



Eileen Donoghue  
City Manager

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor William Samaras and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Eileen M. Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*

**DATE:** July 17, 2018

**SUBJECT:** MOTION RESPONSE: K. Cirillo - *Req. City Mgr. Provide An Update To Council Regarding The State's Response To The Issues That Arise At The Sampas Pavilion i.e., Late Night Noise; Parking; And Safety.*

In response to the many complaints made last summer relative to events at the Sampas Pavilion, the attached letter was sent to Commissioner Roy of DCR from myself, as then State Senator, and Representative Thomas Golden. As a follow up to this letter we had a meeting with the Commissioner and his staff and have had numerous conversations with him to try and address the issues at the Sampas Pavilion.

Commissioner Roy has attended two "Motorcycle Nights" and personally met with the permittee to let them know that their permit is subject to revocation based on the Commissioner's discretion. He did not observe anything unusual or out of the ordinary at either visit. At this time, his primary focus for DCR for this season's motorcycle nights will be noise-related, specifically adhering to the 9:00 P.M. curfew.

In addition to addressing the noise complaints, Commissioner Roy has instructed the permittee to ensure that the river walkway (behind the stage at Sampas) must remain open to the public during all permitted events. In previous years, we have learned that the permittee would close off this section causing individuals using the walkway to dangerously walk along an unpaved portion of the road adjacent to the main thoroughfare.

Commissioner Roy has also canceled previously permitted events at Sampas that were held on Wednesday and Friday evenings. He made this decision after hearing from the state delegation that the abutting neighborhood felt overwhelmed by the sheer number of events at the facility.

At this point in the season, DCR has not received any complaints to their community affairs hotline/email address. People are encouraged to report any issues so that they can be on file for permit review in upcoming seasons. The contact info can be found at:  
<http://www.mass.gov/orgs/departments-of-conservation-recreation>.



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**THE GENERAL COURT**  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

August 30, 2017

Leo Roy  
Commissioner  
Department of Conservation and Recreation  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900  
Boston, MA 02114-2104

Dear Commissioner Roy:

Thank you for taking the time to talk with us recently regarding the Sampas Pavillion. As we discussed, a number of constituents have contacted us with concerns about excessive noise from the Pavillion.

In spite of the assurances you gave us when we spoke, the situation at Sampas seems to have gotten worse rather than better. Pawtucketville residents have informed us both that noise has gone on after hours and that even during dinner time indoor conversations one mile away from Sampas are affected by excessive noise.

While urban living comes with a certain amount of clamor, the conditions at Sampas exceed acceptable limits. Accordingly, we respectfully request that DCR take immediate action to pull the permit for the remainder of 2017 that allows events to take place at Sampas.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter and look forward to hearing back from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eileen M. Donoghue".

Eileen M. Donoghue  
State Senator  
First Middlesex District

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Thomas A. Golden, Jr.".

Thomas A. Golden, Jr.  
State Representative  
Sixteenth Middlesex District