



TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information**, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: October 4, 2018
Submitted by: Town Council Chairman Finlay Rothhaus
Department:

Date of Meeting: October 11, 2018

Speakers: Public Works Director Kyle Fox

Time Required: 20 minutes

Background Info. Supplied: Yes: No:

CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Hearing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ITEM

Removal of Merrimack Toll Plaza Discussion

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

The Town Council to discuss potential options for the removal of the toll plazas in Merrimack.

REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:	Warrant Article:
Charter Article:	Town Meeting:
Other:	N/A

EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:	Finlay Rothhaus	Address:	6 Baboosic Lake Road
Phone Number:		Email Address:	frothhaus@merrimacknh.gov

APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes No: Chair/Vice Chair: Yes No:

Hold for Meeting Date: _____



TOWN OF MERRIMACK INTER-DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATION

DATE: October 9, 2018

AT (OFFICE): Department of Public Works

FROM: Kyle Fox
Public Works Director

SUBJECT: Continental Boulevard (STATE SECTION) Costs

TO: Eileen Cabanel
Town Manager

There has been some discussion recently about the possibility of the Town taking over maintenance responsibility for the State (NHDOT) owned section of Continental Boulevard. The State owned section begins on the west end at the intersection with Route 101A and continues east for approximately 2.4 miles to the interchange with Industrial Drive. Following is a list of anticipated ongoing maintenance costs for the State section of Continental Boulevard.

Pavement overlay: The paved section of Continental Boulevard has a width of approximately 46 feet. Given the traffic volumes and truck traffic, the minimum overlay recommended would be 1.5" and would have a serviceable life of 10 to 12 years. To pave the road full width at that depth would cost \$550,000.

Drainage Maintenance: There are 34 catch basins that need to be cleaned on an annual basis. The pipes from the basins lead to six different outfalls, which require testing under the MS4 permit. Annual cost for these operations would be approximately \$5000. In addition to the closed storm drain system are 12 cross culverts ranging from 15" diameter to 42" diameter. Three of the pipes are made of metal and should be inspected for corrosion. Replacement of any of these pipes would require a wetland permit from NHDES and would likely need to be contracted out as they are deeper than any equipment that the Town owns can reach. As we learned from the Amherst Road and DW Highway culvert projects carrying Naticook Brook, the replacement costs for each could be in the \$400,000 plus range.

Street Lights: There are 11 street lights along this section. An average yearly cost of \$150/fixture equates to \$1650 per year. If the lights became ours, we would likely replace them with LED fixtures which would have an initial cost of approximately \$2,000.

Traffic Signals: Traffic signals currently owned and maintained by the State in this section are located at Industrial Drive, Camp Sargent Road/Fidelity, and Tinker Road. Annual maintenance of the signal controllers, traffic loops, LED bulbs, and electricity costs would be approximately \$3,000 per year. The signals at Tinker Road were recently replaced and so should be in fine

condition. Replacement infrastructure for the other signals would cost approximately \$150,000 per intersection to replace when the useful life of the existing infrastructure ends.

Winter Maintenance: Merrimack has seen an expansion in our road network over the past ten years as development in the Town continues; we have added 17 new roads totaling an additional 3.7 miles to maintain with no staffing increases. Accepting the maintenance responsibility for Continental Boulevard would require adding an Equipment Operator II and a 10-wheel dump truck; the average annual cost for those two items is approximately \$105,000. Using average number of storms per year, material cost (sand/salt) for this section would be \$3,000 per year.

Spring Sweeping: The Town’s MS4 permit requires sweeping of all municipal roads. The added cost for the contractor to sweep this section would be \$1,000 per year.

Line Striping: Re-striping the yellow and white lane lines, and the road words and symbols would cost \$5,000 per year.

Misc Road Maintenance: Items such as roadside mowing, ditchline maintenance, sign maintenance, and shoulder gravel maintenance need to be performed yearly. Approximate annual cost is \$5,000.

Summary Tables:

Activity	Annual Cost
Pavement Overlay	\$55,000 (\$550,000/10 years)
Drainage Maintenance	\$5,000
Street Lights	\$1,650
Traffic Signals	\$3,000
Winter Maintenance	\$108,000
Spring Sweeping	\$1,000
Line Striping	\$5,000
Misc Road Maintenance	\$5,000
TOTAL ANNUAL MAINTENANCE COST	\$183,650

Activity	Long Term Capital Costs (20 years)
Drainage Maintenance	\$2,000,000
Street Lights	\$4,000
Traffic Signals	\$300,000

I have tried to include all costs associated with maintaining this stretch of road. All prices were compiled using current costs with no inflation.

The Town should make careful consideration before agreeing to take over maintenance responsibility of Continental Boulevard. Following are some items to consider in the decision:

- The State section of Continental Boulevard serves as a major connector from Route 101A to the FE Everett Turnpike connection at Industrial Drive and carries more than 17,000 vehicles per day (2013 traffic count), many of which are from surrounding communities.

- The demand for a high level of service will be constant as the highway is a critical part of the State's infrastructure as a connection between the major east-west route and north-south route in the region. Merrimack Public Works would need to add staff and equipment in order to meet the service demand.
- Merrimack is getting close to meeting its obligation to pay for the bonds associated with the Exit 10 and 11 tolls.
- The city of Nashua received the new Exit 2 in 1999 which was supposed to be a tolled ramp – the Department of Transportation spent millions of dollars installing infrastructure to support the ramp tolls at exits one and two including tunnels, retaining walls, bridges, and roadways while ultimately the collection plazas were not constructed.

Should you have any questions please let me know.

CC: Paul Micali, Finance Director/Assistant Town Manager
Dawn Tuomala, Town Engineer/ Deputy Director of Public Works