

4189 Bruce Rd #1,
R.R.2 Paisley, ON N0G 2N0

June 29,2019.

Municipality of Brockton Council
100 Scott St., Box 68 Walkerton,
ON N0G 2V0

Dear Mr. Mayor and Council Members,

On May 28, 2019, you as members of Brockton Municipal Council passed and approved a motion to remove Bridge 11. Members of our community attended that meeting and were disappointed and somewhat confused by the decision. We had attended a meeting in June of 2017 at which time council voted and approved to replace the bridge.

There are many questions that need to be answered by council. Why was this issue revisited? Why did the previous council not act on this motion. There are enough of you still in office that someone must have some idea of why nothing was done. When and how did this motion get rescinded? Was the proper protocol followed to overturn this motion?

On June 4, 2017 it was decided that a single lane bridge would replace the existing bridge. Cost was estimated at \$1,013,870.00 for a single lane bridge or \$1.7-\$2000,000.00 for a two lane bridge. Council approved construction of the single lane structure. At that time Mr. Strader reported that \$500,000.00 had been received through the gas tax and was being designated for the bridge construction. Where is that money now? Two years later, after heritage cultural assessments and numerous resolutions, Brent Willis from GM BluePlan Engineering tells us that it will be in excess of \$3,000,000.00 to replace the bridge. It seems unrealistic that costs could escalate that much in a two year period even with all the assessments that were completed.

How much money was paid to GM Blue Plan over the last two years to repeatedly give escalating estimates?

Mr. Willis obviously didn't spend much time becoming familiar with the area of the bridge or he would have realized that more than 3 or 4 properties were affected by the removal of the bridge. Council clearly is not familiar with the area either or you would know that there is no alternate route for us to travel once the bridge is removed. The importance of this bridge to our community is not for convenience, it is for safety in the winter when Bruce Rd 1 is hazardous or impassible. We also needed the bridge so that emergency response vehicles would be able to reach us, again when Bruce Rd 1 is unsafe. I invite every member of council to drive Bruce Rd 1 on a snowy windy day when visibility is nil and the road is partially blocked between Conc 20 and Conc 22.

For the property owners whose land is divided by the river, I trust you will be reducing their taxes since they will no longer have reasonable road access to their properties.

The original cost of removal and disposal of the bridge was estimated to be \$45,000.00. It was suggested that the cost now will be \$200,000.00. There is no need to create turnabouts on both sides of the bridge. If the road is no longer functioning as a route to Bruce Rd 3 then it simply needs to have permanent barricade installed at the crest of the hills on either side. Your main reason for not replacing the bridge was because it was too expensive so why waste money creating something that doesn't need to be there. People can view the river from the bridges in Paisley.

I realize council has a lot of decisions to make, some more difficult than others, but we elected you with the trust that you make responsible informed decisions and be accountable for those decisions. Our questions need answers.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Elaine McTeer