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*In CC packets  
11/21/08*

**Bernard F. Lynch**  
City Manager

TO: Mayor Edward Caulfield  
And  
Members of the Lowell City Council

FROM: Bernard F. Lynch, City Manager

DATE: November 20, 2008

SUBJECT: **MOTION OF 10/28/08 BY COUNCILOR KAZANJIAN  
"REQUEST THE CITY MANAGER REPORT ON ISSUES  
RELATING TO GALLAGHER SQUARE".**

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Regarding the above-mentioned motion I have been in contact with Jeffrey Gomes, Traffic Engineer. Jeff has informed me that the Gallagher Square Improvements is a MassHighway (MHD) funded project within State Highway layout. MHD is also managing construction and coordinates as needed with the City. The project will include significant drainage improvements to support the City's sewer separation work in the area as well as new traffic signals and a reconfiguration of this complicated intersection to improve traffic safety and flow.

The current schedule indicates the project to be substantially complete by late Fall 2009 with full completion in December 2009. Certain types of work are limited in the winter months but some work may be ongoing. Major traffic and infrastructure improvements often pose a temporary inconvenience during construction but this is mitigated by long lasting improvements over existing conditions upon completion.

The project must conform to the City of Lowell noise ordinance which limits construction work hours. The official project work hours are consistent with this ordinance. Any Sunday work or noise-generating construction activity outside the permitted work hours require documentation of a special need, emergency, or unusual circumstances and approval of the Commissioner of Public Works.

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Neither the project or the construction activity displaces any existing legal public parking. However, the contractor, Newport Construction Corporation, is using the City-owned lot next to the Gorham Street/Olive Street fire station for staging of materials, etc. for the duration of the project. Use of this lot will continue through the winter. Newport will be responsible for leaving the lot in the same condition, or improved, after their use. However, as in many neighborhoods, residents in this area lack sufficient off-street parking in the winter months. Options to create additional winter off-street parking in this area are being investigated. If there is any way the City can assist in accommodating neighbors, the Council will be asked to take the necessary action to do so.

Please contact the Transportation Engineer, City Engineer, or Commissioner of Public Works with any additional questions regarding construction activities at Gallagher Square.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

cc: Adam Baacke, Assistant City Manager / DPD Director  
Lt. Tim Crowley, Lowell Police Department  
TJ McCarthy, Assistant City Manager/DPW Commissioner  
Lisa DeMeo, City Engineer  
Anne Barton, Deputy Director  
Diane Tradd, Chief Design Planner  
Jeffrey Gomes, Transportation Engineer  
Matthew Roux, Assistant Traffic Planner