



March 14, 2013

Mr. John J. Long  
City Clerk  
City of Somerville  
93 Highland Avenue  
Somerville, MA 02143

Dear Mr. Long,

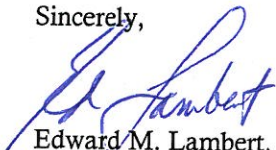
Thank you for your letter of March 7, 2013 regarding snow removal on DCR property in the City of Somerville. I appreciate your outreach and the interest of the Board of Aldermen on this matter.

As we all know, the winter of 2013 has thus far proved to be very difficult and on several occasions, due to elevated accumulations, has presented considerable snow removal challenges for cities and towns across the Commonwealth as well as state agencies with similar responsibilities. Despite these challenges and resource limitations, DCR staff has responded diligently over the course of the last several snow storms and during the ensuing days to address our snow removal obligations in the numerous communities where we have parkways, roadways, and pedestrian routes, as well as the roadways within our recreational properties throughout the Commonwealth.

As you can imagine, we have received similar requests from other communities. Additionally, during our prioritization process it was discovered that McGrath Highway, for instance, has some structural obstacles that has prevented implementation of a different snow removal methodology. While it would be impossible to elevate all of the priority levels, I have asked our MassParks Division to consider your request and to look into the prioritization in this area when they meet to review our overall snow and ice removal protocols and as they plan future snow removal efforts and coordination with MassDOT.

Once again, we appreciate the city's input and interest in our snow removal operations. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Nick Gove, MassParks Boston Region Director, by email at [nicholas.gove@state.ma.us](mailto:nicholas.gove@state.ma.us) or by phone at 617-727-5290.

Sincerely,



Edward M. Lambert,  
Commissioner

cc: Jack Murray, DCR Deputy Commissioner  
Priscilla Geigis, MassParks Director  
Samantha Overton, MassParks Deputy Director  
Daniel Hunt, DCR Director of Government Affairs  
Nick Gove, MassParks Boston Region Director

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Edward M. Lambert Jr., Commissioner  
Department of Conservation & Recreation