



TOWN OF MONTVILLE  
Department of Police Services



*Wilfred J. Blanchette III*  
Chief of Police

*Lt. David Radford II*  
Executive Officer

Hon. Leonard G. Bunnell, Sr.  
Mayor  
Town of Montville  
310 Norwich-New London Tpke.  
Uncasville, CT. 06382

02/20/2026

Mayor Bunnell, Sr.

I am writing to express my endorsement for the proposed closure and discontinuance of PTA Lane in Uncasville. As your Chief of Police, I believe this decision aligns with the town's strategic goals, including the potential sale of associated town-owned property and the optimization of municipal resources. The RFP process initiated in March 2025 for the approximately 9.7-acre parcel at 87 PTA Lane demonstrates forward-thinking planning that could bring economic benefits to Montville through redevelopment or other productive uses.

While I support this initiative and appreciate you including me in the preliminary meetings and traffic study, I must also highlight several critical public safety and traffic concerns that warrant careful consideration to ensure the well-being of residents, particularly those associated with Mohegan Elementary School. The closure of PTA Lane would eliminate a key access route to the school, leaving Golden Road as the primary entrance and exit. This could create significant safety risks, including:

- 1. Limited Emergency Access:** Fire trucks, ambulances, and other emergency vehicles may face challenges navigating a single, potentially narrower access point, delaying response times in critical situations and endangering students, staff, and nearby residents.
- 2. Traffic Congestion and Bus Operations:** The redirection of school buses and daily commuter traffic to Golden Road could lead to slowdowns and bottlenecks, especially during peak hours. This may affect not only school operations but also adjacent neighborhoods, such as Occum Lane, Cook Drive, Podurciel Lane, and Fielding Terrace, where increased vehicle volume could exacerbate delays and heighten accident risks.
- 3. Pedestrian and Child Safety:** With only one entry point, the potential for overcrowded conditions around Golden Road increases the vulnerability of children and pedestrians to traffic hazards.
- 4. Commercial/Retail Establishment:** If the development on PTA Lane property were to become a commercial or retail establishment (as rumored), it could potentially lead to a significant increase in police calls for service, potentially creating a strain on local resources.



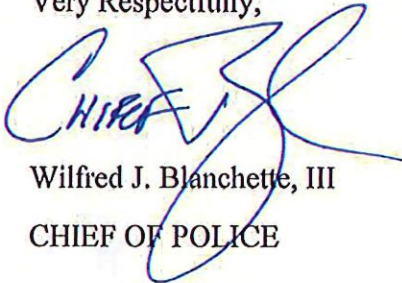
To mitigate these issues while proceeding with the closure, I recommend the following measures:

1. A comprehensive traffic study to assess and upgrade Golden Road, including widening lanes, improving signage, and installing traffic signals if necessary.
2. Collaborating with emergency services to develop and test alternative access protocols for the school.
3. Engaging with the community, including school officials and affected residents, through public forums to address concerns and incorporate feedback into the implementation plan.
4. Addressing a long-term strategy for recruitment and retention of police officers within the Town of Montville.

By addressing these concerns proactively, the town can ensure that the closure enhances overall community safety rather than compromising it. I commend your efforts, as reflected in recent meetings and updates, and urge you to prioritize these safeguards in your decision-making process.

As always, I am available to discuss this further if needed.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'W. Blanchette, III', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Wilfred J. Blanchette, III  
CHIEF OF POLICE