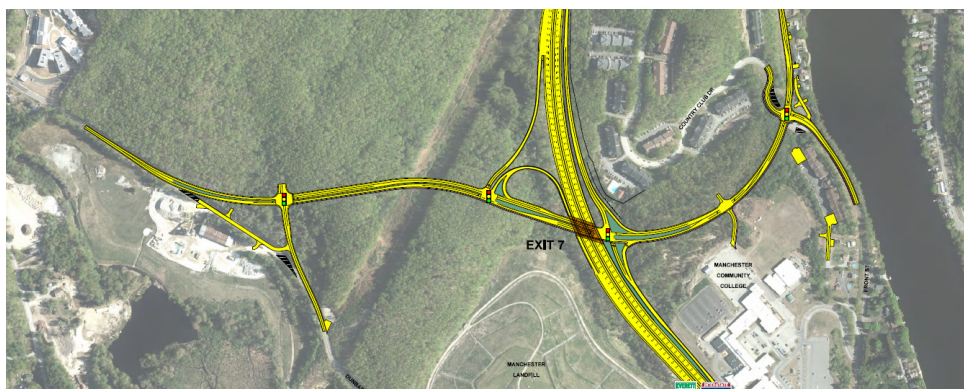
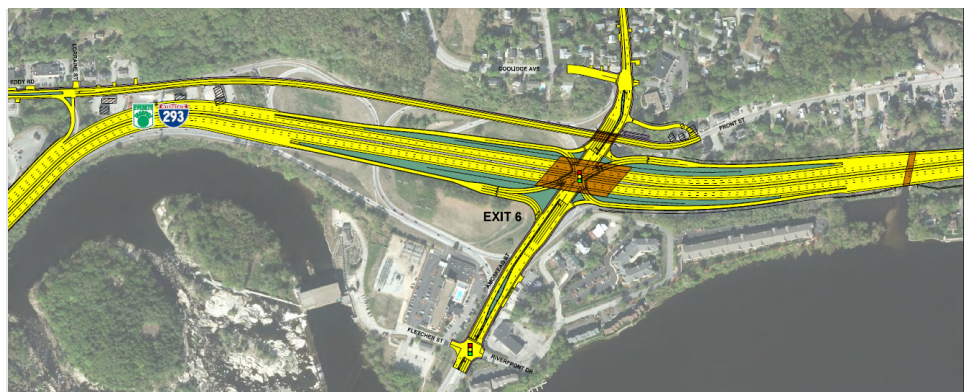
Widening the northbound and southbound barrels of I-293 from two to three lanes in each direction

2. Exit 6 Interchange

Reconstruct Exit 6 more or less in its existing location using a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) configuration

3. Exit 7 Interchange

Relocate Exit 7 approximately 0.5 miles north of its current location, constructing a full access interchange



>> What is a formal public hearing?

The public hearing **provides a formal opportunity to receive comments and questions relating to the Proposed Action, as well as other alternatives and design options.** The comments are addressed in the final environmental document and in a document called the Report of the Commissioner.

The hearing is presided by a panel composed of members of the Executive Council. The panel members consist of Ted Gatsas (Chairperson), Russell Prescott, and Debora Pignatelli. At the hearing, the NHDOT will present the need for the project and a synopsis of alternatives. Social, economic, cultural, and natural environmental effects of the Proposed Action, as well as the potential necessity for land acquisition or relocations, will also be addressed in the presentation.

A transcript is taken at the public hearing; which is a public record of the oral dialogue at the hearing, including public testimony received at the hearing. Written comments received up to 15-days following the hearing will become part of the official record of the meeting, along with the transcript. The Report of the Commissioner will also include a list of issues, concerns, and requests contained in the transcript, and a discussion of how the NHDOT plans to address the items.

With the report in hand, the presiding panel will hold a second meeting to review the project, to discuss the NHDOT's response to comments and adjustments to the layout. This second meeting will be open to the public, although no additional public testimony will be taken. As an outcome of the meeting, the project will be approved or not approved, or in some cases, approval can be withheld pending further consideration of issues or potential changes in the layout or in the NHDOT's response to issues.

>> What's been happening?

At our last Public Informational Meeting, the Proposed Action plan and alternatives evaluation results were presented. Since then, the NHDOT and the Project Team have been focused on several initiatives, including:



Working to complete the Environmental Documentation



Working closely with Cultural and Natural Resource agencies



Meeting with impacted property owners



Coordinated with Manchester City Staff, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, and Project Advisory Committee



Making minor adjustments to the Proposed Action plan

>> How can I stay informed and participate?

Driving forward these improvements to I-293 is truly a team effort, and we'd love to hear your thoughts! You can stay involved by:

- Visiting the NHDOT's I-293 Exits 6&7 project website: (<http://www.293planningstudy.com>) for more information
- Connecting with the following key project team members:

NHDOT: Keith Cota, PE

603.271.1615 or kcota@dot.state.nh.us

Consultant from VHB: Marty Kennedy, PE

603-391-3900 or mken尼迪@vhb.com

Public Hearing!

Please join us at the Public Hearing, which is scheduled for:

Wednesday, October 30, 2019
Manchester Community College
1066 Front Street, Manchester, NH

Doors open at 6:00 pm
for public viewing

Meeting Begins at 6:30 pm



The NHDOT actively seeks comments through a public participation process. Learn more about Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act in New Hampshire, and how to take part in a Consulting Party:

<http://www.293planningstudy.com/pdf/Section%20106%20Consulting%20Party%20Process.pdf>