Belmont officials ask Hosmer for help with huge pot hole on Route 140

BELMONT OFFICIALS ASK HOSMER FOR HELP WITH HUGE POT HOLE ON ROUTE 140

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BELMONT – State Sen. Andrew Hosmer told Selectmen Chair Ruth Mooney that he would include the intersection at Route 140 and Main Street in his planned tour of his senate district with State Transportation Commission Chris Clement this summer.

Hosmer's pledge came during a morning view of the busy state intersection where a pot hole opens during rainfall and keeps growing larger. The pot hole measures about 6 to 8 feet across and impedes traffic passing through the intersection.

During the 15 minutes Hosmer spent viewing the intersection, he watched a number of tractor trailers and campers as well as regular traffic go through the intersection. During most of the conversation, participants had to speak above normal levels to be heard over the traffic.

At the meeting, police Lt. Richard Mann told Hosmer there have been nine accidents at the intersection in the past four years and four at intersections on Main Street that could be attributed to...
traffic congestion in the area.

He noted that during the school year, at least three school buses use the intersection going both to and from school.

Mooney noted that with global positioning sensors showing Route 140 as the primary way to get from Interstate 93 to Belmont, the traffic is heavier than ever and not likely to abate.

"It's one truck after another after another," she said.

She added that Belmont has gone to great financial lengths to improve the village area and the Main Street and Route 140 intersection remains one of the biggest hazards in the village.

Hosmer said he would encourage Clement speed up a study of the intersection on his priority list.

Mooney also noted that the state has agreed to improve the intersection of Shaker Road and Jamestown Road so that will increase the traffic flow at the troubled intersection.

"It's almost like they're doing what they can to avoid it, Mooney said.

Hosmer said there are a lot of roads in the state that are being ignored which is why he supported an increase in the gas tax provided that the money stays in the road improvement fund.

He said he wants to see more money coming into communities like Belmont, and not just spent on improving the I-93 corridor.