

Date:

Governor Maura Healey
24 Beacon Street
Office of the Governor, Room 281
Boston, MA 02133

Senator Elizabeth Warren
2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203

Senator Edward Markey
975 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02222

Senator Paul Mark
24 Beacon Street
Room 504
Boston, MA 02133

Representative Pignatelli
24 Beacon Street
Room 166
Boston, MA 02133

Congressman Richard Neal
78 Center Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Dear Governor Healey, Senators Warren, Markey and Mark and Representative Pignatelli:

This letter, written on behalf the citizens of Sheffield and Ashley Falls, in support of our Selectboard's effort to move forward with dispatch on the replacement of the Kellogg Road Bridge.

This community faces a very serious situation, as does Great Barrington. When the Brookside Bridge was closed, traffic was routed south to Sheffield and both the Kellogg Bridge and the Maple Avenue Bridge had a great increase in traffic. Now the latest closure – the Kellogg Bridge-places even more stress on the Maple Avenue bridge.

A significant number of residents and businesses are impacted negatively by the greater distance that must be traveled. This creates more time lost, more gas utilized and more wear and tear on the roads. Also, in the event of a fire or medical emergency the time it now takes to reach many areas could mean the loss of life or home.

We understand the State has a process with respect to bridge work, but we do not understand why it involves so much time, particularly when people's lives and livelihoods are in question.

We respectfully request that the Kellogg Bridge situation be addressed now. We and our Selectboard await a timely response.

Sincerely,