



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: May 17, 2019
Submitted by: Town Manager Eileen Cabanel
Department:
Speakers:

Date of Meeting: May 23, 2019
Time Required: 15 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"/>
<i>Public Hearing:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

TITLE OF ITEM

Town of Merrimack Comment Letter - Sound Barriers for F.E. Everett Turnpike Widening Project

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

The Town Council to review draft comment letter from the Town of Merrimack to the NH Department of Transportation regarding sound barriers for the F.E. Everett Turnpike (FEET) Widening Project.

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:	Eileen Cabanel	Address:	6 Baboosic Lake Road
Phone Number:	424-2331	Email Address:	ecabanel@merrimacknh.gov

APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes No: Chair/Vice Chair: Yes No:
Hold for Meeting Date: _____

May 17, 2019

Victoria Sheehan
Commissioner, NH Department of Transportation
PO Box 483
Concord, NH 03302-0483

Re: Comments from Town of Merrimack – Sound Barriers for FE Everett Turnpike Widening Project

Dear Commissioner Sheehan:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding the proposed widening of the FE Everett Turnpike, and the concern of the Town Council regarding highway noise and implementation of noise barriers within Merrimack.

As the Town understands, the DOT has approved the use of sound barriers in several locations along the proposed widening in Merrimack, but has denied placement in several other locations and neighborhoods abutting the Turnpike, as indicated below:

- East Ridge Condominiums
- Back River Road
- Ministerial Drive/Vista Way
- Roundtree Drive
- Maple Ridge Condominiums
- Along the buildings located to the east side of the turnpike north of Exit 12.

The Town of Merrimack will both benefit and be negatively impacted by the proposed widening (particularly as the construction takes place). During construction, we anticipate significant traffic impacts and delays along Daniel Webster Highway (US Route 3) as travelers avoid the construction areas along the FE Everett. The widening of the Turnpike will, of course, bring the roadway and traffic closer to private properties along both the east and west side, changing significantly the character and environment (both natural and man-made) of those properties and neighborhoods that abut the Turnpike. It is inevitable that the new alignment of the Turnpike will increase the noise to these properties and neighborhoods. The Council believes that provision of sound barriers for all impacted properties is both just and fair.

In closing, as a community, we are very thankful for the placement of barriers where they have been approved. However, in the spirit of promoting and protecting the interests and property values of our residents that live in areas that were denied sound barriers, we strongly encourage DOT to reconsider those denials and provide appropriate protections to all impacted properties in Merrimack.

Please feel free to contact me at (603) 424-2331, if you have any questions or comments on the information provided in this letter.

Sincerely,

Tom Koenig
Town Council Chair
Town of Merrimack NH

CC: Merrimack Legislative Delegation
Chris Sununu, Governor
Stephen Shurtleff, Speaker of the House
Donna Soucy, Senate President
Eileen Cabanel, Merrimack Town Manager