

January 9, 2009

Mr. Howard Kaplowitz, President
Old Road Society of Philipstown
1051 Old Albany Post Road
Garrison, NY 10524

Dear Howard,

This letter is in reference to my visit on 10/7/08 to assess the stormwater situation and provide technical advice regarding the maintenance of Old Albany Post Road in Philipstown, New York. On that day I had the opportunity to make site observations on a stretch of road extending from the intersection of Indian Trail Road on the north end to Sprout Brook Road on the south end. My primary focus was to view the road drainage practices used on the road and compare them to the practices adopted and used by Pennsylvania's successful Dirt and Gravel Road Maintenance Program (*see the attachment with program details*).

In order to best understand why particular practices are presently used, and to make recommendations regarding potential changes to a maintenance scheme, it is necessary to gather as much historical, political, geological and practical background as possible. I fully understand that this would be impossible to do in the timeframe that I have allotted to review this road. However, based on my knowledge of unpaved road maintenance and the collective knowledge of the staff at the Center for Dirt and Gravel Roads, my observations did lead to a few maintenance recommendations that should be considered.

Attached to this letter is a summary of my notes from October 7, 2008. In the notes I make observations and recommendations based on site evaluations of the road and the surrounding road corridor, as well as from discussions with road maintenance personnel, citizens groups, and individuals that live along the road. In addition to my notes of 10/7 I have also enclosed reference material for those who are interested.

While I am probably overstepping my bounds here, it is my belief that open dialog and community cooperation is a big part of resolving challenges such as the current situation on Old Albany Post Road. The majority of the interests of all of the groups and individuals involved could likely be met, so long as all of those involved are willing to listen to, to try to understand, and to compromise with those of opposing viewpoints.

I hope you find the attached summary and recommendations helpful.

Sincerely,

Tim Ziegler

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