



## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** Board of Selectmen

**FROM:** John C. Curran, Town Manager

**CC:** Susan Aker, Cathy O'Dea

**SUBJECT:** Town Manager's Report, September 25, 2017

**DATE:** September 22, 2017

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### **Whipple/Andover Road**

The police department and the engineering department met to discuss implementing a short term solution. The traffic safety department will be doing traffic counts on Tuesday. An in-depth analysis of the accident reports for the last three years is being done to determine the need for long-term mitigation. I will update the board after the traffic counts are completed.

### **Dog Park Update**

This office met with the recreation department about the proposed dog park changes. The Dog Park representative, Mark Reid, was unable to make the meeting. The issues of significance are that the Friends of the Billerica Dog Park Committee (FBDPC) wanted to lower the annual operating budget from \$10,600 to \$5,140. It is recommended that this budget be set at a minimum of \$8,000. This is adequate to provide for insurance, landscaping, trash removal and general monitoring and maintenance. One other change being recommended is to allow all dogs not just dogs of Billerica Residents to use the park. There is no change to insurance coverage caused by this proposal. I have attached some proposed responses to the proposed changes submitted by Selectman Rosa for your review. Town Counsel is currently reviewing the changes proposed by the FBDPC. This issue will be put on the agenda after Town Counsel responds to the submitted proposals.

### **Bike Path Proposal for High School site**

The Bike Path Committee submitted their final recommended path through the High School site. It will come in off of Rivers St on a 10 foot sidewalk on the Westerly side of the entrance driveway. This sidewalk will continue around the back of the educational wings and terminate after the loading dock. The path will continue around the back of the school on the roadway and switch back and head toward Alumni Field. The logistics of this plan are still being vetted by the design team. The path proposal still needs to be formally approved by the School Committee and the Billerica Memorial High School Building Committee.

### **MassWorks Project:**

The Re-work on loam and seed and driveway work should happen in the beginning of October. The top coat of pavement is expected in mid to late October. Phase 2 work is ongoing this fall. This includes service connections for National Grid, Verizon and Comcast. Comcast is 99% complete.

**Sewer Contract 35:**

The Final paving is in progress. Please refer to the website for the current schedule. Allen Rd paving is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday September 27<sup>th</sup>. Andover Rd paving is estimated early October. Overall contract completion is November 2017.

**Allen Road Project:**

The sidewalk work should be complete this year. Pole removals in the street are expected in the next few weeks. The top course paving will be done in 2018.

**Town School Fields Merger**

A budget amendment has been added to begin the merger process. It includes two maintenance positions being funded as well as an upgraded superintendent's position. A capital appropriation for \$100,000 is included to lease purchase 3 mowers and a 60 foot tractor mower. These positions will start in April and the department will be expanded in FY2019. The FY 2019 budget will include a cemetery department with four employees and a parks and trees department with 7 guys

**Alpine Village Project Status**

The Engineering department has reviewed and approved and it will be held by the ZBA. All plans have been submitted and reviewed by engineering including the sewer and Lowell Street sidewalk plans. The Sewer work and sidewalk work will commence this construction season. The trees have been cleared and new trees will be planted in a later phase of the project.