



Aggregate Producers of Wisconsin

producers of crushed stone, sand and gravel

PO Box 2157 ■ Madison, WI 53701 ■ Phone: (608) 283-2595 ■ Fax: (608) 237-2299

January 14, 2019

Dear Town Board Members,

My name is Erin Longmire and I am Executive Director of the Aggregate Producers of Wisconsin (APW). Our organization is a non-profit, statewide trade association dedicated to the concerns of crushed stone, sand and gravel producers, and to businesses that provide goods and services to the aggregate industry.

Aggregates are vital to the economy, but are unique in that they are not available in all locations. Aggregates are a resource that cannot be manufactured, only mined. The realities of this require that mining occur where the material is available. This is actually good news for your community. It is a fact that most aggregates, over 90%, are produced within 50 miles of where they are used. Your community quarries are building your community.

Second, because the vast majority of aggregates are used in close proximity to the job site, it is imperative to keep these quarry sites operational. The number of readily available aggregate suppliers is dwindling. To not use one of these sites will greatly increase costs to your community's roads, bridges and other public works projects. A major cost driver in public transportation projects is trucking. If local permitting issues cause an aggregate site to go offline, the product must be trucked in from alternative sites. APW estimates that in some instances, even a 10 mile increase in trucking can increase a local public transportation project by over 17%.

Finally, quarries also sustain dozens of good, family-supporting jobs in your area.

Rocks build Wisconsin. APW works to educate the public about the importance of our industry and is an advocate for public policies that protect and expand the safe, environmentally responsible use of aggregates that build Wisconsin's infrastructure and economy.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our comments. Please contact me at (608)444-6214 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Erin Longmire
APW Executive Director