



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

April 3, 2019

Mr. Barry Lorion
District Highway Director, District 3
Massachusetts Department of Transportation
403 Belmont Avenue
Worcester, MA 01604

Dear Mr. Lorion:

Thank you for your ongoing work to maintain the transportation infrastructure in the MassDOT District 3 highway region. We write today as legislators representing the community of Southborough to share feedback we received from the town Select Board relative to tree trimming your Department recently conducted along the Mass. Turnpike.

Our understanding is that the Department recently cleared trees along an area of the turnpike that runs through Southborough. The trimming was undertaken in an area adjacent to residential properties where the trees provided a natural visual and sound buffer to the impacts of vehicle traffic. Following the work, the town received a number of concerns from residents, and officials did not feel that they had adequate information to be able to respond.

While we recognize that tree and limb removal is often necessary, we request a clarification of the current process for notifying towns ahead of scheduled trimming. We also request that at a minimum, the town of Southborough be notified in advance of any trimming scheduled in the future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carolyn C. Dykema".

Carolyn C. Dykema
State Representative
8th Middlesex District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James B. Eldridge".

James B. Eldridge
State Senator
Middlesex & Worcester District