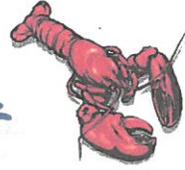


Town of Jonesport



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April 7, 2016

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx, Secretary
U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Sir:

As the Chairman of the Board of Selectman for the Town of Jonesport, I would like to submit a letter of support for the Beals Island Bridge project as well as the TIGER Grant. The existing bridge is narrow and in disrepair. It is long past time to replace it.

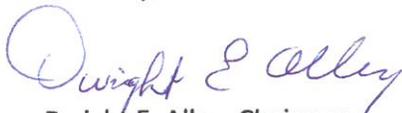
First of all, the existing bridge is very narrow and is the only means of access to Beals Island by roadway. Each day, during the school year, school buses are required to transport children from Beals Island to the Jonesport-Beals High School and back. Because the bridge is so narrow, it is difficult for another vehicle to pass by the bus or big trucks. The existing bridge is 22 feet wide curb to curb with 1 foot shoulders. The proposed new bridge will be considerably wider with 4 foot shoulders.

Secondly, the average annual daily traffic is 2080(AADT) with 12% being heavy trucks. The present bridge has pier piles in poor condition with severe section loss in several locations. Because of the condition of the bridge, it is increasingly becoming more unsafe for heavy vehicles to cross it. In the new proposal, the existing piers, superstructure and fender system will be completely removed.

Lastly, there is very little foot traffic and bicycles crossing the bridge because of the narrow shoulders. With a new bridge, bicyclists and walkers will have the opportunity to be able to cross the bridge without worry of harm from motor traffic.

I appreciate the opportunity, on behalf of the Town of Jonesport, to express my support for the Beals Island Bridge project and the TIGER Grant.

Sincerely,


Dwight E. Alley, Chairman