

BOROUGH OF CONWAY

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November 9, 2011

To our community leaders,

For decades we have heard and known about a proposed highway connecting Rt.65 (Crows Run Rd.) in Beaver County and Rt. 989 (Freedom Crider Rd.) in Butler County. When the Crows Run Corridor (Connector) was proposed many years ago, it was meant to be for the convenience of better traffic flow between the two major highways. In the many years that this project has been discussed we have seen many changes to all municipalities in its path. Most notably, Cranberry Township has seen substantial retail growth in the last several years along with increased traffic. Also to that end, there has been a huge increase in commercial truck traffic exiting Rt. 79 and the Pennsylvania Turnpike to find their way to Rt. 65 by traveling our local residential streets.

Most would agree that "over the road" freight is an essential part of our economy but...at what cost? On September 9, 2011 there was a horrific asphalt truck verses car accident on Rt. 65 in Freedom Borough and yes; this was an accident that no one could imagine could happen, but it did. And one has to ask the question "Would it have happened at all if it were not coming down a weight restricted borough street?"

The time has come that we re-open the conversation again and let our leaders know that the safety of our children and residents can no longer be ignored. With proposed legislature to only "increase" the size of freight trucks, all of our communities are in danger. Conway Borough has definitely seen an increase of commercial truck traffic coming through our community with more than a few commercial truck accidents. The much needed Northern Lights Shopping Center redevelopment will only increase traffic coming through our municipalities. It's just a matter of when until the next horrific accident, not if.

Please join the Freedom Area School District (Dr. Ron Sofo, Superintendent), Congressman Jason Altmire and I along with my fellow council members for a Crows Run Corridor (Connector) conversation on Monday, Nov. 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Conway Volunteer Fire Department, Station #2 at 900 Gross Street, Conway. Please contact Sandy Disante at the email address below to let us know that you will be joining us.

I look forward to meeting with you all,


Patty Then
Conway Borough Councilwoman

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PT/rm