

Laura Pinero, Wyoming, member of FIX OUR ROADS LUZERNE COUNTY

Good evening Council Members,

Our team has been working very hard to raise yours and our administration's awareness of our roads.

Recently, a member of our team had asked those of you who voted against the West Nanticoke bridge to continue to urge your peers, who were in favor of the project, to change their position and resubmit a list of road projects for this loan.

Our team has not seen or heard of any action to do so. Please understand that 50 million dollars would replace nearly every county road, and the projects could be done correctly by addressing drainage, guide rails etc.

We asked what studies have been performed,(perhaps using 911 call information over the last two years), to determine what emergencies were most affected by the conditions of our roads and bridges, county-wide. Again, this loan is backed by all of us, and is eliminating the use of 3 million dollars a year, for 25 years from all of our municipalities. To hear how difficult it would be to replace our roads properly is beyond comprehension. Secure the funds and develop a phased approach over the next ten years. Twelve miles of new roadway per year, per construction season is not unreasonable. Allow our R&B department to maintain and temporarily fix the other roads and trim our blinding vegetation, while contractors tackle the worst rated roads each year.

Often, as of late, we feel as though answers given are to humor us, and people are getting hurt. For instance, two FORLC members sprung to action after a 17-year-old's very scary encounter with a pothole on Blytheburn.

Our team has correspondence going back several months regarding this road. Mr. Kurtz sent a crew out to fill numerous potholes with cold patch. Unfortunately they were not adequately filled. Once a vehicle drove over the cold patch, it was packed down to reveal a shallower pothole. Many significant potholes were missed. The report back did not come from the foremen or Larry Plesh. The report back to Greg Kurtz came via video taken by yet another member of our team. The before and after is frustrating.

Please understand the urgency to replace our roads. The pothole email is not being addressed, promises are not being kept and travelers are in extreme danger.

Lastly, it is important that recent video of St. Mary's road be reviewed. Our team's response back was that the road is next on the list for patching. We have asked that it not be patched as we feel that is a waste of our tax revenue. More patching does not help. This road absolutely must be replaced.

Please, we are urging each of you to feel the extreme danger. Please drive these roads yourself. I can assure each of you that those roads will impact your decision making.

On behalf of all members of FORLC, thank you in advance for your full cooperation and attention to this very important matter.