

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)
INTERSTATE 293 IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE**



Summary:

The NHDOT is issuing this notice to advise the public that an Environmental Assessment (EA), dated October 15, 2019, has been prepared for the proposed I-293 (F. E. Everett Turnpike) Exits 6 and 7 Improvements Project in the City of Manchester, New Hampshire [NHDOT # 16099]. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act and the NHDOT's guidelines for environmental documents. The 30-day public comment period begins October 15, 2019.

The proposed project involves a 3.3-mile segment of Interstate 293 (I-293) beginning north of Exit 5 (Granite Street) and ending north of Exit 7 (Front Street). The purpose of the project is to address capacity, safety and access-related deficiencies along a portion of I-293 (F. E. Everett Turnpike) in Manchester, New Hampshire.

The EA can be accessed and downloaded from the project website, www.293planningstudy.com or can be viewed as a hardcopy document at the City of Manchester Library's Main and West Branches, and the Town of Goffstown and Hooksett public libraries.

Public Hearing and Comment:

There will be a public hearing to present the findings and accept comments to be held on October 30, 2019 at 6:30 PM in the Manchester Community College, 1066 Front Street in Manchester. Written comments will be accepted through November 15, 2019. Comments may be submitted in writing or by email to Mr. Keith Cota (see below for contact information) or through the project website "Contacts" page, <http://www.293planningstudy.com/contacts.asp>.

For Further Information Contact:

Mr. Keith Cota, NH Department of Transportation, 7 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03301 at (603) 271-1615 or Keith.Cota@dot.nh.gov.

Supplementary Information:

The EA evaluated numerous alternatives. A preferred alternative has been selected because it addresses the project's purpose and need. The preferred alternative includes the following elements: widening the northbound and southbound barrel of I-293 from two to three lanes in each direction; reconstructing Exit 6 more or less in its existing location using a Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) configuration, and; relocating Exit 7 approximately 0.5 miles north of its current location, constructing a full access interchange with a connector road to Front Street and Goffstown Road.

Impacts to the natural, cultural, and socio-economic environment are analyzed and presented in the EA. The EA also includes a *de minimis* Section 4(f) regarding impacts to historic structures and recreational facilities.