

cc: A. Camby
C. Freel
MBA Board
G. Bunting
T. Vickers
July 25, 1996

B. E. Littleton
Chief Traffic Engineer
State of Delaware
Department of Transportation
P. O. Box 778
Dover, Delaware 19903

Dear Bruce:

I want to thank you for your past efforts and update you regarding the status of the safety improvements for the intersection of Bridge Road and Route 1. The highway lighting is in and thanks to Representative Bunting, I understand the raised concrete island has been approved and is out for bid. Thanks for expediting these much needed improvements.

The third component of the modifications proposed in your November 29, 1995 letter, closing Route 1's north bound left turn lane, has the greatest impact on both the safety of the Middlesex residents and the business of the commercial owners along Route 1. Your letter stated a consensus of support for this restriction from the Middlesex Beach Association (MBA) and the business owners is needed before proceeding with this closure. The MBA board recommended the following plan of action.

1. Route 1's north bound turn lane should be temporarily closed.
2. The safety and commercial impact of this action would be assessed.
3. A long range plan for auto and pedestrian traffic for the Middlesex area would be developed involving DelDOT, commercial and MBA representatives.

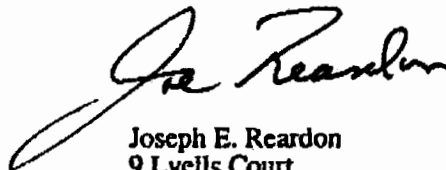
The McDonald's Corporation voiced the most negative response of the commercial owners. Initially they opposed any permanent or temporary closure of Route 1's north bound left turn lane at Bridge Road. Subsequently, in the enclosed June 18, 1996 letter from Susan McDaniel to me, they have deferred to the traffic experts regarding this situation. There still remains a level of concern with the other commercial owners regarding the potential negative impact on their business by closing this turn lane.

These concerns and the difficulty in assessing the impact of a temporary closure of the left turn lane at this late date in the summer indicates a slight modification of the above MBA Board proposal may be the best course of action.

I propose representatives of the commercial owners and the MBA Board meet with you, or your representative, to discuss immediate and long range options and develop the optimum solution. Please communicate convenient times to meet, if this is satisfactory with you. Then I will work with the business and MBA representatives to schedule the appropriate time and place.

Thanks again for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,



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