

## UPDATE ON GUARDRAILS

As you may recall, last year the City of Milford installed guardrails on Milford Point Road near 1st and 2nd Avenues without prior approval from the Laurel Beach Association. Since then, the Board and many residents have discussed whether the guardrails should remain or be removed by the city (at no cost to us). Opinions have been strong on both sides.

To help guide this decision, the Board conducted a survey last fall to gather resident feedback. After reviewing the results and considering safety and aesthetic factors, the Board has decided to request that the city remove the guardrails. Our reasons include:

- The guardrails create a safety concern by forcing pedestrians to walk in the roadway with limited space to avoid speeding or swerving vehicles.
- The industrial, highwaystyle guardrails are not ecstatically appealing.
- Of the 139 survey responses, **55%** favored removal. Among residents of 1st and 2nd Avenues—those most directly affected—**85%** supported removal.

Chris Saley, Director of Public Works, has indicated that the guardrails will be removed before July 4th. He would begin sooner, but current priorities include repairing the many potholes that have recently formed. During the removal process, they will also install a catch basin and improve the road gradient.

The survey also asked whether residents would like a sidewalk installed in this area, and **69%** responded yes. The Director has confirmed that the city will plan for sidewalk construction once the guardrails are removed. At this time, there is no timeline for installing the sidewalk.

Thank you for your input and engagement. We will continue to keep you updated as this work progresses.