

From: laurabur@yahoo.com
To: [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Waterside Traffic Improvements
Date: Monday, December 02, 2019 10:03:10 PM

Valerie,

Here are my comments for tomorrow night's public hearing. If there are many speakers, I will not get up to speak, but would appreciate you entering my comments into the public record. Thank you distributing them to the Board.

Best Regards,

Laura

Members of the Board of Representatives, thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight and for your public service. I know that you volunteer many hours of your time; your commitment and efforts to make Stamford a better place to live and work are much appreciated.

My name is Laura Burwick and my husband and I have lived in Waterside for almost 28 years. We truly love our neighborhood. Since we first moved here, Waterside has changed dramatically - for the better. Along Southfield Avenue, where there once stood large white oil storage tanks, a trucking company with 18 wheelers coming and going all day long, and a chain link fence overgrown with weeds, are now well landscaped and maintained apartment buildings. Most mornings I walk my dog along a beautiful public access waterfront boardwalk that was an integral part of these developments. On the Fourth of July, we walked to the Soundwaters Schooner to sail and watch the City fireworks. We look forward to the addition of Sound Water's educational building and the desperately needed Boccuzzi park redevelopment.

The one thing that we don't like about living in Waterside is the traffic. On a daily basis, during rush hour, we are stuck in gridlock. What should take no more than 8 to 10 minutes to get to the train station, can sometimes take over 25 minutes. I am concerned that if there is an emergency, first responders will not be able to get through, as there is nowhere to move. When Charter Communications opens up, over 1,000 additional cars will be added to the rush hour mess. Alternate routes out of Waterside are now also riddled in gridlock as we all desperately seek a way around the congestion. Something must be done.

Over the years, I have attended community meetings where traffic improvements have been promised. Jim Travers has done an excellent job incorporating community input and creating a plan to ease congestion. The improvement money is available and we are anxiously awaiting construction to start in the spring. I implore you to allow the widening of Pulaski Street and to enable the roundabout and road plans to come to fruition. The residents and businesses in Waterside have waited too long for these extremely necessary improvements.

Thank you

From: [carole greenberg](#)
To: [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Traffic
Date: Monday, December 02, 2019 9:19:21 PM

My name is Carole Greenberg and I live at 170 Dolphin Cove Quay, Stamford, CT 06902. I have lived in the Waterside District for thirteen years and have watched the changes that have taken place.

I am writing out of concern that the proposed improvements for traffic control on Washington Blvd., Pulaski, etc. are going to be voted down. This will be a terrible mistake to the people of Waterside as well as all of those who are commuting to work. At this point, the traffic has only gotten worse and it is becoming extremely hazardous for drivers and pedestrians. There is no organized flow, delays trying to get anywhere in that area and going to the train station in time for a train has become unacceptable. I am assuming that you all have had a chance to take a drive and see the situation for yourself.

Please distribute this to the board.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Carole Greenberg

From: [Stuart Katz](#)
To: [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: 21 Pulaski Street
Date: Monday, December 02, 2019 8:43:51 PM

Dear Board of Representatives:

I write you both personally and as President of the 41 member Southfield Point homeowners' association, Southfield Point Association, Incorporated.

Traffic tie ups are an ever increasing problem for those living in Southfield Point. Getting from Waterside to points East is frequently a frustrating, unpredictable undertaking. To grow, as it must, Stamford needs to be a desirable place to live and one element of that desirability is having traffic issues reasonably in hand. I could go on and on whining, but I know you are well-aware of the traffic issues we face. I can assure you that almost every member of our association feels likewise.

Having watched a replay of most of last week's Board of Representatives meeting online I was struck by two things.

I was pleased to see the thoughtful long-term planning by the traffic department. It makes no sense, at this point, to disrupt their carefully laid plans by second guessing one fairly small element of a large undertaking.

From up in the bleachers, it sure seems like something that is just a plain old negotiation was being characterized and twisted for reasons that weren't clear to me. The property in question that the city seeks authority to purchase through negotiation or eminent domain is an investment property. In other words, the owner bought it to make money. Like many investment property owners in negotiation with a developer trying to assemble a large building plot they may have been playing a game of "chicken". The investment property owner tries to squeeze the developer for a ridiculous price believing their parcel holds the key to the development. Sometimes, the investment property owner over-plays their hand and developer leaves them behind and values plummet. I don't know the participants in this negotiation; however, it sure looks like just an old fashion negotiation and not a case of the city abusing extraordinary powers to the detriment of the little guy.

I hope this correspondence is of some use to the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart

Stuart B. Katz

128 Davenport Dr.

Stamford, CT 06902-7713

From: [Andy Dimitri](#)
To: [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Traffic Abatement Measures
Date: Tuesday, December 03, 2019 1:25:57 PM

Dear Ms. Rosenson,

I am writing regarding the traffic abatement measure being considered at tonight's Board of Representative meeting, which unfortunately I cannot attend in person.

My understanding is that the various abatement projects - already conveyed and communicated to the concerned citizens impacted - are now in jeopardy. While I am not familiar with the specific reasons why, I am very concerned about the persistent and worsening traffic jams in and around residential areas. I also understand that this problem has been anticipated for some time and very surprised that any measure to mitigate this growing problem is at risk.

The real estate development in Stamford has been at a breakneck pace for many years now and shows no sign of slowing. Isn't it incumbent on the developers to individually and collectively address the impact their projects have on families living near their developments? The massive commercial development at Washington and Pulaski that will strain already broken and inadequate traffic patterns and create further strain on the communities who are bearing the brunt of this development. It may make sense to put a moratorium on any new development until the local communities' concerns are heard and acted on.

I respectfully request that you consider any and all measures to deal with the substantial increase in traffic and concomitant noise and air pollution. Thank you in advance for being responsive to your constituents' concerns and for considering this request.

Best Regards,

Andrew Dimitri
2 Hickory Drive
Stamford, CT 06902

From: [Lou Getzelman](#)
To: [Board of Representatives](#)
Subject: LU30.032 (Authorizing the Acquisition by Negotiation of Rights of Way for the Washington Blvd and Pulaski Street Widening Project).
Date: Tuesday, December 03, 2019 2:35:14 PM

Hello,

My name is Lou Getzelman and I am a resident at 256 Washington Blvd, one of the sites referenced in this memo. In addition to being a resident at the complex, I am also a small business owner in Harbor Point at F45 Training Stamford Harbor Point.

As a business owner in the community, I fully understand the need for better infrastructure in the area, however this eminent domain process is unjust. This does not feel like an eminent domain issue, this is an issue of billion dollar companies coming into a community trying to push local residents around. The government should not be paying damages or taking land from tax payers for widening roads that Charter Communication and BLT have been demanding. They came into the community, planted themselves, and now we need better infrastructure. Let them come to the table and negotiate for what they deem necessary. As an owner and resident of the community this will severely effect my quality of life over the next year and my ability to sell and/or rent my unit. I am adamantly against any eminent domain proceedings.

Sincerely,

Louis Getzelman
256 Washington Blvd, unit 12

From: [Katherine Kelley](#)
To: [Rosenson, Valerie](#)
Subject: Fwd: From KKelley re:recent BoR vote
Date: Tuesday, December 03, 2019 10:33:44 AM

Good morning, Valerie.

Would you please share the below email with the FULL Board of Representative members regarding LU30.032?

[LU30.032 - RESOLUTION and approval of public hearing and referral to Planning Board; Authorizing Initiating the Process of the Acquisition by Negotiation or Eminent Domain of Rights of Way for the Washington Blvd and Pulaski Street Widening Project. 10/10/19 – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers, 10/30/19 – Held by Committee 4-1-1, 11/25/19 – FAILED in Committee 4-4-0]

It is a letter I sent my district BoR representative regarding the issue.

I feel that the whole Board of Representatives needs to know and understand how negotiations should be managed with local citizens and property owners.

I am a 50+ years resident of this town and property owner. I'm sure many on the BoR are property owners. I believe they too would want good-faith negotiations with the City vs jumping right to eminent domain proceedings if their property/properties were involved.

Thank you for your assistance.

Katie Kelley
(203)249-0485 cell/text
kellkatz62@gmail.com
294 Hamilton Ave. 06902

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Katherine Kelley** <kellkatz62@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Nov 27, 2019 at 10:47 PM
Subject: From KKelley re:recent BoR vote
To: <nsherwood@stamfordct.gov>

Thanks Nina for voting no regarding resolution for acquiring property on Pulaski St. through negotiations or thru eminent domain.

A home or property owner should never be threatened with eminent domain nor should they be threatened as a means to have negotiations - that's strong arming & bullying at best and at its worst doesn't belong in a democratic society and government process.

Stamford & CT has too long a history of utilizing eminent domain for bullying owners for projects failing the essence of serving the public.

I will always remember a neighbor bullied by this town & state to acquire property for widening Bedford St by Urban St. Using eminent domain to acquire her historic home & property was a disgrace & what sits there today - - > several ugly homes. And the owner's rights forgotten & steamrolled over. So what was the point? Get property for cheap @ expense of fair treatment, goodwill, and responsible stewardship.

Again, thank you for recognizing that the resolution as presented for vote needs improvement.

-timnu-

Katie Kelley
kellkatz62@gmail.com
203.249.0485