

TO:

Mr. Glenn Cannon

P.O. Box 226

Cape Cod Commission

Attn: Transportation

Barnstable, MA 02630

RE: Unified Planning Work Program

May 23, 2016

Dear Mr. Cannon,

Could the Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization please consider inclusion in its Unified Planning Work Program a new traffic study in order to evaluate the impact of Steamship Authority-related car and truck traffic on Cape roads and traffic?

A new traffic study would permit evaluation of the extent to which the addition of New Bedford as a freight and car route to Martha's Vineyard (and eventually Nantucket) would help alleviate traffic on Cape Cod.

The timeliness of this proposed inclusion in the Unified Planning Work Program is that the Steamship Authority's Board has recently requested that New Bedford be studied as a new freight route to Martha's Vineyard.

A Preliminary Report on the Feasibility of Providing Freight Service Between New Bedford and Martha's Vineyard has been recently released (see <https://www.steamshipauthority.com/about/news>). But that Preliminary Report relies on incomplete traffic data.

A better understanding of the impact of traffic generated by Steamship Authority-associated cars and trucks in Falmouth and in Barnstable could be a critical part of: 1) planning of public transit and the Woods Hole, Hyannis, Vineyard, and Nantucket ferry terminals, 2) future planning of road maintenance and repair of certain highways and other roads on the Cape; and 3) planning of the concept for a third bridge.

We believe the Steamship Authority is the largest single impact on car and truck traffic in the Towns of Falmouth and of Barnstable.

For your background information, here are several recent media stories about Steamship Authority traffic impacts and related problems in the Town of Falmouth:

http://www.cape-news.net/falmouth/opinion/a-noise-curfew-for-ssa---letter/article_3d179504-153c-5898-8663-e1e846ada7df.html

http://www.cape-news.net/falmouth/news/authority-freight-boat-fall-schedule-to-remain-the-same/article_0eeba8ba-bebb-5ea1-a79f-3d4966009f61.html

http://www.cape-news.net/falmouth/news/selectmen-press-for-new-bedford-freight-service/article_2af36ff6-bd1f-5255-95c9-95187c9cba27.html

http://www.cape-news.net/falmouth/news/ferry-truck-noise-in-woods-hole-discussed/article_fa91fe8a-159e-505a-9ea3-53bbc1979f4c.html

Thank you for considering inclusion of this topic in your Unified Planning Work Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nathaniel S. Trumbull". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nathaniel Trumbull

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Woods Hole, MA 02543

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