

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

To the Citizens, the Select Board, and the Town Manager:



I am pleased to submit my eighth annual report as the Director of Public Works.

At the Public Works Department, we aim to plan, build, maintain all infrastructure, and help sustain public safety for all residents and visitors. The Department receives hundreds of calls each year from citizens. These calls help the Department respond to issues. Our full-time road maintenance crew consists of ten individuals managing 130 miles of travel way and more than 20 miles of pedestrian walkways.

Major infrastructure accomplishments during the 2023 construction season were final reconstruction of High Street, Mosher Hill Road, Savage Road and Christian and Sewall Drives. These projects total over 31,351 feet of improved travel way and upgraded sidewalks for pedestrian safety.

For the 2024 season we plan to rebuild Bailey Hill, Weeks Mills Road, and Davis Road.

The winter of 2023 brought unusual patterns of freeze and thaw winter cycles, and our sand and salt inventory quickly became depleted. We are prepared for what the 2024 season will bring. The crew's long hours, dedication and responsiveness make our roadway conditions clean and safe to travel.

During the summer of 2023, rainfall was above average, and we experienced major damage due to several flash flood events. We have been working with FEMA to repair and rebuild our highway infrastructure due to these unforeseen storm losses.

Lastly, I would like to thank the citizens and the Select Board for all their support, and the other departments for their operational assistance when emergency events arise.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Hutchins
Public Works Director