



**MAYOR TERI L. BRENKUS**

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April 8, 2024

To whom it may concern:

I am blessed to be the Mayor of the Village of Bellville. We have St. Rt. 97 and St. Rt. 13 running through our Village. Our annual asphalt budget for the entire Village is around \$165,000.

Parts of both State Routes need repaired right now (not including the bridge work that needs done), which equates to around \$65,000. We already have a street levy and some gas tax that helps with the asphalt budget.

Our residents pay 1% income tax and 5 levies and this is still not going to cover the increased expense of caring for the State Routes that we were burdened with 3 years ago.

We do not have the experienced staff nor the equipment to repair roads at State Route standard. Please reconsider covering repair and maintenance of all State Routes within Village along with bridge surfaces as well.

I believe I can speak for all the small municipalities within Richland County when I say we need you to reconsider this burden of maintaining State Routes that's been placed upon us. Please support HB 370 for ODOT to maintain and repair roads and bridges on State Routes within Villages.

In gratitude,



Teri L. Brenkus