EMAIL 9: After receiving the letter and reviewing the options given for the Bridge on West Shore Road; I became completely saddened when I read option #4 which states, "The bridge could be demolished" and I felt the strong need to provide my feedback.

My vote would definitely be in favor of option #3 for a Pedestrian and or Bicycle use only Bridge. It would be a dreadful shame to "demolish" the bridge. Many Berks county residence use the bridge to gain access to either side for recreational purposes, whether to enjoy: fishing, walking, running, bicycling, walking with pets, and or small children, bird watching and beautiful picture taking (from the bridge), all the while avoiding any major drive-thru vehicular traffic.

As for being a walker myself and my boys riding their Mountain and BMX bikes; having the bridge intact allows for a safe, flat, 4 mile-round trip course that begins at the Kindt Corner and West Shore intersection, to over the bridge and to the sharp bend at the opposite end of West Shore Rd. (just before the incline- back up), each mile subject to very limited drive-thru traffic.

The closing of the bridge and current detour utilizing Ridge Rd. has only slightly been an inconvenience over the last few years. I would much prefer a permanent detour and inconvenience rather than losing the West Shore Road Bridge entirely.

In closing...I choose to have a Pedestrian/Bicycle Bridge available to all of Berks county!

Thank you for your attention and consideration to the fate of our well-used and convenient Bridge.

EMAIL 10: To Whom It May Concern,

As per your letter regarding the fate of the bridge on West Shore Drive, we are writing to urge you to choose Option #2, partial rehabilitation for vehicular traffic with a weight limit. This seems to be the only option for reasons that concern the safety and welfare of our community and the financial impact of the other options listed.

First, and most importantly, as the owner of 66 Kemmerer Road, I am greatly concerned about the increased traffic that the bridge closure detours onto Kemmerer Road. Our farm is literally set against the road on a blind curve that has no visibility of our 3 driveway entrances when approaching from the east or west. Traffic that is detoured onto Kemmerer Road drives too rapidly around our curve on a daily basis. We have a fenced in yard with 2 young children (5 and 7 years of age) and 2 dogs, and because our farm life happens on both sides of the street, we are constantly crossing Kemmerer Road with our children and animals and in vehicles, at points where we are virtually blind to approaching traffic. We are also a working farm and employ approximately 10 people who are constantly crossing Kemmerer Road and travelling along the blind curve, on foot, in farm vehicles and on tractors. Our delivery van and trailer must pull out at a point where oncoming traffic would only be safe if they were familiar with the route. Kemmerer Road was never meant to be a thoroughfare for more than the farms and residents that

live on the road. Detouring traffic onto Kemmerer Road puts foreign traffic onto a residential and agrarian road, which greatly increases the risk of danger for all who live and work on the road. We have already had too many close calls because of detoured traffic.

Similarly for the farmers at 33 Kemmerer Rd. and for David Brown's fields that abut Kemmerer Rd, both who are Maidencreek Twp. residents, they are put at unnecessary risk of a traffic accident as they are frequently traveling onto the road with slow moving, wide farm vehicles.

At the Stoltzfus' driveway at 33 Kemmerer Rd. there is another blind curve that is very dangerous because of the increased traffic the detour causes.

The Werley's also have a dangerous curve at their doorstep that experiences increased traffic due to the detour.

The aforementioned blind curves are not in themselves dangerous as they are set on a residential and agrarian road that provides no logical thoroughfare for anyone other than the residents that live on Kemmerer Rd., Berk Rd. or possibly some of the other roads that stem off of Berk Rd. or Ridge Rd. The detour onto Kemmerer is less scenic than West Shore, it is narrow with multiple curves and it is longer than the straight route across the bridge and down West Shore Road. Those curves are now dangerous because the increased foreign traffic often travels without heed of the community that is actively living and working on both sides of the road. Also, the curve at our farm could not be straightened or widened as our farm structures were built on the road. The curve at 33 Kemmerer is similarly unalterable as it skirts around forest game lands.

Residents in the community, many of whom seem opposed to options #1, #3, and #4, are also concerned about how increased traffic could negatively affect the value of our otherwise secluded and rural properties. As aforementioned, the passersby do not travel at the slower speeds the community residents are accustomed to travelling because they do not know the severity of the roads curves and it's heavy agricultural usage.

Even with the installation of signage bordering our farm on Kemmerer Road that indicate "Hidden Driveway" the detoured traffic is more often than not traveling at unsafe speeds for our curve.

The bridge is imperative to maintain the values of the properties and farms along Kemmerer Road and Ridge Road and it is absolutely necessary to ensure the safety and welfare of our community. Rather than spending the time and money required to improve the bridge, we would like to see the bridge opened to weight restricted traffic, which constitutes the vast majority of its' usage.

We are joined by our neighbors in supporting the timely opening of the bridge to weight restricted traffic.