MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Joseph D. Feaster, Jr., Interim Town Manager (781) 341-1300 Ext. 9211
Dr. Marguerite C. Rizzi, Superintendent of Schools (781) 344-4000 Ext. 1232

TOWN MEETS TO DISCUSS TRAFFIC SAFETY CONCERNS

The recent accident near the Hansen Elementary School which resulted in the tragic death of Shayla Lutz has spurred Stoughton to examine traffic safety issues throughout the Town.

Joseph D. Feaster, Jr., Interim Town Manager and Dr. Marguerite C. Rizzi, Superintendent of Schools, convened a meeting of Town Departments. (Police, Fire, Public Works, Engineering and Planning), Jed Cornock of Old Colony Planning Council, Ray Guarino of Old Colony Planning Council, Joyce Husseini of the Stoughton School Committee, Forrest Lindwall of the Stoughton Redevelopment Authority, Representative William Galvin, Representative Louis Kafka, Emily Kowtonluk of Senator Joyce’s office and Nicholas Zaferakis, Jr. of Congressman Lynch’s office.

“We will examine traffic safety concerns throughout the Town”, said Joseph Feaster. “The tragic accident near the Hansen School has caused us to focus our attention on this issue so that such tragedy will not occur in our Town in the future.” Dr. Rizzi said, “The entire school community is saddened by the tragic death of Shayla near the Hansen Elementary School. We will work with Mr. Feaster, the Town officials and others to insure that our school zones are safe for all of our students and their families.”

“We are just starting the process, but intend to develop short-term and long-term solutions for the Board of Selectmen and School Committee to consider. Within 3 weeks we hope to have in place, a design for new crosswalk(s), a temporary sidewalk on the Hansen School parking lot, and an internal circulation plan for pickup/drop off”, said Mr. Feaster and Dr. Rizzi.
MEETING
Stoughton Traffic Safety Issues
September 27, 2012

Focus: Examine street locations throughout the Town for traffic safety concerns with an emphasis on Central and West Streets intersection near the Hansen Elementary School.

Objective: To alleviate as many traffic safety concerns as are possible throughout the Town of Stoughton.

Process: Be thoughtful, deliberative and comprehensive.

AGENDA

• Introductions
• Purpose of the Meeting
• Report on September 14, 2012 Accident/Discussion
• Discussion on Overall Traffic Safety Issues
• Mitigation
  o Short Term
  o Long Term
• Creation of Task Force
• Next Steps
• Next meeting
• Adjournment
September 20, 2012

His Excellency Deval L. Patrick  
Governor of the Commonwealth  
State House, Room 360  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick:

In the recent transportation bond bill, now Chapter 242 of the Acts of 2012, we included a provision in Section 2A that authorized funding for signalization improvements at the intersection of Route 27 and Erin Road in the town of Stoughton. The funding would allow the town to address the recent spate of traffic accidents that have occurred at the bend in the road immediately south of the intersection.

Unfortunately, an accident occurred in that area last week, which resulted in the death of a three-year-old girl. In light of this tragic accident, we would like to sit down with you at your earliest convenience to discuss the aforementioned provision in the hopes of using those funds immediately for a public safety study of the area. It is clear that this stretch of road has now become a significant public safety issue for the residents of Stoughton.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to hearing from you or your staff to schedule the meeting.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM C. GALVIN  
State Representative

BRIAN A. JOYCE  
State Senator

LOUIS L. KAFKA  
State Representative