

MI NURSES Association

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February 25, 2016

RE: Coast Guard approval of second private span between Detroit and Windsor

Both as a Registered Nurse and a mother of two young children, I am very concerned that approval of the proposal to build a new bridge is moving too fast.

You have no doubt been presented with many statistics about the connection between diesel emissions and poor health outcomes. I would like there to be a focus on the risks to children, who are living in an area that is already documented as harmful to their health. These children are already being exposed to toxic emissions that cause lifelong problems, including increased asthma rates.

I would respectfully suggest that we consider the damage that has been done to a whole generation of kids in Flint, and how difficult it is to deal with the exposure to toxins after the fact. Here, by contrast, we have the chance to prevent a toxic environment from getting worse.

As you know, diesel emissions are a known carcinogen.

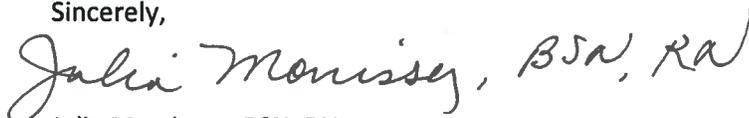
As a nurse I have had the privilege of working with many individuals who are dealing with cancer. Most of the time, no one can pinpoint anything that caused the cancer. But in the cases where there is a direct link, how many lives and how much heartache would be saved if we could stop cancer from developing in the first place?

Here, we literally have the chance to prevent cancer and other serious illnesses by limiting exposure to diesel emissions. That is a powerful opportunity and responsibility.

Every parent wants their children to grow up safe and healthy, and children should have that right no matter where they live. No parent would force their child to smoke; how is it OK that children are forced to inhale toxic chemicals like benzene just by virtue of where they live? Children should not have to struggle with something as basic as being able to breathe.

In conclusion, I urge the U.S. Coast Guard to conduct a complete, updated Environmental Impact Study before making a decision about the bridge. I urge you to consider the economic costs of increased hospitalization, children who cannot succeed in school and people who are not healthy enough to work; I urge you first and foremost, though, to think of the lives and human potential that will be lost if this plan moves forward.

Sincerely,



Julia Morrissey, BSN, RN

Member, Board of Directors, Michigan Nurses Association

Wayne County Commission



WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSION
500 GRISWOLD, 7TH FLOOR
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

Raymond E. Basham

Commissioner District 14

Commission Office:
(313) 224-0876
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February 24, 2016

Commandant (CG-BRG-2)
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Stop 7418
2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20593-7418

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project Permit Application Comments

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comments in response to Public Notice 09-01-16 for the Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project (ABEP) Reevaluation – Environmental Assessment. I would like to briefly comment on a number of issues within this proposal that continue to be concerns for this project.

My concerns on this issue have remained consistent since I began actively involved in various proposals for additional border crossings in the Detroit-Windsor corridor. Any proposed border crossing must ~~be~~ present a complete, freeway to freeway solution that actually enhances our region's economic competitiveness while taking into account the various environmental, social, and historical concerns on both sides of the international border. The application as presented fails to address a number of issues.

First, while there have been some significant discussions between the City of Detroit and the DIBC regarding the transfer of public park land to the DIBC for use in this project. It is my understanding that neither the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, nor the U.S. National Park Service have signed off on this land transfer. Prior to any approval by the USCG, as well as other permitting agencies, this issue needs to first be resolved.

Secondly, it is my understanding that there is not a consistency of data utilized in this permit application. Specifically, data included in this application for air quality projections and traffic congestion needs to be updated from the original proposal. Several of the air quality modeling requirements have changed since the original submission of this application. In addition, much of the submitted data is based on the original proposed configuration of this project, instead of what has actually been constructed at the site.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this application. I would encourage the U.S. Coast Guard to carefully review this application and require that a complete proposal with accurate, up-to-date data be submitted before this project can even be considered.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND E. BASHAM
Wayne County Commissioner
14th District

REB:bcg



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Detroit, MI 48209

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February 25, 2016

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Southwest Detroit Business Association

Commandant (CG-BRG-2)
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Stop 7418
2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20593-7418

Re: Public Notice 09a-01-16

Dear Coast Guard Permit Review:

The following are Public Comments regarding the application by the Ambassador Bridge Company for a proposed Enhancement Project. We strongly recommend denial of the permit for reasons described below.

The Southwest Detroit Community Benefits Coalition is a grassroots non-profit community organization representing 800 members and works to protect residents in Southwest Detroit from the negative impacts of developments and cumulative pollution, and toward a sustainable, healthy community. Southwest Detroit communities are among the most polluted places in the country with a high concentration of diesel emissions from hosting transportation infrastructure and pollution from other industries all in close proximity to where residents live.

Residents of this Environmental Justice Community are majority Latino and African American families and with many family incomes well below the federal median. The area has many vulnerable senior citizens and our district has the highest concentration of children in the City of Detroit and the most children under 5 years of age. Residents suffer higher incidences of health diseases per capita than anywhere in the state, including lung and heart diseases and cancers.

Local Health Department data indicates adults are hospitalized for asthma at three times the rate as adults across Michigan in the zip code that includes the Ambassador Bridge. The Ambassador Bridge is the primary industry in the that zip code.

Low-socioeconomic status is associated with greater negative health impacts from pollution. Many families have multiple severe health conditions. The University of Michigan School of Public Health faculty have conducted longterm air and health studies on SW Detroit, particularly concerning mobile source emissions. Their findings indicate a high association between increased concentration of air toxins and increased

incidence of high blood pressure, which is associated in with increased heart attacks and early mortality.

No permit should be granted by the USCG to the Detroit International Bridge Company (DIBC or any of its representatives) to construct an additional 6-lane "twin" or "replacement" span without compelling a full Federal Environmental Impact Study in order to guarantee that all impacts to the local community are assessed and that proper mitigation steps are provided.

10-Lanes of Use Possible vs Current 4-Lanes

The DIBC proposes to possibly keep open the existing Ambassador Bridge for special events or circumstances, and it has been previously publicly stated that the Ambassador Bridge could be used for "overflow" - which could potentially be 10-Lanes of use. This alone should compel a Full Environmental Impact Study, as the project at 6-lanes or possibly 10-lanes is NOT merely a replacement for the existing bridge.

Any development project of this magnitude should fully account for impacts and necessary mitigation measures, including to reduce exposure of residents ^{to} diesel emissions impacts. Such mitigation might include buffering distances, diesel emissions reduction technologies, home air filtration, and the installation of air monitors that specifically monitor for components of diesel emissions and that they be appropriately located to determine public health impacts and that they be fully funded by the applicant.

Furthermore, we are extremely concerned that an outdated and inadequate Environmental Assessment could be considered adequate to protect public health by any federal, state, or local agency. We are concerned for the lack of full public notification for the "Re-evaluation of the Environmental Assessment" conducted in 2015. Residents of the community were not adequately made aware of that process and thus did not have the opportunity to engage in the process.

As a proposed international development, any application must fully consider and adhere to all bi-national air and water protections. With the current inadequate and outdated Environmental Assessment, the affected communities on both sides of the border have no assurance that full protections have been evaluated.

Thank you for your strong consideration of the need for community protection.



**Scott Brines, President
Southwest Detroit Community Benefits Coalition**



**Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project,
Detroit River
U.S. Coast Guard Public Meeting
Comment Form**

Name: Gloria Rocha
Phone: 313-215-5723 Date: 2-25-2016
Email Address: Gsrocha@aol.com
Affiliation: Resident

(Personal information will only be used to contact you should clarification be needed regarding your comment. If submitted here at this meeting, your comment will be uploaded to the Coast Guard Bridge Program website at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/Coast%20Guard%20Lead%20Projects.asp>. Comments are due by February 28, 2016.)

Your Comment:

How long do we wait for relief on the current conditions? Trucks on I-75 for up to 2/3 miles now. So we contemplate these fumes just so a "billionaire" businessman doesn't get to build a replacement span, and they will continue until 2020+ if the new span is not build. So that I year old will get 4+ more years of fumes -

Does it not make sense that the Ambassador bridge second span would relieve the delays of this 2/3 mile truck crossing wait emitting those "concerns" causing fumes. These concerns are contradicting. The new bridge will add more fumes especially for those of us living between both bridges if I were long to see it built. So is this a real issue concerning if this was not an issue at hearings

for the "Howse" bridge. The same players supported it

My other other concern - how much
mis-information is accepted as
truth. Is this request not a
replacement span due to deterioration
of the 80+ year old bridge? Do we wait
until a tragedy occurs before we close
the "largest border crossing bridge"? The
request for a full environmental study
has not been done at Chem Fork on
the river and others! So how much does
this study cost, who pays for it and
has one been done for the "Howse Bridge" what year?

From my comments, you may
conclude that I support the building
of the second span. I also opposed the
Canadian owned "Howse" bridge.
The money holds the strings. We already
were told that they will use Canadian steel.
What else Canadian?

Please issue the permit and
let the community monitor the hiring
and contracts, working together for the
betterment of our community.



**Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project,
Detroit River
U.S. Coast Guard Public Meeting
Comment Form**

Name: Lovell Clyburn
Phone: 800 Date: 2/25/2016
Email Address: LOVELL.CLYBURN@YAHOO.COM
Affiliation: @ SW DETROIT RESIDENT

(Personal information will only be used to contact you should clarification be needed regarding your comment. If submitted here at this meeting, your comment will be uploaded to the Coast Guard Bridge Program website at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/Coast%20Guard%20Lead%20Projects.asp>. Comments are due by February 28, 2016.)

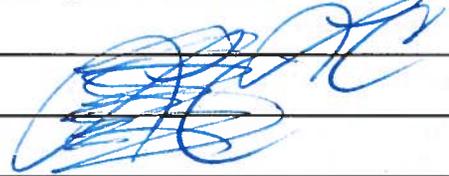
Your Comment:

I AM IN FAVOR OF ANOTHER NEW BRIDGE. ~~I~~ I AM NOT IN FAVOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDGE COMPANY AND THE MAROUF FAMILY.
WE NEED MORE THAN ONE BRIDGE.
I THINK WE NEED ANOTHER TUNNEL ALSO.
ANY OTHER MAJOR CITY ON A RIVER HAS MORE THAN ONE BRIDGE WITHIN VIEW.
WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO MOVE MORE PEOPLE AND GOODS ACROSS THE RIVER TO BENEFIT BOTH CITIES AND COUNTRIES.
IT'S OBVIOUS WE NEED ~~A~~ THIS WHEN WE SEE ALL THE TRAFFIC JAMMED UP ON TOP OF THAT OLD RICKETY BRIDGE.
I DON'T THINK THE IBC AND MAROUF'S CAN BE TRUSTED FOR ALL THE →

REASONS STATED IN THE MEETING.

I DON'T THINK THEY WILL CONSIDER
THE PEOPLE, THE PARK, OR THE
ENVIRONMENT. I THINK THEY WILL
BLIGHT AND POLLUTE MORE.

WE NEED TO BUILD ~~TWO~~ BRIDGES
BUT NOT WITH THE IBC OR MARQUAS.





**Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project,
Detroit River
U.S. Coast Guard Public Meeting
Comment Form**

Name: Erminia Ramirez
Phone: (313) 350-8423 Date: 2/28/2016
Email Address: ramirezmi@hotmail.com
Affiliation: Live in District 6 / Work in District 6

(Personal information will only be used to contact you should clarification be needed regarding your comment. If submitted here at this meeting, your comment will be uploaded to the Coast Guard Bridge Program website at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/Coast%20Guard%20Lead%20Projects.asp>. Comments are due by February 28, 2016.)

Your Comment:

First, thank you U.S. Coast Guard
for having this meeting. I am
in support of bridges. All I
want Green Infrastructure, beautification
and provide community benefits
to the community living around
also, provide funding to Community
Based Organizations in the area.
More monies to beautify Riverside Park.
Lastly, provide job training +
jobs for SW Detroit.

Thank You.

Finally, deal with environmental issues.
Remove and fill with clean
and SAFE soil.



**Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project,
Detroit River
U.S. Coast Guard Public Meeting
Comment Form**

Name: Cynthia Whack

Phone: 313 778 1294 Date: _____

Email Address: CynthiaWhack@yahoo.com

Affiliation: Detroit Recovery project

(Personal information will only be used to contact you should clarification be needed regarding your comment. If submitted here at this meeting, your comment will be uploaded to the Coast Guard Bridge Program website at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/Coast%20Guard%20Lead%20Projects.asp>. Comments are due by February 28, 2016.)

Your Comment:

I support the bridge project "Fully"
It's time for a new bridge & safer
one for the most part!!

Also it will bring a lot of new
jobs for the residents of this city.
It's time to rebuild this city so
it will be nice to start off
with a new bridge
Thank you!!!



**Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project,
Detroit River
U.S. Coast Guard Public Meeting
Comment Form**

Name: GEORGE BLUE

Phone: 1-313-843-4417 Date: 2/28/16

Email Address: _____

Affiliation: CITIZEN S.W. DETROIT

(Personal information will only be used to contact you should clarification be needed regarding your comment. If submitted here at this meeting, your comment will be uploaded to the Coast Guard Bridge Program website at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/Coast%20Guard%20Lead%20Projects.asp>. Comments are due by February 28, 2016.)

Your Comment:

I HAVE NO OBJECTION WITH ONE BRIDGE ONLY!
TWO ADJACENT BRIDGES IS NOT AN OPTION
IF THE BRIDGE COMPANY TEARS THE OLD BRIDGE
DOWN THEY CAN ERECT ANOTHER. I FEEL
THE BRIDGE IS OLD AND PERHAPS NEEDS
REPLACEMENT, THATS OK. TWO BRIDGES
OPERATING IS NOT AN OPTION FOR A COMPANY
THAT IS ONLY INTERESTED IN DESTROYING THE
LIFE STYLE OF A NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNITY
THAT COULD BE ON ITS WAY TO RECOVERY
THE AMBASSADOR BRIDGE CO. AND THE
MORONS ARE REALLY NOT GOOD PEOPLE FOR
SOUTHWEST DETROIT OR THE CITY OR
THE STATE OF MICH.

SINCERELY
George J Blue



**Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project,
Detroit River
U.S. Coast Guard Public Meeting
Comment Form**

Name: Jim Dixon
Phone: 313-822-3345 Date: 25 Feb 2016
Email Address: jmdiox@aol.com
Affiliation: _____

(Personal information will only be used to contact you should clarification be needed regarding your comment. If submitted here at this meeting, your comment will be uploaded to the Coast Guard Bridge Program website at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/Coast%20Guard%20Lead%20Projects.asp>. Comments are due by February 28, 2016.)

Your Comment:

Mattie Markov has a track record that is deplorable. Maintenance on the Ambassador Bridge is horrid and the train station has been decaying for years. The ONLY reason the train station has ANY improvement over the last year or so is so he can say that he can fix things and isn't such a bad guy after all.



**Ambassador Bridge Enhancement Project,
Detroit River
U.S. Coast Guard Public Meeting
Comment Form**

Name: Verónica Cáceres Murcia.

Phone: _____ Date: 2/25/16

Email Address: _____

Affiliation: _____

(Personal information will only be used to contact you should clarification be needed regarding your comment. If submitted here at this meeting, your comment will be uploaded to the Coast Guard Bridge Program website at: <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/Coast%20Guard%20Lead%20Projects.asp>. Comments are due by February 28, 2016.)

Your Comment:

No creo que sea correcto que den un permiso para construir un puente que traera más impactos negativos en la comunidad que positivos. Aumentarían las partículas en el aire de contaminantes del aire que respiramos, más aumento de enfermedades respiratorias, más polución, destrucción de la única área verde donde las personas pasean para respirar un poco de aire puro, he sido testiga que de muchos proyectos positivos para los jóvenes y niños en ese parque porque destruir algo tan beneficioso para la comunidad.

Please use reverse side if necessary

para aumentar las ganancias de compañías privadas a costo de contaminar más la una comunidad pobre.

Aumentaría el estés por mayor tráfico en el sector.

Aumentaría el bióxido de carbono por el aumento de autos (vehículos).

Muchos niños tiene dificultades de aprendizaje en sus escuelas porque Detroit según investigaciones es una de las ciudades de mayor contaminación en Michigan por ser tener mucha industria (fabricas).

Exigimos que tengan mayor estudios de impacto ambiental en la comunidad.