

## Master Roads Scholar Tom Woodley

Tom Woodley has been Highway Superintendent in the City of Claremont for one year. Previously, Tom has worked for the NHDOT as a construction inspector, owned a recycled asphalt products business for 7 years, and has been the Public Works Director in the Town of Henniker and the City of Franklin.

For Tom, becoming a Master Roads Scholar is secondary to the opportunity to learn from the UNH T<sup>2</sup> Center classes. When he began taking classes, he just wanted to learn and to apply the newly acquired knowledge.

Tom says his department values training opportunity of the UNH T<sup>2</sup> Center Roads Scholar Program. He says that the “city has many Roads Scholars, including several seniors, one other Master, and several more on their way.” Tom will continue to take classes since achieving the highest level; he is registered for several this fall.

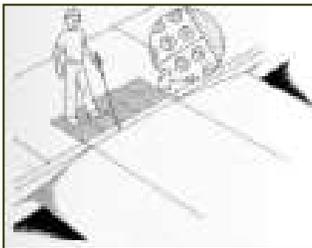
Tom says, “Thank you” to the UNH T<sup>2</sup> Center and FHWA and NHDOT for providing valuable training and resources. He believes that his department has benefited from the opportunity to learn and share knowledge.

Tom has many hobbies and interests. In the winter he likes to spend his time woodworking. In the summer, Tom fishes from his boat on Lake Winnepesaukee, Webster Lake, or various rivers throughout the state.

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## Accessible Sidewalks and Curbs Ramp

### *An Update*



According to *ADA Accessibility Guidelines* (ADAAG) all newly constructed or reconstructed sidewalks must have a 24-inch wide strip of raised truncated domes

at the bottom of all curb ramps. (See *Road Business*, Summer 2004). In 2002, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) began research on detectable warning devices for sidewalks. Concerned about the harsh winter conditions of New Hampshire, the research tested how well the domes survive sidewalk plows.

After the first winter, researchers recommended two products. The products wore well and complied with ADAAG, but even the best performer had failed, after the third winter.

Since their initial research many other truncated dome products are available. The NHDOT now specifies a cast iron product that uses materials similar to a man-hole cover. NHDOT staff notes that the cast iron product will rust but foresees no other deficiencies.

The City of Manchester uses truncated domes throughout the city, particularly in the downtown area. Kevin Sheppard, Deputy Director of Public Works says that “in the beginning we were concerned with winter maintenance and how the domes would survive. We have had a good experience with our installations.”

Copies of the new NHDOT specification is available through the UNH T<sup>2</sup> Center.

