

TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA**Office of the Selectmen**

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TO: The Residents of the Town of Alexandria
RE: Gove Road Bridge
Date: January 26, 2012


During August, 2011 while performing a routine inspection of the Gove Road bridge which spans the Fowler River, our Road Agent, Michael Corliss found unacceptable and dangerous decay of the steel girders which support this structure. In consultation with Mike, the Board of Selectmen decided on the following plan to alleviate this situation.

First, the bridge load limit was reduced to three ton; then the Selectmen declared this to be an emergency situation and authorized the expenditure of funds to upgrade nearby Healey Road which is a Class VI road. Healey Road between Fowler River Road and Gove Road was then repaired sufficiently to allow safe passage by automobiles and trucks, including delivery and emergency vehicles. Following the repairs to Healey Road, the Gove Road bridge was closed to traffic.

Mindful of the expense of replacing a bridge of this type, Mike was able to determine what materials would be necessary for repair rather than replacement and was able to fund these materials from within his existing budget. The purchase of the repair materials was authorized by the Board of Selectmen, and they were purchased in December of 2011. These materials shall be reserved exclusively for use in the repair of this bridge, although any materials left after completion of this work may be released for use on other projects throughout the town.

Repair of this bridge shall commence as soon as weather will permit this spring, and will be accomplished by the Town Highway Department. Upon completion of the bridge repair project, Healey Road maintenance shall be discontinued and it will continue to be a Class VI Road.

 2-7-12 Larry Stickney, Chairman

 2/7/12 Donald Sharp

 2/7/12 David Richardson