

# *The Beaver Island Association*

*Supporting Environmental and  
Economic Sustainability*

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Wednesday, August 08, 2012

Mr. John Vondaran, Chairman  
Charlevoix County Road Commission Steering Committee  
1251 Boyne Avenue, PO Box 839  
Boyne City, MI 49712-0039

Subject: Paving Peaine Township portion of Kings Highway

Dear Chairman Vondaran:

The Beaver Island Association is a non-profit community organization committed to supporting environmental and economic sustainability of Beaver Island. This letter is written on behalf of our 200+ members who are residents of Beaver Island, to urge the Road Commission repave the 4.04 miles of Kings Highway within Peaine Township in the calendar year 2013.

This section of highway is the primary north-south artery used daily by the 2000 Island residents and visitors traveling beyond the harbor area. Many areas of the road are in very poor and unstable condition with patches on top of patches. The road is narrow to start with, and the shoulders have disintegrated to the point where passing on-coming vehicles is dangerous. All it would take for a serious accident is to have a passing car's tire hit the disintegrated margin, causing a spin-out and loss of control. It has heavy bicycle traffic, and it is THE road that Beaver Island emergency vehicles, both fire and EMS, use to rapidly respond to island emergencies.

Attached are photos of 5 locations showing that the original road surface no longer exists and that the shoulders are dangerous.

We understand the many road repair needs in Charlevoix County, and the difficulty of prioritizing scarce resources to meet these needs. However, we have been patiently paying the 1.0 mil County Road millage for several years while the only county road in Peaine Township is dangerously disintegrating.

We urge the Steering Committee to take action that results in the repaving of Kings Highway in 2013. If you need additional documentation, please call me. In addition, I strongly urge you or a member of the Steering Committee to come to Beaver Island to personally review the need for immediate action. I or another BIA board member would be glad to escort you on a tour of the island so that you can appreciate what an essential artery this road is, and see how badly it needs repaving.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Truly,

Peter Igoe, President  
The Beaver Island Association  
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c: Jack Gallagher, Rich Gillespie, Pat Harmon, Doug Way, Rick Speck, the Beaver Beacon, the Northern Islander, Joseph Moore