



TOWN OF UPTON, MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

August 7, 2014

RE: Snow Plowing of Private Ways

Dear Resident,

I am writing to you as a resident living on a private way to make you aware of a policy being developed by the Board of Selectmen regarding snow plowing services for such ways. The Town has been providing sanding and snow plowing services on some private ways but not all for a number of years. At the May, 2001 annual election, voters approved a question on the ballot in conformance with Mass. General Laws, Chapter 40, §6C allowing for such work. However, the Board at that time never took steps to designate the roads to be plowed, and set a policy for the criteria each way must meet in order receive such service. The Board is now working on that policy to resolve this ahead of the winter of 2014/2015.

Enclosed with this letter is a copy of the draft policy, along with a list of the affected ways. The spreadsheet details whether or not the way is currently plowed, whether or not it is named and open for public use, the staff recommendation as to whether or not it should be plowed in the future, and the specific reasoning for that recommendation. The information is also available on the Town's website.

The Board is planning to discuss this topic at their next meeting which will be held on **Tuesday, August 26th at 6:00 PM** in the Professional Development Center (PDC) which is located at Nipmuc High School on the 2nd Floor. Before the Board votes to adopt such a policy, they encourage residents to attend the meeting to ask questions and provide their comments and concerns. If you decide to attend the meeting, in addition to any comment you wish to make, it would be helpful that you bring these comments or concerns in writing, so that we can make sure that we record your concerns accurately.

On behalf of the Board I want to express that we realize a change in snow removal procedures may come as a surprise, and it is our goal to adopt a policy that is fair and equitable, keeping the Town's and residents best interests at heart. Thus we welcome your participation in this meeting to deliberate this further. If you are not able to attend the meeting, please send your comments or concerns ahead of time so that Board may have your input.

Sincerely,

Blythe C. Robinson
Town Manager

cc: Board of Selectmen
Jeffrey Thompson, DPW
Chief Bradley, Police
Chief Goodale, Fire/EMS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Robert J. Fleming, Chairman
Kenneth E. Picard
James A. Brochu

TOWN MANAGER
Blythe C. Robinson
One Main Street • Suite 1 • Upton, MA 01568
T: 508.529.6901 • F: 508.529.1010