



TOWN OF ERVING

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

12 East Main Street
ERVING, MASSACHUSETTS 01344

Tel. 413-422-2800 ext. 100
Fax 413-422-2808
Email: admin@erving-ma.org

Scott Bastarache, Chair
William A. Bembury
Jacob A. Smith
Board of Selectmen

Bryan Smith
Administrative Coordinator

December 14, 2018

Peter Cavicchi, District Highway Director
Mass DOT Highway Division, District 2
811 North King Street
Northampton, Massachusetts 01060

Dear Peter Cavicchi,

In August 2017 the Town of Erving began working with residents that were concerned with the perceived increase in heavy commercial vehicle traffic in the areas of Church and North Streets in Erving as well as the speeds at which they were traveling. These streets are narrow and winding with no shoulders. The streets are lined by residences and the danger posed to individuals and children are real. The concerns were shared with the Board of Selectmen in the Town of Northfield as North Street becomes Gulf Road. In July 2018 both towns requested the assistance of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) to conduct the enclosed study.

As the study clearly communicates, the physical layout and grades of these streets make it hazardous for heavy commercial vehicles to navigate. These hazards are amplified in cold and icy conditions and annually trucks require assistance to be removed from the mountain. Many of these drivers are unfamiliar with this challenge as they are directed on this route using GPS.

On November 26, 2018 the Erving Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the recommendations of the Heavy Commercial Vehicle Exclusion Study and to formally request that Mass DOT enact the exclusion on the roads included in the study. This request is made with the support of the Town of Northfield and the understanding that there are appropriate alternative routes of travel that include traveling Route 2 east or west, and the uses of Route 63 or Interstate 91 for north or south travel. The enactment of this exclusion will improve the safety of our residents and still allow heavy commercial traffic to continue with more appropriate routes.

Respectfully,

Bryan Smith
Administrative Coordinator

CC: Bao Lang, District Engineer
Board of Selectmen, Town of Northfield
Laurie A. Scarbrough, FRCOG Transportation Planning Engineer
Glenn McCrory, Town of Erving Highway Foreman
Christopher Blair, Town of Erving Police Chief