



Charles D. Baker, Governor
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor
Stephanie Pollack, Secretary & CEO
Jonathan L. Gulliver, Highway Administrator



September 26, 2019

Honorable Jon Mitchell, Mayor
City of New Bedford
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mayor Mitchell,

This letter is in response to a letter dated August 29, 2019 (attached) from the City Councilor Brian K. Gomes, Chairman of the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods, regarding a traffic study at the Route 140 North exit to Hathaway Road and grass cutting on all exits around the City of New Bedford. The Written Motions and MassDOT District 5 responses are detailed below.

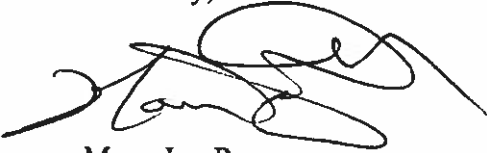
WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors {SIC} Gomes and Dunn, requesting that the City of New Bedford and Massachusetts Department of Transportation immediately conduct a traffic study at the Route 140 North exit to Hathaway Road, this exit has become a real challenge and unsafe to motorists exiting onto Hathaway Road going east and west, there is nonstop traffic making it a challenge to enter and exit on Route 140 North; and further, that DOT take immediate action on all exits around the City of New Bedford in making sure that the grass is cut, tall grass obstructs the vision of motorists entering and exiting highway exits, including said Hathaway Road exit. (Ref'd 7/19/18)

With respect to concerns with the intersection of the Route 140 North Ramps at Hathaway Road, the District recommends a meeting be conducted with representatives from the City's Department of Public Infrastructure and Engineering Departments and MassDOT officials, in addition to representatives from the Southeast Regional and Economic Planning District (SRPEDD), to discuss potential steps to address the City's concerns.

In addition, MassDOT will review all ramp systems in New Bedford to ensure sufficient sight distance is in place and, if necessary, assign vegetation crews to address ramp areas where sight distance is compromised in the near future.

MassDOT looks forward to working with City officials on this matter. Please have your office contact Bill Travers, District Operations Engineer, either by phone at (508) 884-4219, or by email at Bill.Travers@dot.state.ma.us, to coordinate a meeting time and location that is beneficial to all parties.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mary-Joe Perry', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Mary-Joe Perry
District 5 Highway Director

MJP/wdt

cc: MJP, MEB, PRH

~~Brian Gomes, New Bedford City Councilor~~

Hugh Dunn, New Bedford City Councilor



Office of
Clerk of Committees
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

City of New Bedford

MASSACHUSETTS

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DENNIS W. FARIAS
City Clerk Clerk of the City Council

DENIS LAWRENCE, JR.
Clerk of Committees

DONNA M. BRITTO
Assistant Clerk of Committees

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MASSDOT DISTRICT 5

August 29, 2019

Ms. Mary-Joe Perry, Director
Highway District 5 Office
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
1000 County Street
Taunton, MA 02780

Dear Ms. Perry,

The New Bedford City Council's Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods requests your presence at a meeting to be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., in Room 214, the City Council Chamber, to participate in a discussion on the following matter:

WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Gomes and Dunn, requesting, that the City of New Bedford and Massachusetts Department of Transportation immediately conduct a traffic study at the Route 140 North exit to Hathaway Road, this exit has become a real challenge and unsafe to motorists exiting onto Hathaway Road going east and west, there is nonstop traffic making it a challenge to enter and exit onto Route 140 North; and further, that DOT take immediate action on all exits around the City of New Bedford in making sure that the grass is cut, tall grass obstructs the vision of motorists entering and exiting highway exits, including said Hathaway Road exit. (Ref'd 7/19/18)

Your attendance would be greatly appreciated. **We strongly urge you to call the office the day of the meeting to ensure there are no scheduling conflicts or cancellations.** Please contact the Office of the Clerk of Committees at 508-979-1482 with any questions.

Very truly yours,

Brian K. Gomes

Councillor Brian K. Gomes, Chair
Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods

BKG/at

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