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COMMITTEES

GAME AND FISHERIES HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION TOURISM

May 17, 2018

The Honorable Tom Wolf 508 Main Capitol Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Governor Wolf,

I write to you today to express my concerns regarding portions of State Route 248, which is a four-lane limited access highway, here in Carbon County. My concerns surround the NovaChip product that was used on the highway that is now deteriorating and has far exceeded its 10-year lifespan. As you are aware, NovaChip is a product applied as preventative maintenance in extending the life of a road. While the product has certainly done its job in extending the life of the roadway, it is now chipping up and eroding the surface, creating potholes and divots which pose a safety hazard for motorists.

It is my understanding that the surface deterioration may be exacerbated due to the failure of the concrete below which dates back to the original construction in 1962. Motorists who travel the road on a daily basis have to swerve to avoid potholes, which may cause them to enter other lanes of travel. Ultimately, I would hate to see a traffic safety incident occur due to the poor condition of the roadway surface.

This major thoroughfare supports average daily travel of 13,000 vehicles which is as high as traffic on the portion of Route 80 which goes through Carbon County.

My office has received numerous complaints from residents of my district regarding the hazardous conditions of this highway. I am well aware of the deterioration as I travel through my county every day.

I respectfully request that immediate action be taken to find a short-term solution to this problem, with an eye on the long-term viability of the roadway. We, the Commonwealth, cannot continue to fix

roadways only for the immediate future. We should be focused on finding solutions to problems that will last longer than a quick fix.

I look forward to working together as we address this and other highway issues in Carbon County. Please feel free to contact me at my Lehighton District Office at 610-377-6363 or Harrisburg office at 717-260-6139.

Sincerely,

Doyle Heffley, Member M. Hiffley

122nd Legislative District