



Raymond Kelly Richardson
Superintendent

Barry Golner
Deputy Superintendent

Daniel R. Larocque
Deputy Superintendent

To: Superintendent Kelly Richardson

From: Deputy Barry Golner

Date: February 5, 2020

Re: City Council Motion Response

*Rec
2/5/2020
RG*

9.2. C. Conway – Req. City Manager to Meet with Superintendent of LPD to Strategize with the State Police with the Goal of Re-instating or Increasing the Frequency of Use of the Massachusetts State Police Sobriety Checkpoints/Impaired Driving Enforcement Mobile Unit.

Deputy Golner spoke with Lieutenant Eric Bernstein from the Massachusetts State Police regarding their ability to increase MSP presence with sobriety check point assistance. There are several issues regarding the sobriety check points. They are conducted approximately twelve times per year or the troop is given 12 dates in which to conduct sobriety checkpoints. On the average, in 2018 and 2019, they conducted two each year in Lowell. The sobriety check points are two fold, and are for education and enforcement. The sobriety check points must conform to statutory requirements and are conducted based upon both crash and arrest data in the areas they are to be conducted. The area must also provide a safe place for the motoring public and officers involved. The actual check points are normally funded by state wide grant monies. Lieutenant Bernstein advised that he would look to increase the cooperation and assistance to Lowell and will at least attempt to conduct three this coming year for the City. There are several factors that could cause the cancellation of a planned event, most importantly weather. The City Council, the Mayor or City Manager, could also contact the Colonel of the State Police or the Secretary of Public Safety directly and request additional sobriety check points in the City. All would be contingent upon the continued assistance from the Lowell Police Department Traffic Bureau for saturation patrols before a check point and assistance with the check points later in the evening. Funding outside of grant related check points would always be a factor as the operations can be very costly to conduct.