

Tango-Lowy, Torene

From: Stewart, Sarah
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2019 1:52 PM
To: Tango-Lowy, Torene
Subject: FW: OHRV Crossing and Connector Permit Compliance

From: Stewart, Sarah
Sent: Monday, August 20, 2018 8:31 AM
To: Gamache, Christopher <Christopher.Gamache@dncr.nh.gov>
Cc: Connell, Lisa <Lisa.Connell@dncr.nh.gov>
Subject: RE: OHRV Crossing and Connector Permit Compliance

Hey Chris- I have cc'd Lisa, my new assistant, on this email. Please work with her to schedule a time for this meeting!

Thank you!

Sarah

From: Gamache, Christopher
Sent: Sunday, August 19, 2018 3:26 PM
To: Sheehan, Victoria <Victoria.Sheehan@dot.nh.gov>
Cc: Cass, William <William.Cass@dot.nh.gov>; Rodrigue, Dave <Dave.Rodrigue@dot.nh.gov>; Turgeon, Christopher <Christopher.Turgeon@dot.nh.gov>; Beaulieu, Philip <Philip.Beaulieu@dot.nh.gov>; Dobbins, Caleb <Caleb.Dobbins@dot.nh.gov>; Stewart, Sarah <Sarah.Stewart@dncr.nh.gov>
Subject: RE: OHRV Crossing and Connector Permit Compliance

Hi Commissioner Sheehan

I will work with Commissioner Steward on a few dates for just after Labor Day for us all to meet.

We do have a scheduled installation of some plastic grid panels, which DOT has approved us to install at 2 crossing locations to study if they would be a viable alternative to pavement in the future, next Friday in Berlin and Cambridge. Phil Beaulieu has been notified of the installation sites and times.

The paving of several of the other locations is being coordinated for mid-September. We ended up with a finance issue at the close of the fiscal year and Admin Services has instructed us to the September Fiscal Committee meeting to move funds around to accomplish the paving projects. We directly funded 1 club in Pittsburg to have them contract the paving and the other clubs decided to have us coordinate the paving, using the grant funds.

We have been attempting to coordinate with Chippers Tree Service for clearing of trees at two locations, but they have been very busy this summer with storm damages in other parts of the state. The meeting would also be a good opportunity to see where DOT is on the permits in Grafton County. These were all completed last summer and we were instructed via email to go ahead do all the work and the permits were going to be approved, but to date we have still not seen any of those permits. When I last met with Bill and Caleb it was relayed to us that DOT was still trying to determine if they wanted to have us acquire Use and Occupancy Agreements, in addition to the approved Permits for these projects. We would also like to talk about where DOT is with our requested corrections to the Declaratory Rulings.

We are waiting on a reply from Phil about several permit applications that we submitted earlier this summer and we do have to meet with him about reconsideration of two permit sites in Colebrook.

Thanks for the follow up and I will get back to you with some dates that would work for Commissioner Stewart to meet with us.

Thanks, Chris

From: Sheehan, Victoria

Sent: Friday, August 17, 2018 1:53 PM

To: Gamache, Christopher

Cc: Cass, William; Rodrigue, Dave; Turgeon, Christopher; Beaulieu, Philip; Dobbins, Caleb; Stewart, Sarah

Subject: RE: OHRV Crossing and Connector Permit Compliance

Chris,

I was hoping to set up a meeting for early Sept to discuss the outstanding OHRV crossing and connector permits. Having reviewed the 2018 OHRV GIA Awards List and compared it to the estimated value of work needed to comply with DOT's policies, I wanted to review the locations and ensure that DOT understands what work will be performed and when we can expect to see permit applications.

I was surprised to see so little GIA funds committed to these upgrades, as you previously shared that you thought it would take a significant portion of these funds to upgrade the locations identified, but I am assuming that while only a portion of the necessary work is being funded with GIA dollars the clubs have secured additional funding to complete a significant portion of the locations.

As I have stated many times, DOT wants to support the clubs in those communities that have embraced OHRVs and the associated tourism. Our concern is that as trail use grows and more out of town and out of state visitors use these crossings and connectors, we want everyone to do so safely. While we recognize that many of these crossings and connectors have been used historically, we are concerned about the impact of increases in use and/or use by people who are not familiar with the area.

DOT is willing to work with the clubs on schedule, as long as there is a good faith effort being made to make the necessary improvements. I really want to jump on this and make sure we are working collaboratively in the off-season. If you could suggest a couple of dates and perhaps invite Commissioner Stewart to join us that would be helpful. This meeting would be a good opportunity to brief her on what we have been working on.

Regards,
Victoria