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Cc: Rollins, Scott

Subject: I-395/Route 9 Transportation Study

This e-mail is the first of a bi-weekly update on the Study. You are on this e-mail list if you were a PAC member or a municipal manger in the project area. Please let me know if you do not want to receive these e-mails.

We have been working on the Responses to the Draft Comments to the Substantive Comments. The Draft responses have been reviewed by MaineDOT staff and Federal Highway staff to ensure that the draft responses address the issues and review comments. The process is iterative and contingent upon receipt of review comments from multiple agencies. As such, the process is time consuming. We have been working diligently to move the effort through the regulatory process prescribed in federal and state law.

We have scheduled a working session with the Federal Co-operating agencies who have regulatory oversight over any project being processed under the National Environmental Policy Act. The Co-operating agencies are the Environmental Protection Agency, (EPA), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC). Federal Highway Administration is the lead Federal Agency and MaineDOT is the lead State Agency.

The working session to review the draft comments on the document will be held after the November 13, 2012 MaineDOT Interagency Meeting, and is not part of the Interagency meeting. The Interagency meeting is normally attended by other State and Federal agencies that do not have regulatory oversight. We anticipate that it will take some time to receive comments from the co-operating agencies. As such I am unable to estimate when we will be able to complete the response to the comments and publish the FEIS. I will continue to provide updates every two weeks to keep you informed.

Please let me know if anyone plans to attend the meeting since space is limited. It is not a public proceeding, but representatives from the municipality or the PAC are welcome to attend.

Russell Charette - Project Manager

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