



**TOWN OF NEWBURY**

**Board of Selectmen**

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November 25, 2008

Honorable Deval Patrick  
Governor  
Massachusetts State House  
Office of the Governor  
Room 360  
Boston, MA 02133

*To: Lisa and Patty L.  
This came with a note from the  
Governor "Good Job!"  
Keep it up.*

Dear Governor Patrick:

On behalf of the residents of the Town of Newbury, we want to express our gratitude for the extraordinary efforts of the Executive Office of Transportation and Public Works relative to the Parker River Bridge Project. We appreciate all that your administration has done on our behalf to expedite this project.

In particular, we want to thank Transportation Secretary Bernard Cohen and Commissioner of the Massachusetts Highway Department (MassHighway) Louisa Paiewonsky. This project was originally going to take two or more years to complete. The closure of the bridge resulted in a long and difficult detour for traffic on Route 1A, as well as separating a portion of our town from the rest of the community. Due to the efforts of Commissioner Paiewonsky and the staff at MassHighway, however, the bridge is scheduled to reopen before the end of this year, far ahead of schedule. We cannot express enough our gratitude to the senior leadership in transportation for all of their efforts in accelerating this project and reconnecting our community much earlier than we anticipated.

We are also grateful to District Four Director Patricia A. Leavenworth, her staff in the Arlington office and on the project worksite. Not only do we appreciate their work in completing this project so far ahead of schedule, but we have been greatly impressed with their ability to provide timely and regular updates. This effort began with visits to the town to explain the project before it started and the excellent level of communications from MassHighway was a constant throughout the project. Never before in our experience have we seen such a commitment to communicating with our community from a state agency.

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Thank you again for the efforts of your administration and please express the gratitude of the entire Town of Newbury to the managers and engineers at MassHighway for all of their hard work and dedication. We believe the Parker River Bridge Project is a model for future transportation projects and we are grateful for all that has been done on our behalf.

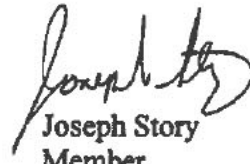
Sincerely,



Vincent Russo, MD  
Chair



Jennifer Wright  
Member



Joseph Story  
Member