We now have MAJORITY – OVER 80 homeowners, businesses in "Area of Highland Estates" SUPPORTING THE PETITION to REHABILITATE and RE-OPEN CLEAVER ROAD BRIDGE, Brant

To the County of Brant Mayor, Ward 4 Councillors and County of Brant Council,

We, the undersigned residents on Page 3 and Page 4 within Brant County (Ward 4) also known as "Area of Highland Estates" and directly surrounding residents and homeowners, urge you to rehabilitate / replace and re-open the Cleaver Road Bridge to vehicle traffic asap.

INSTEAD OF

Brant County's CURRENT plan of re-routing the traffic to Robinson Road and "fixing" that infrastructure or yet another undisclosed plan. The Cleaver Road Bridge is a historic bridge that has been serving the community since 1924 [1] or 1917[2]. It is a beautiful and unique structure that adds to the scenic and rural character of the area. It is also a convenient and direct route for many local residents, farmers, and businesses who used the bridge daily.

Brant County's existing re-routing plan to Robinson Road hill causes significant problems and danger for the community and the environment. Your plan to lead traffic to use Robinson Road, which is currently a narrow, winding and dangerous road for any vehicle and is certainly not suitable for heavy or large vehicles. Robinson Road then forces traffic to enter or cross an extremely busy intersection of highway access (Hwy 24 South/Rest Acres Rd.)

It also increases the travel distance, time, and cost for many commuters, customers, visitors who relied on the bridge. The re-routing plan would also harm the natural heritage of the area, as it would affect the wildlife and vegetation along the new route bordering Apps' Mill Conservation area.

We believe that repairing/replacing and re-opening the Cleaver Road Bridge is a more sensible, sustainable, and a beneficial option for the County and it's citizens. Repairing or replacing the bridge would preserve it's historical and aesthetic value, as well as its functionality and safety. (What happens when it is no longer safe for pedestrian traffic ? – no access/limited access from Cleaver Rd. to Apps' Mill trails ?)

Repairing/replacing the Cleaver bridge would also save money and resources, as it would avoid the need for building new infrastructure on Robinson Road hill

- possible appropriation of land on Robinson Road for widening ?

- new bridge on Robinson ?

Rehabilitation of Cleaver Bridge would also not disrupt the pre-existing traffic patterns (busier on Mill Street now) and Repairing the bridge would also demonstrate the county's commitment to protecting and enhancing it's rural and historic identity.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you reconsider your current solution of investing in your re-routing plan on Robinson Road and allocate the necessary funds and resources for rehabilitating the Cleaver Road Bridge and reopening it as soon as possible. We appreciate your attention and cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

The concerned homeowners of Brant County "KNOWN AS AREA OF HIGHLAND ESTATES"

References:

- 1) 1924 according to <u>www.historicbridges.org</u>
- 2) 1917 according to Brant County website (07/12/2022 bid for Cleaver Bridge Rehabilitation document)

PAGE 2 Cont'd -

Petition in support of REPAIRING & RE-OPENING Cleaver Bridge rather than adding new infrastructure to Robinson Rd.

I started this petition and have the full support of all of the Homeowners that have signed it, to speak on OUR COMMUNITIE'S behalf and to make it better and safer !

My contact details:

ANDREA BOWDEN

