

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Sharaf Al-Hourani <sharaf.alhourani@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 02, 2022 1:25 PM  
**To:** Rosenson, Valerie; Bewkes, Bradley; Watkins, David; de la Cruz, Virgil; Saftic, Ines; Coleman, Elise; Adams, Terry; Roqueta, Robert; Cottrell, Megan; Campbell, Bonnie Kim (Board of Reps); Baxter, Melinda Punkin; Summerville, Annie; Patterson, Denis; DiCostanzo, Monica; Miller, Lindsey; Figueroa, Anabel; Sherwood, Nina; Pratt, Rodney; Stella, Jeffrey; Jean-Louis, Francise; Moore, Mavina; Gilbride, Cara; Pollack, Maureen; Jacobson, Jonathan; Shaw, Ramya; Morson, Eric; Goldberg, Amiel; Sandford, Daniel; Curtis, Jeff; Boeger, Sean; Tomas, Carmine; Berns, Philip; Pierre-Louis, Fred; Fedeli, Mary Lisa; Pavia, Bobby; Florio, Charles; Grunberger, James; Matheny, Jennifer; Mays, Don; Nabel, Susan; Ley, Ashley; Simmons, Caroline  
**Subject:** Please Vote NO on a Vehicular West Main Bridge

Dear representative,

I hope this email finds you well, and in an optimistic 2022.

I am a resident of W. Broad street, and I live a block away from the old foot bridge.

I am reaching out to ask you kindly to vote NO on tomorrow's resolution for a vehicular bridge.

We need you to provide us with a new pedestrian-only bridge as soon as possible. This distinction is important for many reasons; from the effect this will have on the fragile ecosystems which live there, all the way to us pedestrians, and our quality of life.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I hope to walk on that bridge and appreciate your hard work soon.

Best,

Sharaf alhourani

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Rick Takatsch <ricktakatsch@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 02, 2022 10:20 AM  
**To:** mayor@Stamford.giv  
**Subject:** Please keep the West Main Street Bridge car-free!

Dear Members of the Board of Reps:

As a Stamford resident, I respectfully ask that you vote NO on the proposed resolution to rebuild the West Main Street Bridge as a full vehicular bridge. This would be a waste of many millions of taxpayer dollars for unnecessary infrastructure that would make the area less safe and increase air pollution. Traffic studies show that there is no need for vehicular access at this location which is already served by several car bridges. We need to move away from the idea that every street needs to be open to cars at all times. I ask that the city move forward with the currently funded plans to build a pedestrian bridge at the site with access to emergency vehicles only.

Sent from my iPhone

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Harry Peltz <hpeltz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 02, 2022 8:14 AM  
**To:** Rosenson, Valerie; Bewkes, Bradley; Watkins, David; de la Cruz, Virgil; Saftic, Ines; Coleman, Elise; Adams, Terry; Roqueta, Robert; Cottrell, Megan; Campbell, Bonnie Kim (Board of Reps); Baxter, Melinda Punkin; Summerville, Annie; Patterson, Denis; DiCostanzo, Monica; Miller, Lindsey; Figueroa, Anabel; Sherwood, Nina; Pratt, Rodney; Stella, Jeffrey; Jean-Louis, Francise; Moore, Mavina; Gilbride, Cara; Pollack, Maureen; Jacobson, Jonathan; Shaw, Ramya; Morson, Eric; Goldberg, Amiel; Sandford, Daniel; Curtis, Jeff; Boeger, Sean; Tomas, Carmine; Berns, Philip; Pierre-Louis, Fred; Fedeli, Mary Lisa; Pavia, Bobby; Florio, Charles; Grunberger, James; Matheny, Jennifer; Mays, Don; Nabel, Susan; Ley, Ashley; Simmons, Caroline; info@peoplestamford.org  
**Cc:** Rosenson, Valerie; Bewkes, Bradley; Watkins, David; de la Cruz, Virgil; Saftic, Ines; Coleman, Elise; Adams, Terry; Roqueta, Robert; Cottrell, Megan; Campbell, Bonnie Kim (Board of Reps); Baxter, Melinda Punkin; Summerville, Annie; Patterson, Denis; DiCostanzo, Monica; Miller, Lindsey; Figueroa, Anabel; Sherwood, Nina; Pratt, Rodney; Stella, Jeffrey; Jean-Louis, Francise; Moore, Mavina; Gilbride, Cara; Pollack, Maureen; Jacobson, Jonathan; Shaw, Ramya; Morson, Eric; Goldberg, Amiel; Sandford, Daniel; Curtis, Jeff; Boeger, Sean; Tomas, Carmine; Berns, Philip; Pierre-Louis, Fred; Fedeli, Mary Lisa; Pavia, Bobby; Florio, Charles; Grunberger, James; Matheny, Jennifer; Mays, Don; Nabel, Susan; Ley, Ashley; Simmons, Caroline; info@peoplestamford.org  
**Subject:** Please keep the West Main Street Bridge car-free!

Dear Members of the Board of Reps:

As a Stamford resident, I respectfully ask that you vote NO on the proposed resolution to rebuild the West Main Street Bridge as a full vehicular bridge. This would be a waste of many millions of taxpayer dollars for unnecessary infrastructure that would make the area less safe and increase air pollution. Traffic studies show that there is no need for vehicular access at this location which is already served by several car bridges. We need to move away from the idea that every street needs to be open to cars at all times. I ask that the city move forward with the currently funded plans to build a pedestrian bridge at the site with access to emergency vehicles only.

Sent from my iPhone

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** People Friendly Stamford <info@peoplestamford.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 01, 2022 5:38 PM  
**Subject:** People Friendly Stamford statement on West Main Street Bridge

Dear Members of the Stamford Board of Representatives:

We are People Friendly Stamford, a local grassroots advocacy group dedicated to safe streets. **We respectfully ask that you vote NO on item O31.002 Sense of the Board Regarding Replacement of West Main Street Bridge** at Monday's meeting of the Stamford Board of Representatives. We ask that you honor the previous Board's decision to keep the bridge pedestrian-only and move forward with the designed and funded plans for a new bridge in a timely manner.

While we understand there are differing opinions on this, the following are the main reasons that ground us in our continued support for a pedestrian-only bridge:

- Hundreds of pedestrians rely on the Bridge each day. When the Bridge is unexpectedly closed after a storm due to structural concerns, or eventually closes permanently a detour can take 15 minutes each way.
- The Bridge runs through Mill River Park, connecting the main park to the playground. It is critical this area remains safe for families and children, as well as the high number of elderly residents and people with disabilities who live nearby.
- Pedestrian-focused amenities advance public health outcomes, improve quality of life for residents, and expand economic vitality for nearby small businesses. Stamford closes roads to cars each year for festivals and parades that build community and drive economic activity. Business owners in the immediate vicinity have historically been in favor of recent efforts to replace the bridge for pedestrians.
- The bridge has not carried cars for two decades and restored service would surely create additional burdens on an already dangerously aligned four-way intersection. Fourteen crashes have occurred at the bridge in the last three years, four of which resulted in injuries for a bicyclist or pedestrian.
- A vehicular bridge would likely cost \$6+ million and take four or more years to complete. This money could instead be spent on repaving projects, improving the sidewalk network, and streetscaping to better connect the West Side to the Downtown. It is also critical that a solution is in place before the Bridge becomes completely inoperable.
- Professional studies and plans completed by the City to-date fail to express a need for an additional vehicular bridge, but do provide consistent support for a pedestrian-only bridge. Four bridges currently exist within a one-mile span around the Bridge.

People Friendly Stamford has been active for over 10 years but saw much of our current grassroots efforts rise out of the 2018 West Main Street Bridge discussion among the previous Board of Representatives. Please find extensive comments at the [Public Hearing](#) held in 2018 where over 90 minutes of public testimony was provided (Public Hearing starts at Time 9:30).

Votes of the previous Board on this issue are reflected in People Friendly Stamford's first ever [Safe Streets Scorecard](#). **Thank you again to the nearly two dozen Representatives from the 30th Board of Representatives who showed leadership on Safe Streets issues this past term.**

Additional Information -

Previous petitions: [Change.org Petition 1](#), [Change.org Petition 2](#), [Submitted to BOR in 2018 Supportive maps from Master Plan](#)

Related plans (involving extensive community outreach) describing a pedestrian bridge and/or need for enhanced pedestrian amenities: [2018 Restoration Plans for Purple Bridge](#), [Pedestrian Plaza at Purple Bridge](#), [Planned Greenway](#), [West Main Street Plan](#), [West Main Street Transportation Study](#), [Stillwater Avenue Corridor Study](#), [Master Plan](#), [Bicycle and Pedestrian Study](#), [Traffic Calming Report](#)

For a number of our supporters who live near the West Main Street Bridge, decades of inaction (looked to be further delayed by this vote) creates frustration and hopelessness for nearby residents, pedestrian commuters and families using the park and playground area. Let's not disregard the urgent needs of today's users in the pursuit of something that is years, or even another decade away from completion.

We appreciate your careful consideration on this issue.

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People Friendly Stamford

[www.peoplestamford.org](http://www.peoplestamford.org)

Facebook: [PeopleFriendlyStamford](#)

Twitter: [@peoplestamford](#)

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Toni Lupinacci <tonilupinacci@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 01, 2022 4:14 PM  
**To:** Rosenson, Valerie  
**Subject:** Fw: Purple Bridge Restoration

Toni Lupinacci

[tonilupinacci@hotmail.com](mailto:tonilupinacci@hotmail.com)

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**From:** Toni Lupinacci <tonilupinacci@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 1, 2022 4:11 PM  
**To:** Bonnie Kim Campbell <herwonderfulness@gmail.com>; VRosen@stamfordct.gov <VRosen@stamfordct.gov>  
**Subject:** Purple Bridge Restoration

To the City of Stamford, Board of Representatives,

A bridge, any bridge is part of our infrastructure, purposeful and integral, not just an ornament. Our Mill River( Purple Bridge) is no different and deserves to be addressed with the same dignity, consideration and fulfillment as every other bridge in the city of Stamford, State of Connecticut and throughout our great country.

For decades this Historic once beautiful structure served the West Side of Stamford well, which is a productive, diverse, and wonderful community struggling for inclusion, to stay vibrant and healthy which has been virtually ignored at every pass. The Stillwater Corridor is considered to be the connection between Greenwich and downtown Stamford which is the purpose and right of the Mill River Bridge.

We're also the main passageway for emergency vehicles for Stamford Hospital. With the bridge being closed a main artery is eliminated creating unnecessary traffic jams on the parallel section of Broad Street daily.

I urge the board to vote to restore our bridge to a fully functioning vehicular bridge. Also, to be considered would be making Smith Street serve two-way traffic again. The bottom of Smith Street has become a petri dish of unhealthy behavior without normal traffic flow.

The West Side Community deserves better along with a voice. Let's keep this in mind for those outside the community with adverse opinions to our well being  
Let's end the discrimination of this great, essential, and historic bridge

Sincerely,  
Toni Pellicci Lupinacci  
Pellicci's Restaurant  
98 Stillwater Ave

I vote YES for Representatives Baxter & Campbell

Toni Lupinacci

[tonilupinacci@hotmail.com](mailto:tonilupinacci@hotmail.com)

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Michael <michael.pellicci@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 01, 2022 4:13 PM  
**To:** Rosenson, Valerie; herwonderfulness@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Purple Bridge

Dear Members of the Board of Reps:

I am a Stamford resident respectfully requesting that you vote "Yes" on the proposed resolutions to allow pedestrian and vehicular traffic on the West Main Street, aka Purple Bridge.

West Side residents have not been fully engaged in the Mill River Corridor planning and have experienced great trauma associated with URC and Urban Renewal of the Downtown including the loss of the African American Community Center and home ownership opportunities.

In my opinion, the West Main Street Bridge also known as Purple Bridge fell into disrepair and must now be reconstructed to operate as it was created to with pedestrian and automobile traffic.

People who do not live on the West Side should finally allow current West Side residents to articulate their goals for the West Side and City of Stamford.

I disagree with "People Friendly Stamford" that the West Main Street Bridge aka Purple Bridge should be restricted to pedestrians.

Wendy's West Main Street frequent drive thru traffic back ups onto West Main Street is just one of many examples of how a traffic study can result in unexpected and unanticipated dangerous traffic conditions. Concisely prepared traffic studies are not always reliable or applicable determinants.

The costs of reconstruction are due to the multiple years of neglect and failure to address the conditions of the West Main Street aka Purple Bridge which demonstrates the need to expeditiously approve the Resolution to Reconstruct the Bridge for use by both pedestrians and vehicles.

Again please approve the resolution to allow pedestrians and vehicle traffic on the West Main Street aka Purple Bridge.

Thank you for considering my request.

Sincerely, Michael Pellicci

Sent from my iPhone



## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Campbell, Bonnie Kim (Board of Reps)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 01, 2022 2:13 PM  
**To:** Rosenson, Valerie  
**Subject:** Fw: Purple Bridge

Please forward to the entire Board.

Rep. Campbell

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**From:** Sabrina Baskin <scb12577@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 31, 2021 3:37:35 PM  
**To:** Campbell, Bonnie Kim (Board of Reps)  
**Subject:** Purple Bridge

A vote yes on opening the bridge for cars and pedestrians

Sent from my iPhone

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Campbell, Bonnie Kim (Board of Reps)  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 01, 2022 2:10 PM  
**To:** Rosenson, Valerie  
**Subject:** Fw: Purple Bridge

Please forward to the entire Board.

Representative Campbell

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**From:** ajmally@aol.com <ajmally@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 31, 2021 12:34:53 PM  
**To:** Campbell, Bonnie Kim (Board of Reps)  
**Subject:** Purple Bridge

To Rep. Bonnie Kim Campbell,

I am a Stamford resident and live on the West Side (Hillside Avenue) and I want the West Main Street aka Purple Bridge to be reconstructed to allow both vehicles and pedestrians to cross the bridge as it was originally constructed to do. My daughter and I always enjoyed walking and driving when we would cross the bridge. We had thought it was going to be repaired of few years back. It would be great for pedestrians to walk across to get to the stores on West Main Street and beyond.

Please vote **YES** on January 3, 2022.

I am in support of the Resolution to reconstruct the West Main Street Bridge aka Purple Bridge to accommodate both vehicles and pedestrians.

Stay healthy,  
Happy Holidays!

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email me. .

Thank.you!  
Alice Mally

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Katie Haas <katiehaas17@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, December 31, 2021 9:12 AM  
**Subject:** Please keep the West Main Street Bridge car-free!

Dear Members of the Board of Reps:

As a Stamford resident, I respectfully ask that you vote NO on the proposed resolution to rebuild the West Main Street Bridge as a full vehicular bridge. We need to move away from the idea that every street needs to be open to cars at all times. I ask that the city move forward with the currently funded plans to build a pedestrian bridge at the site with access to emergency vehicles only.

I would also like to reference the 2007 Mill River Park Master Plan that proposes a beautiful new pedestrian bridge to connect the west neighborhood to the downtown area. The bridge is proposed to have less of an impact on the river and creates a handsome space for the community.

Thank you for your time.

Katie Haas

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Don Brownstein <don@spmllc.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 30, 2021 6:44 PM  
**Subject:** Please keep the West Main Street Bridge car-free!

Dear Members of the Board of Reps:

As a Stamford resident, I respectfully ask that you vote NO on the proposed resolution to rebuild the West Main Street Bridge as a full vehicular bridge. This would be a waste of many millions of taxpayer dollars for unnecessary infrastructure that would make the area less safe and increase air pollution. Traffic studies show that there is no need for vehicular access at this location which is already served by several car bridges. We need to move away from the idea that every street needs to be open to cars at all times. I ask that the city move forward with the currently funded plans to build a pedestrian bridge at the site with access to emergency vehicles only.

Sent from my iPhone

## Rosenson, Valerie

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**From:** Arthur Selkowitz <arthur@millriverpark.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 30, 2021 5:57 PM  
**To:** Rosenson, Valerie; Board of Representatives  
**Subject:** The Main Street Bridge

To the Board of Representatives:

On January 3rd the Board will take a vote on a resolution urging the Mayor to proceed quickly to plan for and implement a two-lane vehicular bridge with pedestrian sidewalks over the Mill River at Main Street. When you vote you will be taking a position on whether Stamford will move forward in a 21st century way or move backward to almost the 19th century. The Main Street bridge issue is the defining vote one way or the other.

The Mill River Park Collaborative has a vested interest in seeing progress not regression. The entire mission of the Collaborative has been to bring Stamford together—east and west, north and south, with a park and greenway that unites the City. To that end we have been particularly mindful of our responsibility to the West Side community. That is why the very first project we undertook was to convert a place of drugs and prostitution into one of the most heavily used, popular playgrounds in the City. It's a place of great diversity and unity. It is why we sponsor a free Halloween festival every year so West Side kids and others from the community can safely trick or treat and be entertained—free. It is why we started a summer camp where more than 50% of the children are on scholarship, mostly from the West Side, and we are so thrilled to make that available. It's also the place where many of our employees come from the West Side and do a fantastic job. We also bring the West Side community together with the rest of Stamford to enjoy free movie nights, free outdoor exercise classes, and free kids' weekend entertainment. And we have built a wonderful park and green space which has provided safe and beautiful recreation, solace, and peaceful refuge.

So don't let anyone, from the West Side or elsewhere, tell you Mill River Park doesn't serve the West Side community.

What has all this got to do with the Main Street Bridge? I'll tell you. The bridge is located at the narrowest section of the Park. Immediately to the south is the playground (soon to be totally renovated with new equipment and a splash pad). To the north up the road is the carousel pavilion, a place of fun for kids. First and foremost, putting a two-lane vehicular bridge in between would inevitably create a pedestrian hazard, probably resulting at some point in the death of a child. The elderly residents at 26 Main Street and the West Siders without access to cars depend on a safe pedestrian bridge and use it every day. A vehicular bridge would interrupt the flow of pedestrian traffic across the bridge, no matter how wide you make the sidewalks, and it would interfere with bikers, joggers and walkers going north to south.

And for what? Proponents of a vehicular bridge have yet to show one objective, factual traffic study that recommends a vehicular bridge there. No emergency service has asked for vehicular access even though the proposed pedestrian bridge would have an emergency vehicle access lane. Proponents argue that a vehicular bridge would encourage more economic development in the West Side. Why? Those who want to drive already have four ways to go west from the downtown. And where would all these teams of cars park on the West Side? Major West Side business owners such as the Hampton Inn and others, including the new apartment house going up across from the playground have all expressed opposition to a vehicular bridge.

The way to stimulate economic activity on the West Side is to make a pedestrian crossing safe and welcoming and improve the entrances on the east and west side. I would also recommend widening the side walk on Smith

Street and improving the lighting and landscaping. Then the West Side will attract downtown people (many of whom don't even own cars) to the restaurants and shops that appeal to them.

Let's also get practical. Funds are already available for the very attractive iron prefab pedestrian bridge that is ready to go to bid. A vehicular bridge would be at least 5 years away and cost many millions more. People say, why not use the largesse of federal money coming to Stamford, none of which has arrived as far as I know? Think how many of our torn-up streets could be repaved quickly if the money wasn't wasted on an unneeded vehicular bridge.

The Collaborative strongly urges the Board to vote down the vehicular proposal and replace it with a recommendation to go forward with a permanent pedestrian bridge and remove forever the current Main Street Bridge which has become an embarrassment to the City and an insult to the West Side.

Thank you for your consideration.

Arthur Selkowitz  
Chairman  
Mill River Park Collaborative  
[arthur@millriverpark.org](mailto:arthur@millriverpark.org)