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April 20, 2023

Matthew Bronson
Wisconsin Department of Transportation
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
Madison, WI 53707

RE: *Hwy 17 Conditions in Town of Phelps, Vilas County*

Dear Mr. Bronson,

I respectfully request immediate attention and repair be made by the Department of Transportation to State Highway 17, specifically the section from Highway 45 (in Eagle River) to the Michigan State Line. I do apologize for contacting you directly but our repeated attempts to contact Michael Wendt regarding this matter have proven unsuccessful.

This particular section of State Highway 17 is the major traffic corridor for anyone traveling to Phelps from anywhere in Vilas County as well as for Michigan residents coming from Iron River and US Highway 2. This is a critical route for our residents, tourists, and businesses but contains dangerous potholes, cracks, and dips. The condition of this highway has most recently caused the following issues: (i) Approximately \$4,093 in repairs to our town's primary fire truck; and (ii) Approximately \$4,475 in repairs to our town crew equipment.

However, my primary concern at this time – and the reason this matter needs attention sooner rather than later – is the fact that our emergency response teams must now drastically reduce driving speeds in this area which can be the difference between life and death on a call. As such, I am requesting that you take immediate action and resolve this matter expeditiously.

Please feel free to contact us should you have any issues, questions, and/or concerns.

Sincerely,

Steve Doyen
Chairman, Town of Phelps