



Deval L. Patrick, Governor
 Timothy P. Murray, Lt. Governor
 Richard A. Davey, Secretary & CEO
 Frank DePaola, Administrator



*Bd. Jolly
 Kelly P.
 Rick*

January 31, 2013

Mr. Lawrence W. O'Brien
 Chairman
 Board of Selectman
 Flynn Building
 278 Old Sudbury Road
 Sudbury, MA 01776-1843

RECEIVED
 BOARD OF SELECTMEN
 SUDBURY, MA
 2012 FEB -7 P 12:33

Dear Mr. O'Brien:

I am responding to your letter from July 2011 to Senator James B. Eldridge regarding pedestrian safety in the vicinity of Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School. Senator Eldridge forwarded your letter to MassDOT for consideration. I apologize for the delay in responding to you.

As a means to improve safety for students going to and from school, specifically the Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School, you had requested an amendment to Massachusetts regulations that would allow communities to designate "school zones" for any school that houses students in grades K-12. Currently this designation is limited to schools that house students in grades K-8.

MassDOT has reconsidered its position on this issue and maintains that the current definition is appropriate and consistent with that used by the majority of states. However, we also recommend that each school zone, regardless of the age of the students, be evaluated and designed to provide safe access for the students. The Central Transportation Planning Staff had previously conducted a study for Lincoln-Sudbury High School, and recommended various safety improvements. We support these recommendations, and also offer the following:

1. Construction of traffic calming measures to Concord Road and Lincoln Road that will decrease the prevailing travel speeds noted in the report. Elements to consider include speed humps/tables and raised crosswalks.
2. Installation of actuated flashing beacons to the proposed pedestrian crosswalk warning signs. Another option is to install rectangular rapid flashing beacons which can be powered with solar panels.

MassDOT is willing to provide further guidance to the town regarding ways to improve safety for school children in this area and throughout the town. Please feel free to contact Jonathan Gulliver, District 3 Highway Director, at 508-929-3800 for further assistance. Thank you for your letter and for your interest in improving public safety.

Sincerely,

Thomas F. Broderick

Thomas F. Broderick, P.E.
 Chief Engineer

cc: Sen. James B. Eldridge
Sen. Michael Barrett
Rep. Thomas Conroy
Frank DePaola, Administrator
Jonathan Gulliver, District 3 Highway Director