

**MINUTES OF THE CITIZEN OUTREACH COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON APRIL 28, 2016**

A Citizen Outreach Committee Meeting was held on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at 7:00P.M. in the City Council office, Room 204.

Committee Members: Committee Chairperson Melinda Barrett, Councillor Andres Vargas, Councillor Colin LePage, and Councillor Thomas Sullivan. Council President John Michitson and Councillor William Macek also attended.
Attendees: Representative Linda Dean Campbell, Dennis Marsalia- Representative from Sen. Ives' office, Ken Trahan-Keolis, Steve Atkins- MBTA, Ernest Piper, Bert Lacerte, Joe Zappala, Zack Simmons

The following item was discussed:

Doc.# 38-W– Communication from Councillor Barrett requesting to give an update on the response from MBTA/Keolis and US EPS about idling trains in Bradford.

The committee and audience discussed the continual problem faced by the neighborhood of Wood School area. The neighbors have suffered due to the close proximity and a lack of any mitigation of the Layover station for the last 30 years. Among the possible solutions were stepped up vigilance on the part of Keolis and MBTA on procedures in the yard, Sound walls, train barn, exhaust catches and moving the layover station.

The representatives from Keolis and the MBTA agreed to:

- - Provide a “person in charge” phone number;
- - Audit train data to ensure yard is working as agreed;
- - Have a written procedure for both start up and shut down of trains in the Bradford Layover with an emphasis on reducing disruption of neighbors;
- - Ensure all workers know the proximity of a large population;
- - Explore other ways internally to reduce noise and pollutants.

A motion was made by Councillor Sullivan and seconded by Councillor LePage to have the Council send a letter to Gov. Baker and Secretary of Transportation Pollack asking for assistance. The letter should also cc the local legislative delegation so they may continue to assist on this issue. The letter should request that all possible alternative sites for the layover be explored. Being that any move would be in the distant future immediate mitigation be implemented for the protection and quality of life of the neighbors. Passed unanimously. Also, Councillor Barrett will send a letter to Steve Atkins asking them to detail their problem mitigation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

May 5, 2016

Melinda E. Barrett, Chairperson
Citizen Outreach Committee
Haverhill City Council

MEB/bsa

c: Mayor James J. Fiorentini
City Councillors