

November 10, 2022

To: Mayor Jim Bouley and Concord City Council

From: Tim Sink, Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce

RE: Interstate I-93

Dear Mayor Bouley and Concord City Council:

First, on behalf of the Chamber I would like to express our appreciation for the good work and attention the city has given to the I-93 widening project through Concord. It is clear that a number of important improvements have been made over the original design which would not have been incorporated without robust and consistent City involvement.

The Chamber supports additional initiatives that would:

- Improve the image of downtown Concord from the Highway. This may include landscaping improvements, decorative fencing strategically placed, lighting treatments and other creative ways to draw attention to our beautiful city.
- Improved way finding and signage, giving travelers an enticement to make a stop in Concord
- Provide a meaningful connection and access from downtown to the river.

The Concord 2020 initiative envisioned a deck extending over the interstate that could provide green space and access to the river from the downtown. We support city funding to conduct a feasibility study and design concept for such an initiative. Accommodation for the Merrimack River Greenway Trail is an important and welcome addition, but this may be our only chance to realize something truly visionary to reconnect the city to the river.

Once again, thank you for your good work on behalf of the City of Concord.

Sincerely,

Timothy G. Sink, CCE

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President