

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - **April 13, 2012**

INFORMATION FROM THE  
**CAPE COD COMMISSION**  
Barnstable County



**MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Paul Niedzwiecki, Executive Director  
Glenn Cannon, Technical Services Director  
Cape Cod Commission  
508-362-3828  
[www.capecodcommission.org](http://www.capecodcommission.org)

*\*\* NOTE: Two Letters Attached\*\**

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## CCC Urges MassDOT to Delay Timing of Median Project in Sandwich to Prevent Further Traffic Congestion on Route 6 This Spring

*Second letter seeks support of US Army Corps of Engineers for increased message boards  
and online information about traffic conditions*

BARNSTABLE COUNTY, MA -- Cape Cod Commission Executive Director Paul Niedzwiecki today sent a letter to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) urging reconsideration of the timing of MassDOT's plans to install a cable barrier on the median of Route 6 between Exits 2 and 4. The construction contract for the work has been awarded and it is proposed to begin soon.

Niedzwiecki also wrote to the US Army Corps of Engineers urging installation of more roadside message signs and online information systems to help drivers coming and going from the Cape to seek alternate routes and plan their trips based on real-time conditions in the vicinity of the Sagamore Bridge, Route 6, and Route 3.

"It is particularly troubling to anticipate three disruptive projects going on simultaneously as the traffic surges this spring," Niedzwiecki says.

– MORE –

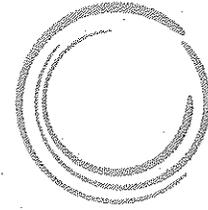
The Army Corps of Engineers' bridge work and MassDOT's work on Exits 2, 5, and 6 on Route 6 are already under way. The Commission's communications urge delay of the state's proposed installation of the cable barrier project until the other projects are completed.

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ABOUT THE CAPE COD COMMISSION:

Cape Cod Commission is the regional land use planning, economic development, and regulatory agency created in 1990 to serve the citizens and 15 towns that comprise Barnstable County, Massachusetts, better known as Cape Cod. The Commission works toward maintaining a healthy balance between economic progress and environmental vitality. "Keeping a special place special" describes the agency's mission to protect the region's unique qualities. The 19-member volunteer Cape Cod Commission board represents a wide spectrum of the community and provides oversight for a staff of 40 professionals. The Commission is responsible for regional planning, policy, and regulations to help manage growth, and the agency supports the Cape's 15 towns with cost-effective planning and technical services. For more information, visit: [www.capecodcommission.org](http://www.capecodcommission.org)

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April 13, 2012

Colonel Charles P. Samaris  
Commander and District Engineer  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England  
696 Virginia Road,  
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Dear Colonel Samaris:

Your Resident Engineer, Larry Davis, has done an outstanding job communicating and coordinating with the public to mitigate the impacts of the ongoing Sagamore Bridge work. This cooperative effort has been successful in the past; however, the need for greater communication is made even more urgent now because of the concurrent construction projects of MassDOT.

Accordingly, we ask the Corps of Engineers to deploy a system of Doppler radar information devices, such as the iCone system, and to increase the message signs along Route 6 and Route 3 to help mitigate current traffic congestion approaching the bridge. During bridge repairs in 2009 and 2010, motorists received real-time information online via a system of iCones and roadside message signs. These efforts gave them a chance to seek alternate routes and to plan their trips based on current conditions.

We ask you to recognize the importance of this request and implement these measures as soon as possible as we all work to reduce traffic congestion, public aggravation, and driver confusion for those traveling on and off Cape Cod.

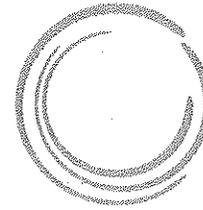
If you have questions, please call Clay Schofield, P.E., of the Cape Cod Commission staff at (508) 744-1231.

Sincerely,

Paul Niedzwiecki  
Executive Director  
Cape Cod Commission

cc: Thomas Cahir, CCRTA Administrator

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April 13, 2012

Richard A. Davey  
Secretary and Chief Executive Officer  
Massachusetts Department of Transportation  
10 Park Plaza, Suite 4160  
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Secretary Davey,

The spring and upcoming summer seasons will undoubtedly bring a surge of traffic to Route 6 in this region. The Cape Cod Commission is greatly concerned about the concurrent construction projects in process or proposed to begin soon on the Sagamore Bridge and Route 6.

Currently, the US Army Corps of Engineers is repairing the bridge, which requires closure of two lanes and is already causing significant traffic backups. MassDOT has also begun work this week on improvements at Exit 2, Exit 5, and Exit 6 on Route 6. In addition, MassDOT plans to install a cable barrier on the median of Route 6 between Exit 2 and Exit 4. The construction contract (#69634) has been awarded and work is to begin soon. The project, as important as it is, will cause significant additional traffic congestion, driver confusion, and public aggravation, all of which can be avoided by changing its timing.

We urge you to consider delaying the installation of the cable barrier until a later date, when fewer projects are under way. Doing so will help alleviate some of the inconvenience for the public.

Thank you for considering our request. If you have questions, please call Clay Schofield, P.E., of the Cape Cod Commission staff at (508) 744-1231.

Sincerely,

Paul Niedzwiecki  
Executive Director  
Cape Cod Commission

cc: Mary-Joe Perry, District 5 Highway Director