

From: [Jim Schlosser](#)
To: [Bonenfant, Janice](#)
Cc: [Christopher Herr](#)
Subject: Fwd: Bus entry/exit new RMS site proposal
Date: Friday, September 12, 2025 9:52:01 AM

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Janice: Would you please include this email in the next City Council agenda with a request that it be referred to TPAC for evaluation and response?

Thanks.

Jim

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Christopher Herr <cmhnh10@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Aug 22, 2025 at 4:09 AM
Subject: Bus entry/exit new RMS site proposal
To: <pwalsh@sau8.org>, <cmeeker@sau8.org>, <eboucher@sau8.org>, Barbara Higgins <bhiggins@sau8.org>, <ssadowski@sau8.org>
Cc: <jim4concord@gmail.com>, <nfennessy@concordnh.gov>, <agradysexton@concordnh.gov>, <fkeach@concordnh.gov>, <jkurtz@concordnh.gov>

Board members:

I am writing to express concern and ask some questions regarding the proposed plans for the new RMS and the new paths for bus entry/exit.

I live with my wife and three children at 15 Cypress Street, directly behind RMS. The most recent plans for the new RMS at the current site include buses entering and exiting the school grounds using Noyes/Cornell/Cypress Streets, which would be a change from the current RMS bus routes that enter from South Street and exit onto Conant Drive.

Several years ago (2022) I wrote to the Board members representing my family raising concerns about this design proposal, because Noyes Street and Cypress Street do not have sidewalks currently. This obviously creates a safety issue for all students that walk/ride home utilizing these streets. If the Board were to proceed with this design without addressing the sidewalk issue, the new RMS would be the only school in the district where buses enter/exit school grounds utilizing streets without sidewalks that are used by local students to walk/ride to school. Also - I suspect that when/if the school is moved to the NW corner of the current lot, more students from the northeast of RMS will use Noyes Street to walk/ride to school rather than South Street as they might currently.

There are additional issues on those two streets that make the new bus traffic pattern more problematic if adding sidewalks is considered. First, the houses on these two streets typically have smaller yards in front of the homes, short driveways, and some have 1 car garages or no garages (I have a 2 car driveway with no garage). Adding sidewalks to one side of each street would take space from property owners that don't have much to give in front of their homes. Additionally, there are telephone poles very close to the street on one side of each street,

meaning that the city/district would be limited to one side specifically of each street without moving those poles. The south side of Cypress would be the only option for a sidewalk, for example, without moving all the telephone poles.

Second, both streets currently allow parking on both sides of the street, and Cypress Street is one way. Adding a sidewalk to each street would almost certainly require eliminating parking on one side of each street, and residents of these streets rely heavily on street parking for guests etc...given our smaller driveways (which could get even smaller with the addition of sidewalks).

Third, all of these issues are made a lot worse in winter time when parking bans require residents to only use their driveway space for parking their cars and guests cars and snow banks make it already more dangerous for kids to walk, given the current lack of sidewalks.

I have not heard anything from the district regarding adding sidewalks to these streets. I have also not seen anything in any of the online documents from the district or the architects that indicate any planning in this regard or concern (like cost estimates for sidewalk construction). I know that the initial traffic study of the current site made some minor cosmetic suggestions to the Noyes/Cypress Streets for the buses (widening corners etc...) but made no mention of the sidewalks. That leads me to believe that either there is currently no plan to add sidewalks, or it is an issue that is not being publicly acknowledged. Either way, I feel strongly this is an important issue to start talking about with the architects and in public meetings and letting us all know - especially with children who might walk/ride to the new RMS through this area - what the plan is should you move forward with the design.

Related, I assume you would need City Council permission to add sidewalks to these streets and change parking rules. I have cc'd my city councilors to make them aware of my concerns as well.

In summary, it would appear that under the currently proposed design either:

- (a) Local students will have a more dangerous walk/ride to the new RMS than they currently do; or
- (b) Local residents will lose parking space and/or yard/driveway space for the construction of sidewalks.

I would appreciate knowing if this issue has been discussed and what, if any, solutions have been proposed. I understand the entire middle school process has been long, tiring, and probably frustrating for you all. Personally, I advocated for the BG site (for mostly different reasons). I deeply appreciate all the time and energy you have spent already and will spend in the future on this issue.

Thanks for any information you can provide me. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Christopher Herr
15 Cypress Street
Concord, NH 03301
(603) 667-6889

