



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

BOB BAILEY, M.P.P.
Sarnia-Lambton

July 26, 2017

Hon. Steven Del Duca
Minister of Transportation
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Minister Del Duca;

In less than one week there have been two major accidents involving transport trucks, one resulting in a fatality, on Highway 402 near the Christina St. interchange in Sarnia. I have heard from many constituents who are concerned with safety on this stretch of road, especially considering the variety of materials, some extremely hazardous, that are transported into the United States by way of Highway 402.

You may recall that on November 2nd, 2015, I wrote to you regarding the potential for accidents along the Highway 402, particularly in the westbound lanes near the Christina St. interchange in Sarnia. In your reply dated February 1st, 2016, you indicated that at that time the Ministry was testing sensors in the "end-of-queue" detection system embedded in the highway approaching the border, and that when testing was complete the Ministry of Transportation's Lane Management System (LMS) would be placed back into full operation. Can you confirm at this time that the LMS, and its "end-of-queue" detection system is fully operational in the westbound lanes of the 402? Will this system send specific data to the MTO indicating where a backup is happening along the roadway? How quickly are the variable message signs further up the highway updated with the most accurate information?

The constituents who have contacted my office have raised a number of issues with the design of the highway, the operation of the MTO's variable message signs, and the speed along this section of road. I am offering to host you, as the Minister of Transportation, for a meeting in Sarnia-Lambton with local stakeholders including concerned citizens, local professional truck drivers, police and representatives from the Bluewater Bridge to discuss what can be done to improve safety on Highway 402 along this stretch.

As the Minister of Transportation, are you satisfied that the appropriate measures have been taken to prevent accidents along this stretch of Highway 402, especially accidents involving transport trucks? Will you join us for a meeting to discuss Highway 402 safety?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your timely reply.

Sincerely,

Bob Bailey, MPP
Sarnia-Lambton