Bristol Town Administrator

From: Krista Siringo <Krista.Siringo@mausd.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 5, 2022 1:46 PM
To: Bristol Town Administrator
Subject: Basin Street

March 4, 2022

Dear Bristol Selectboard members and Town Administrator,

I'm writing as a resident of Basin Street to request that improvements to our street be considered a top priority in the near future. We have lived at the bottom of Basin Street for fifteen years. We moved to Bristol, specifically the village, in order to be within walking distance of the supermarket, downtown shops, and village green. However, the steep incline of our hill has made it very challenging to be able to walk, even though distance-wise, we are just a stone's throw away from these amenities. When we moved here, our twin daughters were one year old and I would struggle to push their double stroller up the hill in order to get to town.

One of our daughters has a physical disability and uses a walker and a wheelchair to get around. Getting up the hill in her walker is impossible. Going in her power wheelchair is possible, but very dangerous because of a lack of visibility from the top of the hill to the bottom, with no sidewalks on Basin Street. In addition, the sidewalks on Main Street that are on either side of Basin Street are at a very challenging angle because of the grade of the hill, therefore it is difficult and unsafe for our daughter to use her walker or wheelchair to get onto the Main Street sidewalks.

In addition to the difficulty in walking up our street to get into town, it is difficult and unsafe to pull out onto Main Street in a vehicle. The incline is so steep, it makes it hard for other cars to see you, or for you to see other cars. In the winter, many times we have been unable to get up into town because of the steepness of the hill. There have been a number of times when I'm turning down onto Basin Street and another resident is turning up at the same time. One of us has to back up because it is very narrow and difficult for both to pass safely in opposite directions.

We also have stormwater issues that impact Basin Street. Our neighbors who are the first house on the right when coming down the hill have had water in their basement. The guardrails and retaining walls are buckling and coming loose as well. In addition, at the top of Basin Street, on Main where our mailboxes are, there is often erosion after a big storm and several times the road has crumbled away and down onto Basin Street. The mailbox has had to be cemented back in place a number of times.

Basin Street has and continues to be an unsafe, deteriorating road for at least fifteen years, but I'm sure it was an issue long before we moved here. It's way past time for it to be fixed, and we are hopeful that the influx of COVID funds can be applied to this work.

Thank you,

Krista Siringo/Brendan Gallivan
87 Basin Street

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Krista Siringo
she/her
Bristol Representative-MAUSD School Board