

**David A. Olson**

---

**From:** Barbara Brousal-Glaser  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 29, 2019 2:20 PM  
**To:** David A. Olson  
**Subject:** Committee Report for STSG

Hi David,

Following is my report from the STSG. I have run this by Brenda and Marc and it is ready to be distributed to the council.

Thank you!

Barbara

Hi Colleagues,

For about ten months Councilor Noel and I have been part of a School Transportation Steering Group. We meet with Liam Hurley and members of the NPS team, three members of the School Committee -- Steve Siegal, Matthew Miller and Margaret Albright --

and occasionally staff from the Transportation Division of the city.

We have written an overall policy for school transportation, set out district wide transportation goals, and have discussed particular schools' issues in depth. This past week we met with Jenn Martin the new head of Safe Routes to School. To keep it brief, the challenge is: how do we get kids walking, biking or taking the bus to school in the safest possible way.

It has been a real pleasure for me to work with Mr. Hurley and the entire group, and I will miss being an "official" part of the conversation come January.

In connection with these discussions, Margaret Albright shared a report (CAFEH) about housing near highways. Since all of Washington Street, and much of Lower Falls, Upper Falls, and Waban are near major highways, I thought members of the council,

and specifically those on Land Use, might be interested in looking at it. I have pulled out a sentence from the executive summary.

"A number of environmental health reports now exist which show significantly elevated cardiovascular mortality risk, lung cancer and childhood asthma for people living near heavily travelled freeways. Emerging studies also show elevated risk of autism. Section I of this report outlines the current research on both the characteristics of traffic related air pollution and the effects on near highway communities."

Here it is in full: <https://sites.tufts.edu/cafeh/files/2011/10/CAFEH-Report-Final-2-26-15-hi-res1.pdf>

Thank you,  
Barbara Brousal-Glaser

Barbara Brousal-Glaser  
Ward 3 Ward Councilor  
Newton, MA