

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 31, 2008**

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## **LEGISLATORS TELL GOVERNOR PATRICK TO STOP PURSUING TRANSFER OF PARKWAYS TO MASSHIGHWAY**

Today, in a letter delivered to Governor Deval Patrick, 56 legislators stated their strong opposition to the transfer of responsibilities for the Commonwealth's parkways from the Department of Conservation and Recreation to the Massachusetts Highway Department.

"Parkways are not highways, and they should not be treated as such," said Rep. Michael Rush (D-Boston), Chairman of the Parks Caucus. "The transfer of parkways to MassHighway would have a negative impact on our parkways and our parks."

Currently, DCR uses the *Historic Parkway Preservation and Treatment Guidelines* to maintain and reconstruct parkways. Under MassHighway, different standards would likely be used, standards that focus more on moving vehicles effectively from point A to point B, rather than on preserving and protecting the parks in which the parkways are located.

"My district includes both Storrow Drive and Memorial Drive," said Rep. Marty Walz (D-Boston). "These parkways not only operate as roadways, but they also serve as links to our parks through out the Charles River Basin."

"Every new administration proposes the transfer of parkways to MassHighway," said Rep. Alice Wolf (D-Cambridge). "It is time to stop pursuing this option and focus on what together we can do to maintain and preserve our parkways for future generations."

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