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P.O Box 175

**Town of Chesterfield, New Hampshire 03443**

August 10, 2016

William Cass  
Assistant Commissioner & Chief Engineer  
NH Department of Transportation  
PO Box 483  
Concord, NH 03302-0483

Dear Assistant Commissioner Cass:

We would like to thank you and Ronald Grandmaison for coming to Chesterfield on August 1st to discuss the recent addition of rumble strips in town along the Route 9 corridor. The turnout for the rumble strip forum is one of the largest meetings we have had in several years, even surpassing attendance at recent town meetings. The attendance demonstrates the importance of this issue.

You noted at the public forum that rumble strips were a priority of the Regional Planning Commissions (RPC). In a letter from the SouthWest RPC, dated September 12, 2014 to Commissioner Clement, the SWRPC noted that rumble strips are "*a good fit in environments where there is little to no land development or land uses that would be disturbed by rumble strip sounds.*" This is not the case of Chesterfield, as there is a lot of land development along Route 9.

At the forum, we were pleased that the Department of Transportation is currently committed to removing the rumble strips from six locations: directly across from Route 9A, the area around Howards Leather (the leather store), near the Irving Gas Station for the left hand turns, Mill Road area, and the ½ mile section on both sides of the Bovine/Locust Lane/Meadowview Road area. We, in concert with the majority of town, request that all rumble strips should be removed, including the centerline. This is in agreement with the recommendations from the USDOT document "RUMBLE STRIP IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE: ADDRESSING NOISE ISSUES ON TWO-LANE ROADS"( page 13) which states "Message: For center line, shoulder, and edge line rumble strips, noise is generated only when vehicles leave their travel lane. Studies have also shown that when rumble strips end approximately 650 feet prior to residential or urban areas, the noise impacts are tolerable; at a distance of 1,640 feet, the noise generated from rumble strips is negligible." Note that most of the Route 9 corridor in Chesterfield is zoned Residential.

You reported that you will be bringing your findings to the DOT Commissioner for further action. We respectfully request a timely response as to the ultimate decision of the Department of Transportation regarding removal and/or relocation of the rumble strips

along Route 9 in Chesterfield. In that timely response to us, please include the timeline for the resolution. Lastly, we feel that it would be practical to have a follow up forum after the decision as to relieving the noise pollution issue and when that relief will be forthcoming.

On a related note, you mentioned that there was a Road Safety Audit for the Route 9 and 63 intersection in Chesterfield. Members of the community worked with DOT staff in 2014 for the Road Safety Audit, yet at this time we have not seen the final audit. Could you send us a copy of the Road Safety Audit?

If you have any questions, please contact Town Administrator Rick Carrier at (603) 363-4624 extension 13.

Sincerely,  
Chesterfield Board of Selectmen

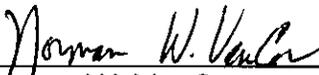
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Jon McKeon



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Brad Roscoe



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Norman W. VanCor

cc. Governor Maggie Hassan  
Councilor Colin Van Ostern  
Senator Molly Kelly  
Commissioner Victoria Sheehan  
Rep. Michael Abbott  
Rep. Paul Berch  
Rep. Tara Sad  
Rep. Lucy Weber  
Ronald Grandmaison, NH DOT