



April 6, 2024

Representative Dylan Fernandes
[24 Beacon St.](#)
[Room 472](#)
[Boston, MA, 02133](#)
Dylan.Fernandes@mahouse.gov

Dear Representative Fernandes,

On behalf of the residents of West Falmouth, the West Falmouth Village Association would like to extend our appreciation for the support you have provided in our efforts to improve pedestrian and traffic safety on Route 28A/West Falmouth Highway. As you know, the process is slow and the progress to date is limited. We need your continued leadership and support within the State Government to achieve a safe roadway system in our community.

The Safety Committee of the West Falmouth Village Association would like to meet with you or your staff members. We would like to provide you with an update on the progress to date, our continued safety concerns identified on Route 28A/West Falmouth Highway and the status of associated communications to MassDOT asking for their action. We would also like to address the following three topics where we believe your help is necessary for us to make continued progress.

First, we would like you to encourage MassDOT to address the “lines and signs” safety improvements recommended to them by the Falmouth Select Board in a letter sent to Ms. Mary-Joe Perry on February 26, 2024 (Attachment 1).

West Falmouth Village Association’s Safety Committee members met with the MassDOT District 5 Engineering team in November 2023 to discuss the status of the planning to implement the MassDOT recommended safety improvements documented in the Road Safety Audit (RSA) performed on April 4, 2023. At that meeting, we were informed that no work had been performed on the safety improvements Mass DOT recommended in the Road Safety Audit of .2 miles of Route 28A/West Falmouth Highway (between Old Dock Road and Chapoquoit Road). They also informed us that projects like this typically take three to five years before work begins. The District 5 Engineering Team encouraged us to develop a “lines and signs” plan to allow low cost progress to be accomplished. The West Falmouth Village Association has confirmed that the February 26th “lines and signs” request has been received by the District 5 Engineering team, but they have not committed to when the requested improvements will be performed. These are improvements that could be made before the summer population surge hits our streets.

Second, we would like you to encourage MassDOT to perform a Road Safety Audit on the remaining 2.8 miles of West Falmouth Highway. This additional RSA was requested in a letter sent to Ms. Mary-Joe Perry by the Falmouth Select Board on July 24, 2023 (Attachment 2).

It should be noted that no significant improvements have been made to Route 28A in over 75 years during which time our population has tripled. There are many common safety deficiencies within the 2.8-mile section and the .2-mile section of Route 28A/ West Falmouth Highway that should be addressed within a single design, mobilization and construction project. We believe that a single project to bring Route 28A/West Falmouth Highway up to code and to eliminate serious safety deficiencies is the most efficient way to invest the State's limited budget dollars.

Third, we need your help to secure State and Federal funds for the major code upgrades and other safety improvements needed on Route 28A/West Falmouth Highway.

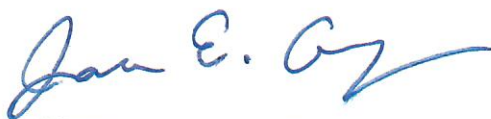
When West Falmouth Village Association's Safety Committee met with the District 5 Engineering team last September, we also learned that dedicated funding will be required for the Route 28A/West Falmouth Highway safety improvement project. We were informed that funding from both State and Federal Government sources will be required for this project. At this point, we believe MassDOT has sufficient information to develop budgetary estimates for both the .2 miles included in the July 2023 RSA Report and the 2.8 miles addressed in the of July 24, 2023, letter from the Falmouth Select Board.

I will call your office early next week to inquire when your office is available to meet with members of the West Falmouth Village Association. We can arrange a meeting room at the West Falmouth Library or meet at your office; whichever you prefer.

Sincerely,

West Falmouth Village Association
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