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From: Stephen Crane <scrane@concordma.gov>

Date: Fri, Aug 21, 2020 at 7:11 PM

Subject: RE: Letter to Select Board on Town House Renovation Project and Temporary Relocation of Town Clerk's Office

To: Judy Zaunbrecher <jrzaunbrecher@gmail.com>, Michael Lawson <mlawson@concordma.gov>, Jane Hotchkiss <jhotchkiss@concordma.gov>, Linda Escobedo <lescobedo@concordma.gov>, Terri Ackerman <tackerman@concordma.gov>, Susan Bates <sbates@concordma.gov>, Kate Hodges <khodges@concordma.gov>, Kerry Lafleur <klafleur@concordma.gov>

Judy, thank you for sharing your views. The first floor renovation has been planned for many years and there really is no good time to do it given how busy those departments are—especially during the election. In deciding to proceed we evaluated many factors that start with the health and safety of employees and customers during the COVID19 pandemic. The project will greatly improve our ability to do that and create a much better working environment that will benefit the community for years to come. Given the restrictions on being open to the public, this seemed like the best time, comparatively speaking, to proceed. Because I share your views on the importance of unimpeded elections, we have made managing the election the highest priority in our planning process. It's worth noting that the Commonwealth passed new laws for this election that have radically changed how it will be managed while we were already in the middle of the renovation planning.

The Town House team, including the Town Clerk, have been communicating regularly about the election and how to facilitate the process including early voting, more robust mail-in ballots than ever before, and in-person voting in November. In fact, the timeline was changed specifically so early voting in the Town House could be accommodated. Additionally, we have allocated additional staff resources to assist the Clerk's office to process the mail-in ballot requests.

All thing considered, I think the Town House staff have done an excellent job moving forward on a much-needed project while protecting the security of the election. Thank you again for writing.

From: Judy Zaunbrecher <jrzaunbrecher@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, August 21, 2020 1:50 PM

To: Michael Lawson <mlawson@concordma.gov>; Jane Hotchkiss <jhotchkiss@concordma.gov>; Linda Escobedo <lescobedo@concordma.gov>; Terri Ackerman <tackerman@concordma.gov>; Susan Bates <sbates@concordma.gov>; Kate Hodges <khodges@concordma.gov>; Stephen Crane <scrane@concordma.gov>

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Dear Select Board,

Please read this letter.

Judy Zaunbrecher

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