















## **Director's Letter**

#### Dear fellow travelers,

The Maine Turnpike Authority (MTA) is made up of courteous and conscientious employees. I am happy to have the 2019 Annual Report focus on some of the hardworking Mainers who ensure the Maine Turnpike is in tip top shape.

The Maine Turnpike employees 325 full-time employees, 155 part-time and on call toll collectors, and 15 seasonal snow fighters.

In 2019, the Maine Department of Labor (DOL) presented the Maine Turnpike Authority with its prestigious Safety and Health Award for Public Employers (SHAPE). The SHAPE award recognizes public sector employers who are striving to provide a "safe and healthful" workplace. A well-rounded Safety and Health Program achieves lower employee injuries and illnesses and provides for better employee morale and retention. This award is a credit to the employees who have worked so hard to make the MTA a safe place to work. The MTA has many facilities and equipment along our 109-mile highway and to see everything in good shape reflects employee excellence on the Pike.

In 2019, our employees worked on the planning and construction of multiple projects including the construction of an Open Road Tolling Facility in York and multiple bridge projects, plowing of 650 lane miles in winter events, collecting \$140 million in tolls, among other countless tasks up and down the Pike. Because of our courteous and conscientious staff, Maine citizens appreciate the value of this road and how well it has been maintained and constantly improved to benefit daily commuters, freight haulers, commerce, and tourism. Everyone's livelihood depends on it.

I hope you enjoy learning more about these folks in this annual report.

Peter Mills
Executive Director

# **Award-Winning Workforce**



In 2019, the Maine Department of Labor presented all employees of the MTA with the prestigeous Safety and Health Award for Public Employers (SHAPE).















Projects  Bridges	Biddeford Biddeford Gray Gray Gray Lewiston Litchfield New Gloucester New Gloucester Ogunquit Sabattus Saco Scarborough Wells York	Second Thacher Brook Culvert Repairs Third Thacher Brook Culvert Repairs Pleasant River Culvert Repairs Route 26 Bridge Repairs Cole Brook Culvert Repairs Webster Road Bridge Repairs Plains Road Bridge Repairs Foster Brook Culvert Repairs Bennett Road Emergency Vehicle Ramp Berwick Road Bridge Repairs Grove Street Bridge Repairs Boom Bridge Road Repairs Beech Ridge Road Bridge Repairs Ogunquit River Culvert Repairs Mountain Road Bridge Repairs Clay Hill Road Bridge Repairs	\$0.07M \$0.08M \$0.2M \$1.6M \$0.2M \$0.3M \$0.6M \$0.08M \$0.6M \$0.3M \$0.4M \$0.2M \$0.3M \$0.2M \$0.3M
Interchanges	South Portland	Exit 45 Embankment Preload	\$14.8M
Maintenance	Various Various	Maintenance Garage Extensions & HVAC System Improvements Guide Sign Modifications, Phase IV	\$4.0M \$1.6M
	Gray	(Mile 0.0 to 32.52) Service Plaza - Fuel System Replacement (Mile 58.8 NB)	\$1.7M
	Kennebunk	Travel Plazas Parking Expansion and Route 35 Traffic Signals	\$9.3M
	Litchfield	New Mechanics Garage	\$3.1M
Paving	Scarborough	Pavement Rehabilitation (Mile 42.0 to Mile 44.3)	\$1.2M
Toll Systems	West Gardiner	Exit 103 Toll Plaza Open Road Tolling Conversion	\$29.9M
	New Gloucester Scarborough	Toll Plaza Rehabilitation Exit 44 Building Renovation	\$0.09M \$0.1M
		Total Awarded in 2019 for Construction	\$71.65M















Setting the precast tunnel sections for the York Toll Plaza, May 2019.

2019 saw more work on the construction of the Open Road Toll Plaza at the new location at Mile 8.8 in York. This is a multi-year, multi-phase project that is expected to be completed in the summer of 2021.

In the past year, Reed & Reed have installed underground utilities, installed the precast pedestrian tunnel sections, paved new sections of roadway, and redirected traffic on to those sections. A toll building has been built and work began on installing the toll system equipment. Nearly all of this work was done while maintaining three lanes of traffic through the construction zone.

The West Gardiner Exit 103 toll plaza conversion started in 2019 as well. When both of these projects are completed in 2021, all of the mainline toll plazas on the Maine Turnpike will be Open Road Tolling. This means that travelers with an E-ZPass can pay their toll at highway speeds, while preserving the option for those who wish to pay cash at a conventional booth.

# Prelude to Widening – Improvements to Portland Area Bridges

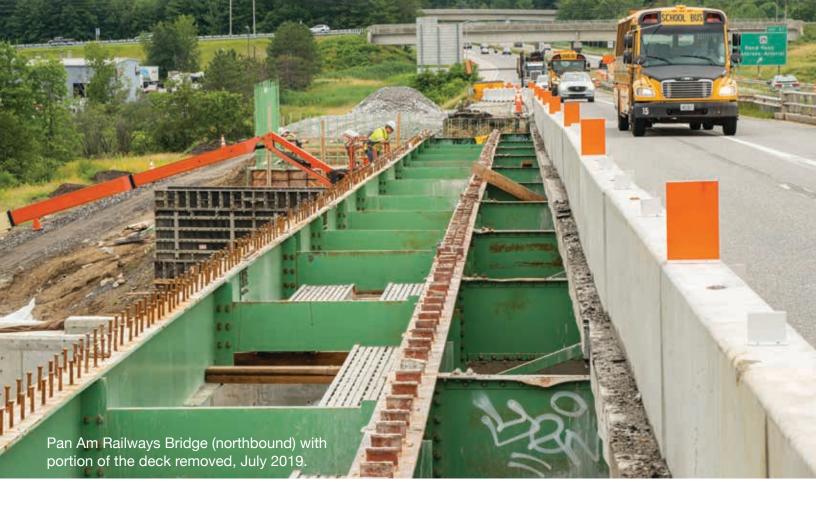
In March, Cianbro began major improvement work to the Stroudwater Overpass and the Pan Am Railways bridges in Portland. This work is essential for the upcoming roadway widening through the Greater Portland section of the Maine Turnpike. In total, seven bridges in four locations are under construction through this area in order to accommodate the additional third lane. In 2020, construction will begin to add a third lane from Mile 44 in Scarborough to Mile 49 in Portland.

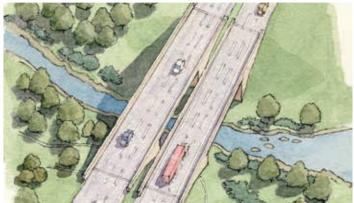
In the past year, approaches have been widened, new piers and abutments have been constructed, stormwater detention basins created, and structural steel has been set. All the while commuters, visitors, and commercial vehicles whiz by. Because of the narrow lanes and heavy traffic, extra measures have been taken to slow drivers down to the posted speed. Rumble strips have been added prior to the construction zone northbound and flashing LED lights and speed limit feedback signs, which shows a vehicles speed, have been added.

The anticipated completion date of the work on these two bridges is the spring of 2021.

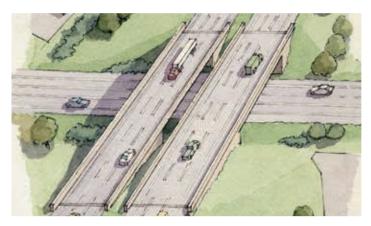


MTA staff reviewing traffic control measures at the Stroudwater River Bridge, July 2019.





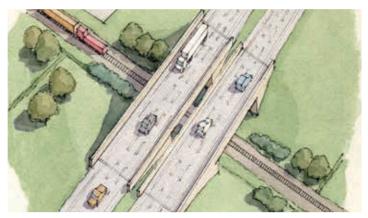
Stroudwater River Bridges



Warren Avenue Bridges



Cummings Road Bridge



Pan Am Railways Bridges

# Androscoggin River Bridge and Cobbosseecontee Stream Bridge

Sometimes the maintenance of the highway is done where our patrons cannot see much of the work. However, for the safety of those traveling above, this work is necessary. In the case of the Androscoggin River Bridge, that is the border between Lewiston and Auburn and Cobbosseecontee Stream Bridge in West Gardiner, 2019 brought such needed rehabilitation work. Some of this construction takes place on the traveled section of the road, but much takes place under the bridge and this requires specialized teams in-and-around the water.

The work on these two bridges is being done by Wyman & Simpson Inc. and should be completed in 2021.



Androscoggin River Bridge Pier Rehabilitation, July 2019.















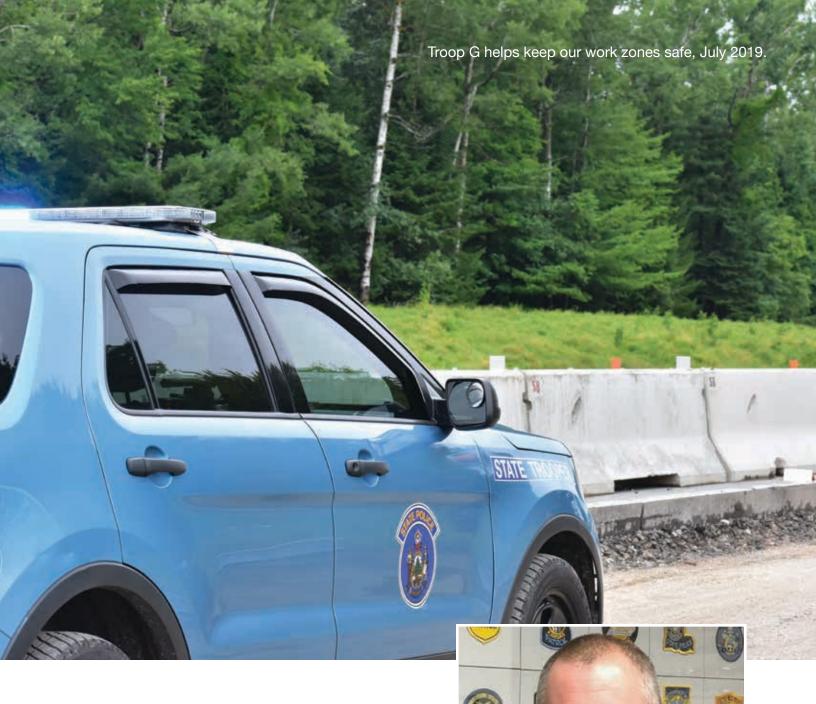
## **Scott Warchol**

Scott is our Construction Program Manager and has been a Maine Turnpike Authority employee for 32 years. Scott has had many roles at the Turnpike, including toll collector, highway maintenance, engineering construction inspector, and widening coordinator. He says he enjoys resolving issues that occur in the field daily, visiting construction sites to check on progress, and that every day is different, but he would prefer not to go to so many meetings! Scott likes to golf and go auto-cross racing in his spare time.



#### **Nicole Chase**

Nicole is the foreman at our Auburn Maintenance Facility and has worked for the MTA for 19 years. She says the best part of her job is watching a snowy road get plowed down to the pavement. As for the worst part of the job? It's unsafe drivers who don't pay attention. Nicole says the strangest situation she's ever been in while on the job occurred when she stopped to help a woman who had hit a deer. The poor woman had her daughter with her, who REALLY had to use the bathroom. Nicole taught that little girl what hunters do in the woods when nature calls!



## **Kevin Burton**

Sgt. Kevin Burton has been with the Maine State Police Troop G for nine years. Troop G is responsible for keeping the Maine Turnpike safe.

He says the best part of his job is doing an interview for the Maine Turnpike Authority Facebook page (note the sarcasm). He says the toughest part of the job is having to deal with bad crashes, snowstorms, and drunk drivers. In his spare time, he coaches hockey and is a huge Boston Bruins fan.

## **Meet Bob**

Bob Hooper's Maine Turpike Authority story is not what it appears to be at first glance.

In June of 2019, Bob, a toll booth operator in Falmouth, celebrated 25 years with the MTA. Monumental? Without question, but that milestone is only part of Bob's MTA story. That story starts in childhood and unfolds over decades.



Prior to joining the MTA in 1994, Bob spent 35 years in the banking industry. How does a retired 35-year trust officer from Bank of America go on to serve another 25 years for the MTA, residents, and visitors to the state of Maine? The answer is it was no ordinary journey.

Born in his grandfather's house in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, he entered into a family that made their mark over generations in the gravel industry. Bob's first memory of the Maine Turnpike was when his grandfather provided gravel to build the initial stretches of turnpike. "It's important for people to know and remember that the turnpike opened up the state of Maine. It connects us all and allows people to see any part of the state they wish to see."

The importance of the turnpike made an impression and stayed with Bob over the years. Bob's father moved his family to Saco, where he graduated from Thornton Academy. From there, Bob earned a college degree and went on to a Bachelor of Science degree in Business from Nasson College. In what would seem providential, he was assigned the Maine Turnpike Authority account at his first job in the banking industry – a responsibility that he took on with great enthusiasm and dedication.

In the early 1990s, Bob decided to try for a job at the MTA and was hired as a toll booth operator. Thus his second career began. Since then, he's seen Maine residents and visitors from various toll booths – from York to Augusta and all spots in between – ultimately settling in Falmouth, where he can be seen working a variety of shifts throughout the week with a smile and a kind word.

An avid camper, fisherman, snow shoe enthusiast, and most recently a ukulele player, Bob and his family have traveled the state via the Turnpike countless times over the years in their trailer. "I'm 84 now, and the Maine Turnpike has been my life from when my grandfather provided the gravel for the early Turnpike construction. Working the toll booths is easy and enjoyable and I like to meet people, answer their questions, and give them directions to the many beautiful places in Maine. Everyone has been so nice to me. It's a joy and I don't consider it work."

The Maine Turnpike Authority thanks Bob Hooper for his many years of service to the State of Maine. We appreciate you and your dedication and the enthusiasm you bring to your job every day.

Thank you, Bob!

# **Employee Recognition**

The employees of the Maine Turnpike Authority are the reason we can deliver on our promises of safety and reliability—day and night, all year long. Our team's institutional knowledge, longevity, and loyalty make it possible to offer the high standards of customer service that our travelers expect of us. We are pleased to recognize the dedication of our employees.

#### 5 Years

Kelly A. Allen Rebecca H. Barr Benjamin M. Bolduc Timmy J. Boynton Ronald T. Cr, Jr. David L. Cvr Haralabos P. Douzepis Jeanne A.Gagnon David A. McCourt Samuel A. Oldham Mark Gerard Pettev Tracy J. Pomerleau Paul A. Whitley, Jr.

### 10 Years

Casev Hall Arlo Pike

#### 15 Years

Kenneth R. Barnes, Jr. Lynn M. Benavides Jason R. Cassette Cecile Champagne Thompson Mark A. Ekholm Joyce M. Martin Calvin Paquet Richard S. Parlin John P. Sirois

#### 20 Years

Ronald E. McCarthy Gregory B. Stone

#### 25 Years

Timothy E. Harris **Bob Hooper** Jane M. Oldham James S. Sotir

### 35 Years

Mark F. Gustin Gregory D. Sotir

#### Toll Collector I

**Business Account Processor** Surveyor/Assistant Project Manager Toll Collector I

iSeries - Programmer Analyst Highway Maintenance III

Toll Collector I Toll Collector I

Building Maintenance III Building Maintenance III

Toll Collector

Highway Maintenance III Highway Maintenance III

#### Facility Systems Operator Safety Coordinator

Highway Maintenance III

Toll Collector I Toll Collector I

Deputy Director Human Resources

Toll Collector I

Fare Collection Coordinator Communication Center Specialist

Sign Maker

Director of Finance

#### Equipment Body Mechanic Toll Revenue Auditor

Fare Collection Superintendent Toll Collector I Communication Center Specialist

Highway Maintenance Foreman

Building Maintenance Foreman Violation Notice Processor Toll Collector I









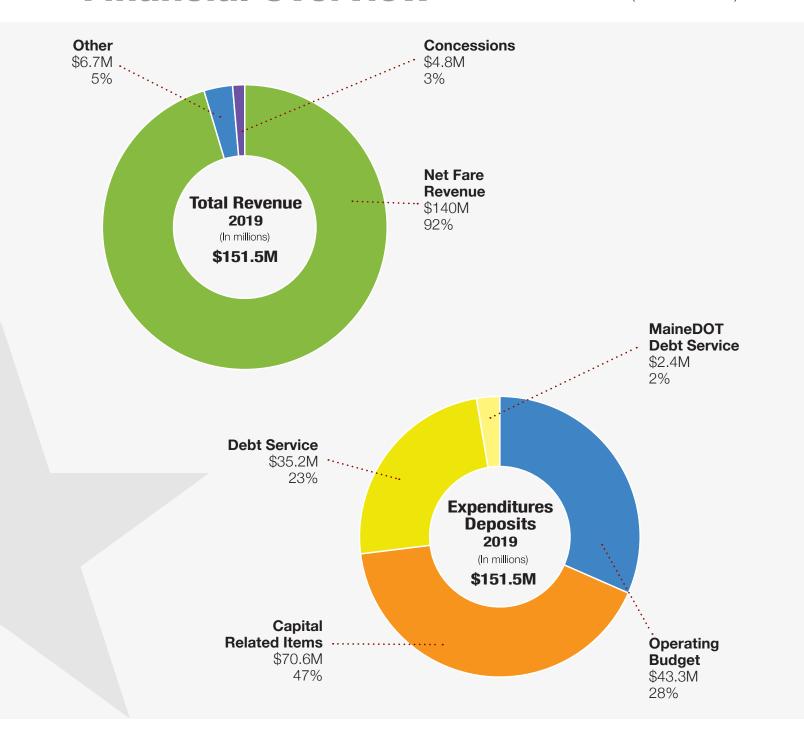






## **Financial Overview**

(2019 unaudited)















## **Executive Staff**

The Maine Turnpike Authority employees are responsible for maintenance and operation of the 109 miles of roadway that serve as the economic lifeblood for Maine, as well as the welcome mat for most visitors into the state. Executive Director Peter Mills leads these employees and his executive staff, listed below.

Douglas D. Davidson

Chief Financial Officer & Authority Board Treasurer

Peter S. Merfeld, P.E. Chief Operations Officer

Jonathan A. Arey, Esq.

Staff Attorney & Authority Board Secretary

Richard R. Barra

Director of Fare Collection

John W. Cannell

Director of Maintenance

**MTA Board of Directors** 

Daniel E. Wathen, Esq.

Chairman

Michael J. Cianchette

Member

John E. Dority †

Member

Ann R. Robinson

Member

Lauren G. Carrier

Director of Human Resources

John P. Sirois

Director of Finance

Grea J. Stone

Director of Public Safety

Stephen R. Tartre, P.E.

Director of Engineering

William H. Yates III

Director of Information Services & Communications

Robert D. Stone Vice Chairman

Thomas J. Zuke, CPA

Member

Commissioner Bruce Van Note

Member Ex-Officio

† Deceased

#### Contact the MTA

Erin T. Courtney

Public Outreach & Marketing Manager (207) 482-8119

MTA Administration & Public Safety Building 2360 Congress Street Portland, ME 04102

Administration

(877) 682-9433 (toll free)

(207) 871-7771

E-ZPass

(888) MTA-PASS or (888) 682-7277 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. M-F ezpassmaineturnpike.com

**Outside United States** 

(207) 871-7771, then press 2

MTA Website

www.maineturnpike.com

Twitter: @maineturnpike

Facebook: Maine Turnpike Authority















