

ROAD COMMISSIONERS REPORT
SWEETSER ROAD BRIDGE
June 17, 2021

On May 13, 2021, I met with Don McKenna from the Maine DOT to inspect the Sweetser Road Bridge (MDOT Bridge number 0192). We spent several hours looking over the whole structure the following information are his recommendations to extend the life of the structure.

1. Seal all masonry voids to avoid losing the materials behind the stones.
2. Add three guard rail posts to each corner where the bridge meets the shore. This is the weakest part of the guardrail system in place now.
3. Remove vegetation growing on the concrete and seal the concrete to extend its life.
4. A bridge deck usually lasts ten years, this bridge was constructed in 2005. The decking is in good shape. When asked what the estimated replacement cost of the decking would be he expressed concerns regarding the current inflated lumber prices and availability and suggested to wait until to get pricing. He has had good luck with using Hemlock milled at Maschino's Lumber in New Gloucester.
5. The bridge steel structure is in excellent condition and expected to last many more years.

I reached out to two companies that perform the type of masonry work needed. P. E. Williams Company of Scarborough, Maine was the only company that was interested in providing a quote. Their estimate is \$12,000.00. They will begin the work in July.

Maine Line Fence provided an estimate for bringing the guardrails up to MDOT safety standards. Some of the guardrail will need to be replaced due to damage and to accommodate the new posts being installed. The quote from Maine Line Fence is \$6,904.00 this work is to be done after the masonry work is completed.

The material cost to replace the 135 3" x 6" decking planks with rough sawn Hemlock from Machino's Lumber in New Gloucester is \$15,000.00. I did not attempt to obtain a Pressure Treated lumber cost as the cost and availability at this time is unstable. I will revisit the pressure treated cost prior to the Fall CIP meeting.

The bridge is 16 years old; the framework is in particularly good condition and the decking is in good condition considering its age. I will monitor the decking each year I estimate that replacement would be in another 4-5 years. (20 years of service life)

On April 2, 2021, the MDOT sent a Bridge report stating the masonry defects and the substandard guardrails as concerns. Attached is a scanned copy of the report.

Our priority should be the masonry work especially with the low water conditions that we have now.