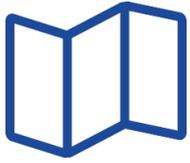


Corridor Spotlight: NH 28

KEY METRICS OF THE TRAFFIC SHED



**Five
Communities**



**Merrimack
County**



**17 miles
of corridor route**



**22,985 residents
in 2018**



**9,573 households
in 2018**

NH 28 is an 85-mile long State Route that stretches from Ossipee, New Hampshire to the Massachusetts Border. Once in Massachusetts, it becomes Massachusetts Route 28 and extends all the way through Boston to Cape Cod. In the Central NH Region, NH 28 goes north-south through Pittsfield, Chichester, Epsom, Pembroke and Allenstown where it joins US 3 and continues to Hooksett. The majority of this corridor is built as a typical arterial road with 12-foot travel lanes and 8 to 10-foot shoulders. Speed limits vary from 40 mph to 55 mph, with the majority of the corridor having a limit of 55 mph.

This corridor experiences an increase in traffic during the summer months as it is used by many to get to the Lakes Region. The southern section of NH 28 from US 3 to the Epsom traffic circle at US 4 has an average annual daily traffic (AADT) of just under 10,000 vehicles and is the main route between Epsom, Pembroke, Allenstown and Manchester. Most of this section is rural with some commercial development scattered in Allenstown and in Epsom in the vicinity of the traffic circle.

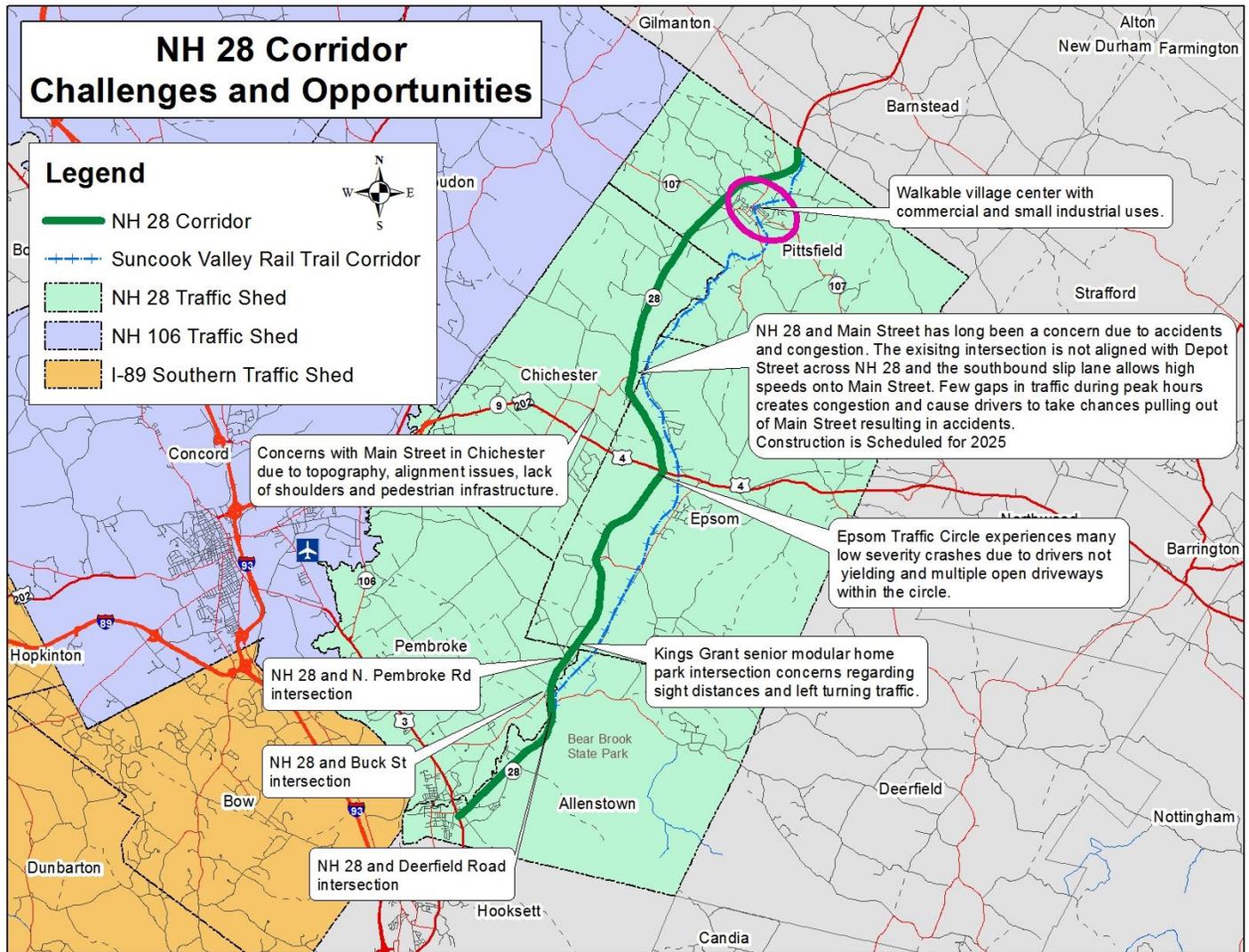
In Allenstown, NH 28 intersects with Deerfield Road just south of the Pembroke town line. Deerfield Road, which has an AADT of just over 2,500 vehicles, provides access to one of New Hampshire's largest state parks, Bear Brook State Park. Just over the Suncook River, NH 28 intersects with Buck Street which has an AADT just over 2,100 and acts a cut through road, connecting to US 3 in Pembroke. Just one mile north of Buck Street is North Pembroke Road which acts as a major east-west connection between NH 106 in Concord and NH 28. This stretch has AADTs ranging from 1,500 to 2,600 vehicles.

Near the town line in Epsom, Buck St extension, which is also the driveway for King's Grant senior modular home park, has been identified as an intersection of concern due to turning traffic and poor sight distances.

The Epsom traffic circle, which intersects NH 28 and US 4, also provides direct access to businesses with driveways on the circle. The yield controlled driveway entrances at the roundabout have a history of being problematic and can cause backups on US 4 and NH 28 during peak hours. The circle has been studied in the past from operational and safety perspectives although there are no existing plans for improvements. Issues related to the traffic circle are described in the US 4 East Corridor Spotlight.

Just a couple miles north of the Epsom traffic circle, NH 28 intersects Main Street in Chichester, also commonly known as the "Chichester cut off". Main Street is often used by travelers traveling between NH 28 and Concord in efforts to avoid the traffic circle. Main Street, an unnumbered state route, has topography and alignment issues as it cuts through Chichester Center and village areas. Regardless of its rural mountain road character, the traffic continues to grow, and long backups regularly occur at the intersection of NH 28. Drivers taking chances combined with alignment issues and poor sight distances have created safety concerns for this intersection, resulting in improvements planned for 2025. Another intersection of concern in Chichester is at Kelly's Corner and Webster Mills Road, which both intersect NH 28 at skewed angles.

Additionally, the NH 28 corridor runs parallel, and in some cases on top of, the abandoned Suncook Valley Rail Corridor which extends from Suncook Village through Epsom, Chichester and into Pittsfield center. Some sections are used as informal trails although a plan has been developed to look into formalizing sections of the rail corridor into rail trails. In Pittsfield, NH 28 has several signalized intersections, including the intersection with NH 107. All of these intersections lead to Pittsfield center, which has an extensive pedestrian sidewalk network, dense neighborhoods, and a variety of commercial and small industrial businesses.



CONNECTING THE REGIONAL GOALS WITHIN EACH CORRIDOR



CONNECTIVITY

- Suncook Valley Rail Trail
- Pittsfield and Suncook have walkable villages
- Senior Transportation in Suncook and Pittsfield
- Volunteer Driver Program for seniors and disabled

KEY TRAFFIC GENERATORS

- Key north/south corridor to the Lakes region generating weekend traffic
- Major employers in Pittsfield
- Commuter traffic to Concord and Manchester

SYSTEM PRESERVATION

- 0 municipal red listed bridges
- 1 state red listed bridges
- 11 Bridges in fair Condition
- 18 Bridges in Good Condition

SUSTAINABILITY

- Zoning permits residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial uses
- 728 acres of conservation land
- 4,952 acres of aquifers
- 2,640 acres of highest ranked habitat in NH

SAFETY

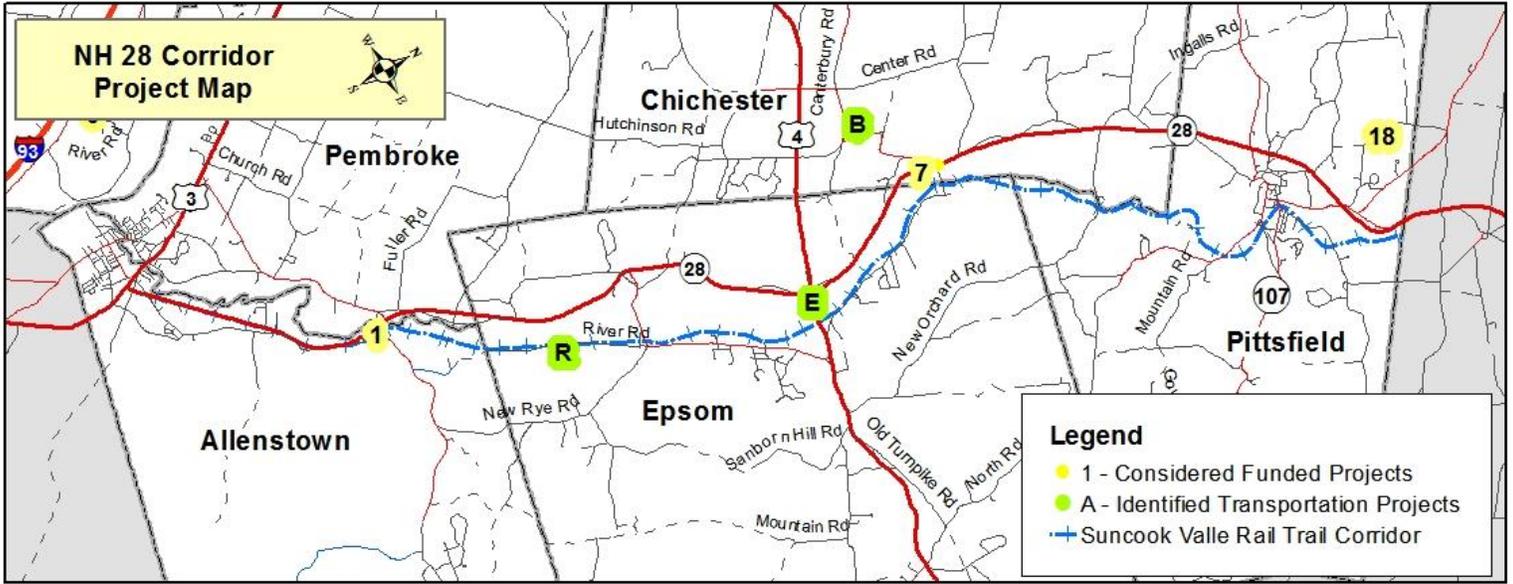
- Frequent crashes at the Epsom Traffic Circle
- Safety concerns at the Main Street intersection in Chichester, the Buck Street intersection in Epsom, and the US 4 traffic circle

OPERATION & CONGESTION

- Common places of resident employment include Concord, Manchester, Hooksett and Pembroke
- Traffic and backups on Main Street in Chichester during peak hours
- Park and Rides in Alton and Hooksett

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 28 Corridor Challenges and Opportunities Map.



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

Map ID	Town	State #	Project Location	Project scope	Phase	Year(s)	Total Cost
1	Allenstown	40362	NH Route 28	Bridge Rehabilitation, Redlisted Bridge - NH 28 over Suncook River	CON	2021	\$2,261,600
					PE	2019-20	\$400,000
7	Chichester	40631	NH 28 and Main Street	Intersection Improvements	CON	2025	\$1,320,961
					PE	2022	\$145,308
					ROW	2022	\$71,491
18	Pittsfield	14972	Shaw Road	Bridge Replacement over Kelly Brook	CON	2023-24	\$550,971
					ROW	2023	\$5,432
					PE	2023	\$88,199

IDENTIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS

Map ID	Project Name	Location	Current Situation	Scope of Work	Cost (millions)
R	Suncook Valley Rail Trail	Allenstown, Pembroke, Epsom, Chichester, Pittsfield	The abandoned rail corridor has been fragmented into various ownership with some large sections of the corridor still intact and some small segments utilized informally	Formalize sections of the abandoned rail corridor as a rail trail connecting various destinations.	N/A
E	Epsom Traffic Circle	Epsom NH 28, US 4/NH 9/US 202	Epsom Circle experiences a high number of crashes, but the severity is generally low. The yield conditions, open driveways, and sight distance issues west of the circle all contribute to the safety issues.	Conduct a formal study of the traffic and operations at the circle to determine the best solution to improve the level of service and safety.	N/A

