# Corridor Spotlight: NH 106

# **KEY METRICS OF THE TRAFFIC SHED**



Three Communities



Merrimack County



16.2 miles of corridor route



51,143 residents in 2018



22,631 households in 2018

NH 106 runs nearly 35 miles from US 3 in Pembroke to US 3 in Meredith and acts as a secondary north-south route to I-93, connecting the Central NH Region with the Lakes Region. The section of this corridor through Canterbury, Concord, Loudon, and Pembroke runs parallel to the Soucook River and has been used for centuries for travel between Lake Winnipesaukee and the Concord area. NH 106 has gone through many phases of relocation, realignment, and widening beginning in the 1950s. Many original segments are now local roads that run parallel to NH 106, such as South Village Road in Loudon.

In the 1990s, an Environmental Assessment known as the "1995 EA Project" was produced, which proposed widening most of NH 106. The project proposed widening the segment from I-393 to the Laconia Bypass from two lanes to four lanes. The aforementioned document also identified additional, smaller scale improvements to be made in the interim. An extended area of controlled access right-of-way was also acquired at that time.

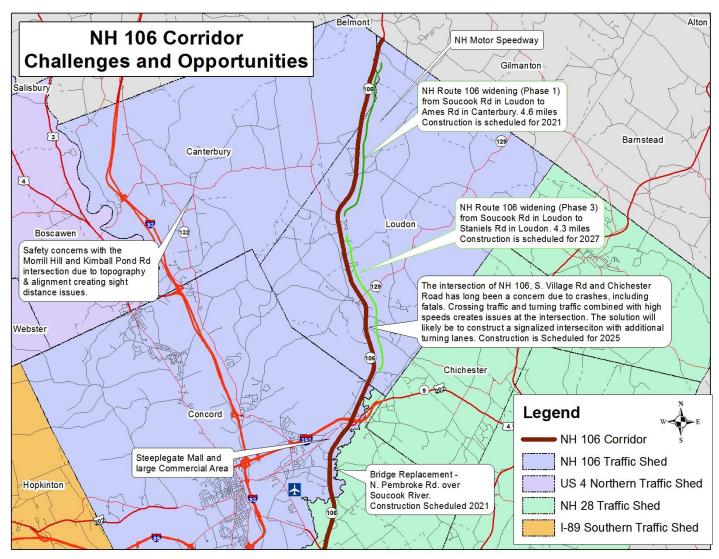
As a continuation of the 1995 EA Project, NHDOT completed the NH Route 106 Interim Corridor Study in 2012 to evaluate existing and future capacity and safety needs of NH 106. The study area included 11 miles of NH 106 from I-393 in Concord to approximately 0.25 miles north of Ames Rd in Canterbury. The study proposed widening the segment to provide one 12-foot wide travel lane in each direction, a 16-foot wide center turn lane, and 12-foot wide shoulders. The 16-foot center turn lane may be evaluated in certain areas to be used as a two-way left, an exclusive left turn lane, and a passing lane. Additional proposed work includes minor improvements at intersecting side roads, replacing or widening rehabilitating bridges, modifications of existing signalized intersections, and a new signalized intersection at NH 106 and S. Village Rd/Chichester Rd.

The project has been broken up into three phases, two of which are currently programmed in the State Ten Year Plan. Phase 1 includes widening NH 106 from Soucook Lane in Loudon to Ames Road in Canterbury and is scheduled to be completed in 2021. Phase 3 includes widening from Staniels Rd to Soucook Lane in Loudon and is scheduled to be completed in 2025. Not currently programed, Phase 2 includes roughly 1.7 miles from I-393 in Concord to Staniels Rd in Loudon.

The New Hampshire Motor Speedway (NHMS), located on NH 106 in Loudon and Canterbury, can accommodate nearly 86,000 spectators and 33,000 vehicles during major NASCAR events. During NASCAR and other smaller events, NHMS, NHDOT, local officials, and State Police carry out comprehensive traffic control plans to accommodate all of the event traffic. As one of the largest event venues in New England, the NHMS has shaped development in the area and will likely continue to have an effect on the future of the NH 106 corridor.

In Concord and Pembroke, NH 106 is a regional hub for commercial and industrial land uses. The Steeplegate Mall was opened in 1990. Vacancy has led to the mall's significant decline in traffic generation, resulting in the removal of traffic signals at one of the driveways on NH 106. Other large box stores continue to drive demand in the area, in addition to commercial development along Loudon Rd. Concord Area Transit's headquarters is located nearby and the current route system serves the commercial area of Loudon Road and NH 106.

The area's extensive sand and gravel deposits have led to the creation of several large excavation operations along NH 106, supplying the region with materials for constructing roads and other developments. The concentration of these operations results in steady truck traffic on the corridor with noticeable peaks during the construction season.





# **CONNECTING THE REGIONAL GOALS WITHIN EACH CORRIDOR**



# CONNECTIVITY

- Senior Transportation in Bow, Concord and Hopkinton
- Volunteer Driver Program for seniors and disabled
- Limited sidewalk networks in Canterbury and Loudon
- Concord Area Transit has service in the commercial area on NH 106 including the facility headquarters at Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties (BMCAP)

# **SAFETY**

- Crash hot spot at NH 106 and South Village Rd
- Safety concerns at the intersection of Morrill Hill and Kimball Pond Road and the intersection of NH 106, S. Village Road, and Chichester Road

#### SYSTEM PRESERVATION

- 2 red listed bridges
- 16 Bridges in fair Condition
- 21 Bridges in Good Condition

# **SUSTAINABILITY**

- Zoning permits residential, commercial, and industrial uses
- 881 acres of conservation land
- 5,747 acres of aquifers
- 1,775 acres of highest ranked habitat in NH

#### **KEY TRAFFIC GENERATORS**

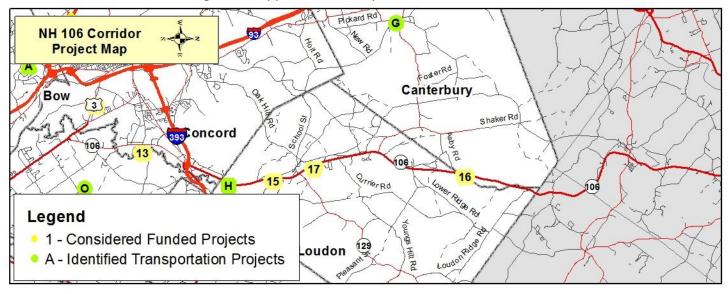
- Major Events at NHMS
- Traffic commuting between Laconia and the Lakes region to and from Concord
- Industrial and commercial areas in Concord and Pembroke

# **OPERATION & CONGESTION**

- AADT ranges from over 16k to 8k vehicles
- Common places of resident employment include Concord, Manchester, Hooksett and Bow
- There are no Park and Ride lots along the corridor

# **CORRIDOR PROJECTS & LOCATION MAP**

The following projects include those that are currently contained in the 2021-2030 Ten Year Plan and other projects that have been identified through a variety of local, regional and statewide planning processes including local master plans, the regional Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) development process, the 2018 State owned bridge rehabilitation and replacement priority list, and the Statewide Transit Assessment. The projects, both planned and proposed, address a number of the corridor's issues as identified in the NH 106 Corridor Challenges and Opportunities Map.



#### NHDOT State Ten Year Plan 2021-2030 Projects - Considered Funded

Map ID	Project Name/Town	State #	Project Location	Project scope	Phase	Year(s)	Total Cost			
15	Loudon	29613A	NH 106 and South	Intersection Improvements	CON	2025	\$1,894,303			
			Village Rd		PE	2019-22	\$87,185			
					ROW	2024	\$59,605			
16	Loudon- Canterbury	29613A	NH 106 from Suncook Rd in Loudon to Ames Rd in Canterbury	Roadway Widening (Phase 1)	CON	2021	\$5,088,600			
17	Loudon-	29613C	NH 106	Roadway Widening (Phase 3)	CON	2026-27	\$20,000,000			
	Canterbury				PE	2021	\$1,500,000			
					ROW	2024	\$500,000			
13	Concord- 14841	14841A	841A North Pembroke Rd	Replace North Pembroke Rd	CON	2021	\$854,195			
	Pembroke			Bridge over Soucook River						

#### **IDENTIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

Map ID	Project Name	Location	Current Situation	Scope of Work	Cost (millions)		
Н	Loudon	NH 106	The section of NH 106 from I-393 to Staniels Rd has undergone intersection improvements and is part of the Phase 2 widening of the NH 106 Corridor	Roadway Widening from I-393 to Staniels Road (Phase 2)	N/A		
G	Canterbury	Kimball Pond Rd and Morrill Rd	Kimball Pond Rd is a Class II state maintained road that intersects with Morrill Rd, a Class V town maintained road, at a skewed intersection with sight distance issues.	Reconfigure the intersection to address the safety concerns.	N/A		