



Work on the Sarah Mildred Long Bridge Week of February 26, 2018

Throughout the project, MaineDOT will continue to post Cianbro's three-week work schedules. The below schedule is a simplified one-week snapshot of work activity.

Following the successful "commissioning" of the SML Bridge in early February, it has come to our attention that the wire operating ropes for the lift span are experiencing a condition described as "wavy ropes." These wire ropes, made of steel cable, transmit the force necessary to move the Bridge up or down from a balanced condition. The condition was first noticed in early February after the SML was successfully commissioned. Since then, the contractor and engineer have been measuring the "wave" of the wire operating ropes to monitor the condition. The contractor, the operating rope manufacturer, the machinery supplier, and the engineer of record have all inspected the wire ropes and the lift span's operating system. This condition does not result in a loss of strength or impact the normal safe operation of the bridge. However, due to the "wavy rope" condition, it is MaineDOT's understanding that normal and expected wear of the ropes will be accelerated. As a result, replacement of the operating ropes will likely need to occur sooner than the expected 25-year life. MaineDOT will continue to monitor this condition now and after the Bridge opens, and will be ordering an additional set of operating ropes in the near future to have available for installation at a later date when determined to be necessary.

COMPLETED WORK ACTIVITY

- Protective coating on the Portsmouth approach vehicular curb
- Span guide repairs on the Kittery east tower below the roadway
- Portsmouth Railroad approach membrane completed

ONGOING OR WEATHER DEPENDENT

- Roadway epoxy removal, point & patch, repairs, etc. – ongoing
- Counterweight stop beam platform modifications – ongoing
- Control House anti-graffiti coating – weather dependent
- Touch-up paint on sheaves– weather dependent
- Point & patch the towers – ongoing and weather-dependent
- Touch-up and painting on lifting girder – ongoing
- Bridge rail punch list work
- Final inspections and safety observations – ongoing