

## **6: Comments/Responses**

### **6.1 Comments**

(Note: Only a single example of each of the form letters received is included in this section. The number of letters received is noted on the representative copy. Copies of all the comments received are available for review at the Trustee Council's offices.)



To: Jack Terrill

please distribute to  
trustees, please

Comments: #1,7,13,22,34,39  
41,48,51

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 N. Second Street  
New Bedford, MA. 02740

23 August 2000

Dear Trustees,

I have reviewed the Environmental Assessment Draft, Round II Restoration Ideas and comment as follows:

**General thoughts:**

Use of funds for land acquisition ( project 1, 10, 11 and 14) is best use of monies to prevent added strain to harbor environment.

Use of funds for Baykeeper (project 2 ) is good use of funds to identify current/future sources of harbor contamination.

Best use of funds in keeping with above goals of improved water quality would be increased funding of Sciticut Neck Sewer project (project 16) as this has already been identified as a major source of water quality deterioration. The funding level of \$ 700,000 is inadequate. Recommended a funding level of \$ 4.5 million to cover 50% of cost (contingent upon Fairhaven taxpayers vote to pay other 50% to cover east side of Sciticut Neck/non-harbor affected area).

Marsh restoration (project 4) , artificial reef (project 5) , and salt marsh restoration (project 8) are projects that should be funded from \$ 7 million reserve fund as these projects would be best suited after completion of EPA funded PCB cleanup. Due to the lack of water flow into New Bedford inner harbor, the aquarium funding for fish stock enhancement (project 7) should be abandoned as the cost/benefit analysis is unfavorable due to the high risk/low chance of survival due to poor water quality. The \$2 million earmarked for same (project 7) should be used for the Sciticut Neck sewer project (project 16) for the current round of funding. Projects 4, 5 and 8 should be delayed and funded with the \$ 7 million reserve, freeing up an additional \$ 2 million for the Sciticut Neck Sewer project.

**Summary,**

Agree with projects 1, 10, 11, 14 and 16 but recommend higher funding level for ( # 16) Sciticut Neck Sewer project (\$4.5 million). Actual cost is \$ 4 mil each for east and west sides of Sciticut Neck (total \$ 8 mil), plus \$ 600,000 in design/engineering.

Fund projects 4, 5 and 8 from \$ 7 mil reserve (restoration/post EPA cleanup completion).

Kill project 5 , Fish Stock Enhancement, due to high risk/low benefit.

Kill project 6 as a PCB museum is a complete waste of money.

- As an outer harbor recreational boater, fisherman and shellfisherman since 1974, I have witnessed the water quality improvements made since the NB outer harbor waste water facility upgrade. Shellfish, fish and eel grows abundant and improves naturally over time (provided the water quality improves). The greatest pollutant at the present in the outer harbor comes from poor sewer disposal along Secant Neck. Even though there is abundant shellfish, fish and eel grows in this area, the shellfish harvesting is allowed only a few days per year as the area is closed for 5 days after every rainfall (due to sewer runoff). This leaves precious few days for outer harbor enjoyment unless this pollution source can be minimized.

Please note I agree with the pass on funding for my proposal (2.3.8.8 Bird's Eye) as the Baykeeper project will meet the intended goal.

Very truly yours,

  
James R Silver

Dear Mr. TERRILL,

Although I have not written you a letter in some time, I have been paying attention to the mailings that I have received over the last 3 years plus.

At this time I wish to make some comments regarding the 17 proposed restoration projects that are currently under review by the TRUSTEE COUNCIL.

In regards to #2 this so-called BUZZARDS BAYKEEPER.

To me this sounds like an attempt by the council to "appoint" an old friend (perhaps someone that may have held office in NEW BEDFORD in the past, or missed out on getting elected ) to an invented position requiring little work, and to the tune of \$150,000.

In regards to #3 the COMMUNITY ROWING BOATHOUSE.

I think that this is a decent idea, however, I am concerned with the placment of the facility in relationship to the main part of the harbor and the fishing fleet.

If this propsal goes through and receives funding, I think that the boathouse should be situated north of COGGESHALL ST. for the safety of the rowers.

In regards to #6 the EDUCATIONAL EXIBIT.

I think this is a good idea, and should this come to pass, may I make a suggestion as to where it would best be placed?

I think that it could be put somewhere in the downtown area of NEW BEDFORD, perhaps even in the historic section where many people would see it including tourists.

In regards to #7 the MARINE FISH STOCK ENHANCEMENT.

This is an excellent idea. I believe that we (the HUMAN RACE) owe "MOTHER NATURE" quite a bit and that it makes great sense

MS 28 200



(3)

In regards to #13 RESTORATION and MANAGEMENT of TERN POPULATIONS.

I think this is a fine idea.

In regards to #14 RIVERSIDE AUTO WRECKING LAND ACQUISITION.

I think that this is also a fine idea.

In regards to #15 UPPER HARBOR CONFINED DISPOSAL FACILITY NATURAL RESOURCE HABITAT ENHANCEMENTS.

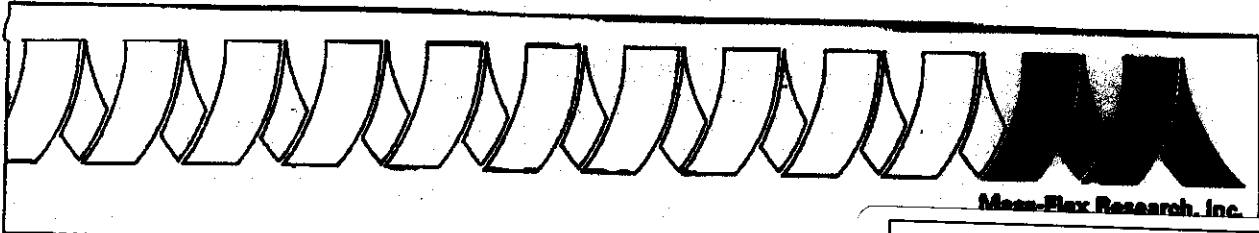
I am more concerned with what to do with the dredged-up and stored PCB sludge, than "prettifying -up" of the containers and the area around them.

I hope that you will respond to my letter in kind, SIR, and write me about your opinions regarding my statements and questions.

THANK YOU, AND I HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU,

SINCERELY,

ALAN B. SWANSON



Mass-Flex Research, Inc.

Comments: #10

**FAX FORM**

**TO:** National Marine Fisheries Services  
Habitat Conservation Division  
1 Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930  
TEL 978 281-9136  
FAX 978 281-9301

**Date:** 06/12/00

**From:** Mass-Flex Research  
Fax No. (781) 395-2644

**Att:** Jack Terrill **No. of sheets**

Dear Jack:

As the Conservation Chairman of Nonquitt, South Dartmouth, MA, and as a life long resident of the area I would like to submit the following in support of the proposed restoration of the Smith Neck (Nonquitt) Salt Marsh.

Funds for the restoration would be highly effective and appropriate for a number of reasons. Foremost there is a well documented need that dates back over thirty years. The reduction of biological diversity and vegetation die-back is in progress. Degradation of much of the salt marsh to fresh water swamp is clearly observed.

Secondly, in working to resolve the problem of salt water circulation there would be major contributions to the study of wetlands. Much has been written about wetlands but few salt marsh habitats have the breadth of data over an extended period. Clearly, thirty years is a blip in the life of an ecosystem but with the proposed continuation in study by the Lloyd Center for Environmental Studies and the University of Massachusetts there is a tremendous research opportunity.

Individually and as a representative of the surrounding community I strongly urge the approval of the proposal to restore this unique salt marsh.

Regards  
*Matthew Hobbs*

Matthew Hobbs  
Washburn Lane, South Dartmouth, MA

18 Canal Street, West Modford, MA 02155

Phone: 781/391-2840



JUN 14 2000



James R. Sears  
Professor of Biology  
Department of Biology  
**University of Massachusetts**  
Dartmouth, MA 02747  
Tele: 508-999-8215  
Fax: 508-999-8196  
E-mail [jsears@umassd.edu](mailto:jsears@umassd.edu)

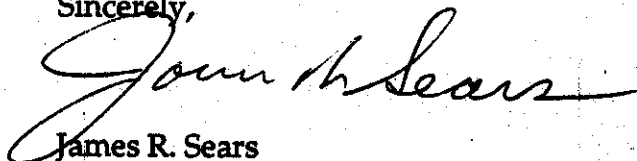
Comments: #10

To: Dr. Jack Teriill, National Marine Fisheries Service  
Date: June 6, 2000  
Re: Support for DNRT Proposal on restoration of the Nonquitt Marsh, South  
Dartmouth

I am writing to offer support for the proposed project to continue study of and begin restoration of the Nonquitt salt marsh in South Dartmouth, Massachusetts. I began an analysis of the marsh with my colleague Dr. Parker in 1980 to assess the status of the marsh and to try to determine cause(s) of its demise. We produced four annual reports for the Nonquitt Association between 1981 and 1985. The Lloyd Center made several studies, and in 1999 I, together with my student, revisited our original study transects to determine the extent of further decline or regrowth of marsh vegetation over the past 18 years. I'm sure these reports are described by the DNRT in their proposal and I needn't go into them here. I mention them only to emphasize the ongoing study of this marsh, and the wealth of data available should any major changes be proposed. The DNRT has done its homework and is well prepared for tackling this problem with a long term solution to the problems of water exchange and erosion of marsh surface.

I have worked with Sarah Storer and others at the DNRT and support all of the important environmental and conservation efforts they have been doing here in Dartmouth over the past 30 or so years. They have been especially active these past five to ten years, and I am glad to see that they have taken a leading role in the proposed restoration of the Nonquitt salt marsh. Their efforts at the Nonquitt marsh will benefit the environment and everyone who benefits from our southeastern New England coastal ecosystems whether by fishing, birding, or just looking and enjoying our precious natural resources. If I can provide any further support for their proposal please call me at 508-999-8215.

Sincerely,



James R. Sears

JUN 15 2000

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS, AFL-CIO

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

P.O. BOX 587  
FALL RIVER, MA 02722



TELEPHONE (508) 672-6612  
EASTERN MA (877) 353-1305  
FAX (508) 676-0771

MIKE NELSON  
REGIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE  
LOCAL UNION 1308

Comments: #12

May 10, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustees Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, Ma. 01930-2298

Dear Trustees:

Sometime ago, I spoke before you about granting funding to the New Bedford Aquarium. At that time I was explaining the needs of this economic engine for our area. Since then I have been made aware of many more advantages that this project will bring. The most important aspect of this can only be education. To teach our children the mistakes that were made by polluting our most valued resource. Teaching can be our generation's legacy. Our forefather past is not one of shame but of ignorance, and if we can be the generation that cleans our environment what more of positive impact on our youth is there. What better way to display these efforts than an active aquarium? Can you vision walking through a display that could show the effects of polluting to the process of making our world cleaner for the tiniest organism to the largest mammal in the ocean? Our world did not become polluted overnight, nor will it be corrected either. Education is the only process that will make this a reality. So I ask the trustees for their continued support of the aquarium and the future of educating our children?

Michael Nelson

  
Council Representative

MAY 15 2000



# DARTMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Office of the Superintendent

Thomas E. Kelly, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

Marylou T. Clarke  
Assistant Superintendent

Mannel Cordeiro, Jr.  
School Business Adm.

Comments: #12

May 17, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

MAY 22 2000


To the Trustees:

I am writing to express my continuing support for funding for the New Bedford Aquarium.

As an educator, I am looking forward with great anticipation to the prospect of having such an incredible learning resource as the new aquarium available to our students on an everyday basis. During the past three years, we have engaged in a comprehensive, K-12 curriculum revision project in science, aligning our learning goals with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks, and concurrently developing a structured sequence of learning activities for students that are hands-on and inquiry-based. The new aquarium will enrich this initiative in many ways. It will provide direct learning opportunities for students, and it will certainly send a powerful message to students about the importance of studying and preserving our environment. Further, through the active participation and support of the New Bedford Harbor Trust, it will model for all students the critical lesson that natural resources can be reclaimed and enhanced even after years of neglect and outright abuse. We must never give up on our efforts to instill in our students the commitment to make our community a better place in which to live and work.

I strongly encourage you to continue your support for this initiative which will bring the New Bedford waterfront to new life and bring the focus of the community back to the New Bedford waterfront in a way that is educational, entertaining, and responsible.

Sincerely,

  
Thomas E. Kelly, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools



City of New Bedford

Comments: #12,15,35,43,49

OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL  
133 William Street • New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740 • (508) 979-1455

JOSEPH T. ANDRADE  
Councillor Ward Four

May 18, 2000

MAY 22 2000

Jack Terrill, Coordinator  
NEW BEDFORD HARBOR TRUSTEE COUNCIL  
1 Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Mr. Terrill:

I am writing this letter in support of the joint proposal from the New Bedford Aquarium and UMass. Their goal is to support the restoration of our shared harbor environment through direct restoration efforts, exhibits, education, and related activities such as an aquaculture center. This endeavor helps all of us to better realize our community's environmental assets and needs, prepares us for the sometimes painful aspects of harbor remediation, and educates its future caretakers to better preserve and protect their environment.

The Trustees granted funds to build a fin fish aquaculture system to support fin fish restoration and training in aquaculture technologies; to expand the existing UMass artificial reef as a habitat enhancement to PCB "damaged" species; and to create a salt marsh at the Aquarium site for water quality enhancement, as part of a harbor park, and to support future salt marsh restoration efforts within the Harbor. The Trustees also added money for a special exhibit that would educate the public about PCB contamination and remediation. All of the projects will be directly linked to exhibits to help educate this community about our harbor as a precious natural resource, and involve us in its care.

The Aquarium/UMass proposal also seeks to expand an artificial reef, an existing habitat restoration just off Round Hill, and, equally important, provides display and evaluation of this new technology for enhancing fish and shellfish stocks and increasing habitat diversity within the harbor. Within New Bedford waters, reefs will directly help in the restoration of tautog and lobsters, both species impacted by PCB contamination. The existing reef has already demonstrated its usefulness in this effort, but has gone largely unknown or noticed. Linkage of the reef to the Aquarium through field monitoring allows our community opportunities for personal understanding of this coastal environment, and creates excitement about the creatures that inhabit it. Real-time displays (cameras, sensors, etc.) can be fed directly into exhibits in the Aquarium where the information is explained and explored. And that information can, by using the internet, go directly into classrooms as part of curriculum jointly created by the public schools, the Aquarium, and the University. In addition, the information gathered in these efforts will provide needed evaluation current reef technologies and potential enhancements to support their more wide-spread use.

And finally, the University and Aquarium seek to educate this community, and all visitors, about the impact of PCB discharge on our harbor and its community, and will use exhibits to demonstrate and monitor the cleanup. Remediation continues to be a long, sometimes painful, process. Knowledge will not only ease that pain; it aids our understanding and therefore our support for the cleanup.

I ask that you give the New Bedford Aquarium every consideration and grant their request. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and for any help you can give to this organization.

Very truly,

*Joseph T. Andrade*  
Joseph T. Andrade  
Councillor Ward Four

JTA:dmb

Residence and Office: 77 North Street • New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740 • Tel. (508) 984-7696 • (508) 979-1451  
Email: joeandrade@acnecity.com



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

David E. Wojnar  
Peter W. Koczera  
Robert J. St. Jean

Alan G. Coutinho  
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**TOWN OF ACUSHNET**

122 MAIN STREET, ACUSHNET, MA 02743  
OFFICE OF THE

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

TELEPHONE (508) 998-0200  
FAX (508) 998-0203  
<http://www.acushnet.ma.us>

Comments: #12,15,35,43,49

MAY 19 2000

May 15, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Council Members:

We are writing in support of the joint proposal from the New Bedford Aquarium and UMass. Their goal is to support the restoration of our shared harbor environment through direct restoration efforts, exhibits, education, and related activities such as an aquaculture center. This endeavor helps all of us to better realize our community's environmental assets and needs, prepares us for the sometimes painful aspects of harbor remediation, and educates its future caretakers to better preserve and protect their environment.

The Trustees granted funds to build a fin fish aquaculture system to support fin fish restoration and training in aquaculture technologies; to expand the existing UMass artificial reef as a habitat enhancement to PCB "damaged" species; and to create a salt marsh at the Aquarium site for water quality enhancement, as part of a harbor park, and to support future salt marsh restoration efforts within the Harbor. The Trustees also added money for a special exhibit that would educate the public about PCB contamination and remediation. All of the projects will be directly linked to exhibits to help educate this community about our harbor as a precious natural resource, and involve us in its care.

The fin fish aquaculture system will initially produce flounder, a new direction for our regional fisheries. Flounder, and other fish that live in our shallow coastal waters, are in decline. This hatchery will help relieve pressure on the wild stock, through release and direct harvest. And, it teaches visitors about flounder, increases understanding of our impact on them and similar coastal species, and improves our understanding so we can better protect the harbor environment going forward. The Aquarium aquaculture system will serve as a working center for a regional effort to enhance this enterprise, provide education and training and enhance the technology for coastal fish production.

The Aquarium/UMass proposal also seeks to expand an artificial reef, an existing habitat restoration just off Round Hill, and equally important provides display and evaluation of this new technology for enhancing fish and shellfish stocks and increasing habitat diversity within the harbor. Within New Bedford waters, reefs will directly help in the restoration of tautog and lobsters, both species impacted by PCB contamination. The existing reef has already demonstrated its usefulness in this effort, but has gone largely unknown or noticed. Linkage of the reef to the Aquarium through field monitoring allows our community opportunities for personal understanding of this coastal environment, and creates excitement about the creatures that inhabit it. Real-time displays (cameras, sensors, etc.) can be fed directly into exhibits in the Aquarium - where the information is explained and explored. And that information can, by using the internet, go directly into classrooms as part of curriculum jointly created by the public schools, the Aquarium, and the University. In addition, the information gathered in these efforts will provide needed evaluation of current reef technologies and potential enhancements to support their more wide-spread use. Following Harbor remediation some areas will be restored to wetlands. These wetlands play an important role in providing a diversity of habitats for animals and support of coastal sport and commercial fisheries. The salt marsh to be constructed at the Aquarium site will also enhance the public areas around the Aquarium's waterfront. The salt marsh is also a demonstration/laboratory exhibit of developing technologies using wetlands in environmental remediation, because it is part of the tank discharge system. It can also serve to support coming salt marsh construction efforts within the Inner Harbor. The marsh project will provide a direct demonstration for public education about the roles of salt marshes and the technological uses of these productive systems.

And finally, the University and Aquarium seeks to educate this community, and all visitors, about the impact of PCB discharge on our harbor and its community, and will use exhibits to demonstrate and monitor the cleanup. Remediation continues to be a long, sometimes painful, process. Knowledge will not only ease that pain; it aids our understanding and therefore our support for the cleanup.

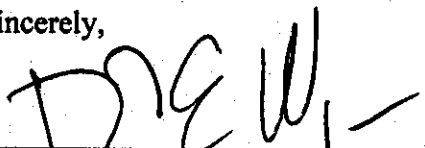
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council

May 15, 2000

Page Three

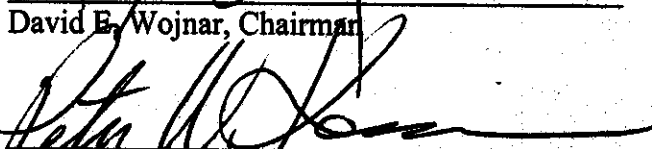
The New Bedford Aquarium will prepare our people to become good stewards of our oceans. Making science accessible to the general public has become one of the imperatives of our time. We have entered an era where many of the great questions of public policy cannot be addressed without aid of science. Protecting our environment, sustaining our food supply, coping with global climate change - these are the types of political questions that only a citizenry with a background in science can answer successfully. The Aquarium will convey the messages of science using many of the educational techniques developed by the mass media. Engaged and entertained visitors open their minds and learn to respect the resources and those who study them.

Sincerely,



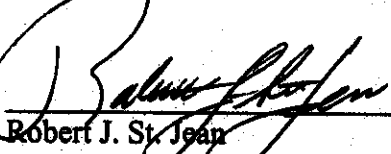
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David E. Wojnar, Chairman



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Peter W. Koczera



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Robert J. St. Jean  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

New Bedford Public Schools  
CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL  
1097 BRALEY ROAD  
NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 02745-4299

Comments: #12

ANN B. KOCZERA  
Principal

(508) 997-4511 Ext. 2225

JOSEPH A. MEDEIROS  
Assistant Principal

Dear Ms. Belknap

We want you to enjoy this mural as much as we've enjoyed learning about Ocean creatures and drawing them! Our school, Casimir Pulaski Magnet School, had a 'science/math/art theme. Ocean creatures are a strong component in our interdisciplinary curriculum. Our students are fascinated with learning more & more about underwater creatures. They love to learn about coral reefs, coral polyps, and how the coral reef is a home of all the animals that live there. There are so many different ones to be discovered. Crabs, starfish, octopus, barracudas, lobsters, etc., etc. are exciting to learn about. We have to travel to Boston, Ma; or Mystic Conn. to be able to enjoy first hand experiences learning about & seeing the innumerable different species. We should have an aquarium.



NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
CASIMIR PULASKI SCHOOL  
1097 BRALEY ROAD  
NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 02745-4299

ANN B. KOCZERA  
Principal

(508) 997-4511 Ext. 2225

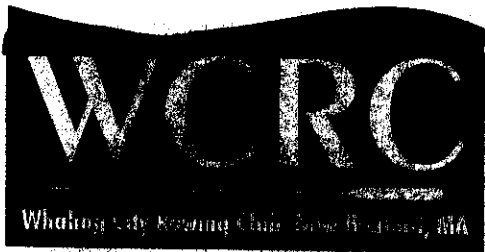
JOSEPH A. MEDEIROS  
Assistant Principal

in New Bedford to visit to enjoy and to learn more. It would enhance their education. They have told me it would give them a special place to go with family & friends on the weekend. They have expressed interest in their future and the possibility of working at the aquarium as marine biologists, tour guides, divers, instructors, etc. There are so many educational opportunities that would be opened up to so many, many, people. We'll love and embrace the New Bedford Aquarium with great joy.

Sincerely,

Jean M. L'Homme -  
an instructor & students at  
Pulaski School, New Bedford.

JUN 29 2000



Comments: #18

## Whaling City Rowing Club Inc.

66 Spring Street + New Bedford, MA 02740 + Phone: 508-997-4393 + WCRC@msn.com

Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

July 12, 2000

Dear Trustees:

Thank you for granting preliminary approval to the Whaling City Rowing Club's proposal to build a Community Rowing Boathouse on New Bedford harbor. I am writing now to urge you to grant final approval to the proposal, subject to the study regarding educational and recreational boating access on the harbor.

A boathouse will greatly enhance the WCRC's rowing and educational programs and serve as a gateway for the public to the harbor. The project will provide the public with the most direct and intimate access to the harbor environment because it puts people physically on the water in the outer and inner harbor as well as on the Acushnet River. In addition to teaching young people how to row and how to handle boats safely, the WCRC's educational programs focus on the maritime heritage of New Bedford and the environmental issues of the harbor. WCRC programs are very different from marinas and boat ramps, which people use merely to pass through the harbor to Buzzards Bay. Nearly all of the WCRC programs take place within the harbor itself.

While the WCRC is a relatively new organization, we have a proven track record of success. In just under two years of operation, we already have three whaleboats rowing in the harbor and over 100 school children have participated (for free) in our youth rowing education programs. During the past two years we have put over 300 participants on the harbor through our New Bedford Independence Day Whaleboat Races. These rowers are on the harbor two to three times a week for a 4 to 6 week period leading up to the races. It is remarkable to see the enthusiasm and appreciation for the harbor that is developed by the race participants through their experience of being on the water, an experience most of them would never have but for the race. Many of the race participants join our adult rowing program, which has over 100 members and is growing. For two years running we have held rowing clinics through the SouthCoast Learning Network, introducing dozens of people to rowing and the harbor. Later this month we are co-sponsoring the "Pull for the Bay" to benefit the Coalition for Buzzards Bay. This is a race to which we have invited over 500 open water rowers and kayakers from around the Northeast. We will be holding our second annual Cuttyhunk to New Bedford Row in October.

A Community Rowing Boathouse on New Bedford harbor is critical to our continuing efforts to make the waters of New Bedford harbor accessible to people of all ages and income levels. Given what the WCRC has been able to accomplish without a boathouse, this project represents an investment that the Trustees can be assured will generate enormous returns for years to come, providing widespread and ongoing benefits to the members of a community that has been cut off from their harbor for decades because of PCB contamination. By funding the Community Rowing Boathouse, the Harbor Trustee Council will be erecting a gateway to the harbor through which thousands of people will pass in the years ahead to enjoy, learn about and care for their harbor.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

David M. Prentiss  
President

JUL 27 2000

Comments: #18

28 Frederick St.  
New Bedford, MA 02744

July 14, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Members of the Council:

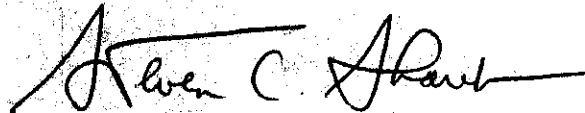
I was very pleased to hear that the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council gave its preliminary approval to the Whaling City Rowing Club's request for \$250,000 to build a community rowing boathouse on New Bedford harbor. As a friend of the Rowing Club and as a former elected official in the City of New Bedford, I strongly support this project and urge you to continue to fund it.

Just like the New Bedford Aquarium project, the Whaling City Rowing Club's community boathouse will help reconnect the citizens of this region to the water, a privilege that was denied to them for many years by the PCB contamination of our inner and outer harbor. The construction of the boathouse will allow people of all ages to use the harbor for recreational and educational purposes. Rather than simply *viewing* the harbor, the boathouse project is a way to put people *on* the harbor.

I also want to point out that construction of the boathouse is included in the New Bedford Harbor Master Plan. This project fits in well with New Bedford's needs today, and its needs for the future.

Again, I urge you to continue to support the community boathouse project.

Very truly,



Steven C. Sharek

JUL 27 2000

Julie A. Lizotte  
10 River Bend Lane  
Mattapoisett, MA 02639

Comments: #18

July 24, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Trustees:

I am writing to voice my strong support of the proposed community boathouse for New Bedford Harbor. This project is not only important to the harbor, but to the region as well. It brings educational, environmental and economic value to this area and deserves the support of the New Bedford Harbor Council.

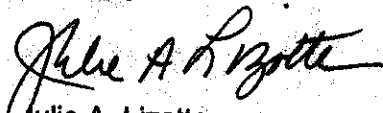
As a fairly new resident to the Southcoast area, I am pleased to see such an interest on the part of elected officials and community leaders to invest in, support and preserve the waterfront. To sustain this commitment, we need opportunities to expose many people to the historic aspects of the waterfront, its heritage and the bustle of a vibrant working harbor, as well as the simple beauty of the inner and outer harbors and the wildlife habitats of Marsh and Palmer's Island.

It is something quite amazing to see the swans and egrets in the marsh on a crisp fall morning or gaze across the harbor at a beautiful summer sunset providing the perfect backdrop to the city's skyline. Without access to a boat myself, and I believe I represent the majority of people in this community, I would not have the ability to experience such wonder. It gives me a great sense of pride and appreciation for where I live. It is my sincere hope that so many more people would have access to this natural resource, its distinct attributes and be part of community efforts that protect and preserve it.

A community boathouse would provide adults and children of all income levels exposure to the water and appreciation for living in the Southcoast region. The impact to the local economy would be overwhelmingly positive. I feel most fortunate that I am a part of the Whaling City Rowing Club and have opportunity to row about the harbor and enjoy all it has to offer. More people should have the ability to introduce themselves to this incredible resource. A community boathouse would provide the most accessible means of accomplishing such.

Please give thoughtful consideration to the boathouse proposal and all those who would benefit from it.

Sincerely,

  
Julie A. Lizotte

JUL 27 2000



Comments: #18

July 29, 2000

Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

To Council Members:

This letter serves to support the efforts by the Whaling City Rowing Club to secure monies from the Harbor Trustee Council for a community rowing boathouse on New Bedford Harbor. We congratulate you on giving preliminary approval to this exciting and appropriate endeavor. We strongly urge you to give final approval.

In the first chapter of *Moby Dick*, set in New Bedford, Herman Melville makes a compelling case for the attraction between humans and the ocean edge. The draw to return to the sea is inexorable. People, he says, just can't get close enough to the water.

Except when it's polluted.

Reconnecting people with the harbor is the goal of the community boathouse. A similar project worked wonders in Burlington, VT. Community rowing is not only recreational. It is educational. It is a generator of civic pride. Having young and old alike down at the water's edge, and rowing on the harbor surface, will create a constituency of harbor stewards. These citizens that will care for the harbor, protecting its quality and its multi-purpose uses, ensuring that abuses -- so severe in the past that the connection between people and sea was largely severed -- will never again be allowed. Rowers of all sorts will become caretakers with one shared purpose: to conserve New Bedford's greatest natural resource.

Restoration is not a one-time event. Yes, the clean-up of PCBs is essential. But true restoration requires unending vigilance and a commitment on the part of activists to improve constantly the health of our harbor ecosystem. Rowers, meeting at and rowing out of a community boathouse (a symbol for our maritime orientation), will be a good many of those activists.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the good people of New Bedford and their fellow South Coast citizens.

Yours sincerely,

Bartley B. Nourse, Jr.  
Co-Director

Sandra R. Parsons  
Co-Director

JUL 31 2000

July 30, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Trustees:

I am writing this letter in support the Whaling City Rowing Club's request for \$250,000 to build a community rowing boathouse on New Bedford Harbor. I joined the WCRC a year ago for health reasons ( I am 61 years old). I use to think of the harbor as the New Bedford Harbor. After rowing several days a week all year long, I now consider it "my" harbor. I want to protect and take care of this waterway.

New Bedford Harbor has had a long a history of rowing. I have been the curator of several exhibitions of the bird prints of John James Audubon at the New Bedford Art Museum. While researching the times Audubon visited New Bedford, I discovered that in 1805 he spent a week: "... being rowed about the beautiful harbor..." while the ship on which he was traveling on was being repaired. A few decades ago, I have been told, there were many people rowing in the harbor. The number of rowers diminished when people became aware of the extend of pollution in the waterway.

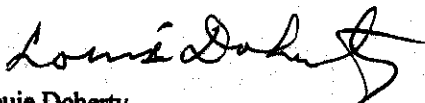
The Whaling City Rowing Club has an emphases on education. There are classes for young people in which they are made aware of possible problems in the harbor. In the "open rows" (rows open to all club members) there are both formal and informal discussions about oil slicks, garbage and other pollutants in New Bedford Harbor. We realize that the harbor is getting better, however there is still room for improving.

WCRC has 5 open rows a week and several racing teams that practice every week. These groups will row to all parts of the harbor; one team even goes up the Aquinnas River. A full boat has 6 pairs of eyes that look in all directions. The whaleboats are close to the water and travel at low speeds. Because of these facts, the WCRC is a good source for what happening in the harbor.

The Rowing club members have volunteered to help with the cleaning of Palmer Island. The whaleboats were use to transport garbage from the island to the main land.

For these reasons I think it would be helpful to the harbor if the Whaling City Rowing Club could build a community rowing boathouse.

Sincerely your,



Louie Doherty  
214 Court St.  
New Bedford , MA 02740

AUG 1 2000

Robert E. Bowen, Ph.D.  
23 Arnold Place  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
508/994-0369  
bob.bowen@umb.edu

27 July 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Trustee Council Members,

I am writing in full and enthusiastic support of the proposal submitted by the Whaling City Rowing Club (WCRC) to construct and operate a community rowing boathouse on New Bedford Harbor. I feel strongly that the community rowing boathouse would provide an essential contribution to the Trustee's efforts in re-establishing and expanding our community's connection to and understanding of the harbor. I am motivated by several reasons.

1. The Whaling City Rowing Club has established an extremely successful youth education program. That program has brought junior high school students to the harbor to learn in a direct and experiential fashion the stories of the history, environment, culture and economy of the harbor and our region. This program has been able to convey these stories in a way that is quite different from traditional classroom settings because the students are learning these lessons from the water and in boats that are fundamentally linked to our history. Indeed, my own son is a participant in the WCRC summer program and has clearly come to appreciate the harbor in new and unique ways. He has become more impassioned about the harbor because of the direct connection brought by the rowing experience and because of the quality and passions of WCRC staff. I say this even though he has already spent numerous hours on the shores of the harbor doing scientific measurements of salinity, temperature and pH for three different science fair projects. Rowing has clearly augmented and refined his interests in the science of the harbor. The experience of rowing in these boats and connecting to the harbor's stories is a different and very strong educational tool that simply cannot be underestimated. It is the kind of water-dependent education that should be of intense interest to the trustees.

The funding of the boathouse will allow for a significant expansion and extension of these valuable programs. As is noted in the proposal the WCRC has already established partnerships with the Coalition for Buzzards Bay and the Schooner Ernestina for environmental education. One can expect other partnerships to be developed in the future.

AUG 1 2000

2. I feel it is also important to consider the community boating aspects of this proposal. The boathouse will provide important boating access to a host of individuals who, in other circumstances, could not afford it. It is equally important to note that whaleboats provide direct community access to the harbor rather than using the harbor to access other bodies of water such as the Buzzards Bay or Nantucket Sound. Rowers launch from the harbors edge and spend their time within the waters of the harbor - waters that were most directly affected by PCB contamination.

I would also like to register one more point of support for the WCRC proposal. I have been a resident of New Bedford for more than 15 years. As an academic I have been a student of New Bedford Harbor for even longer. I use the case of New Bedford in several lectures I give at my University and various international forums. During the last year I have rowed on the harbor more than one hundred times and I must say during that time I have developed a new level of understanding of the harbor and its place in this community. The time and energy I have expended on the harbor has refined and heightened my interests and understanding. The visceral connection that is made between rower and water is an important one. It builds a strong sense of place and responsibility in ways that other forms of recreation do not. For the work of the Trustees to succeed in the long term it will need to build a strong and emotional partnership between its work and the people of this region. I can think of no stronger vehicle to achieve that goal than to have hundreds of people on the waters of the harbor in boats that so fundamentally define both past and present.

Sincerely,

  
Robert E. Bowen, Ph.D.



Barbara Traban  
46 Winthrop Street  
New Bedford, MA 02744  
July 19, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Comments: #18

Dear Trustees:

I've read that the Council has given preliminary approval to the Whaling City Rowing Club's request for funds to build a community boathouse on the New Bedford Harbor. I am writing to show my support for this wonderful project.

As a person who has been both a participant and just an observer in the annual Summerfest Whaleboat races, I can attest to the enthusiasm and enjoyment of the crowds and participants at these races. Events such as this have made many citizens aware of just how much our New Bedford harbor has to offer. The harbor area is looking better than it has in many years. I have taken visitors to my company from our foreign plants to see the harbor and many have been impressed that we have something like this right in our own backyard, so to speak.

In the past, I had not been the type of person to spend time on the water or in a team event. But my interest in rowing has me enjoying and utilizing our waterfront, meeting new people, and getting some exercise at the same time. A boathouse would help the organization's rowing and educational programs and allow more of the public to learn to value our local waters. It would be wonderful if more people of all ages could use the harbor for recreational and educational purposes.

The rowing club and rowing has helped me to think about the maritime history of New Bedford, the whole whaling aspect, and other environmental issues. Seeing what our harbor has to offer has made me want to support other local related organizations. In the last year, I have also become a supporter of the Coalition for Buzzards Bay, the Whaling Museum, and the New Bedford Aquarium.

A boathouse will allow the Whaling City Rowing Club to expand the public's access to the harbor and the Acushnet River. It will help to put more people on the water and get them to appreciate this natural resource that is right here so that they will want to protect it. More people will be attracted to the waterfront and we will see more activity there.

I give my support to this wonderful boathouse project and ask that final approval be given by the Council.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Traban



JUL 27 2000

224 Bay Street  
Taunton, MA 02780

July 13, 2000

Comments: #18

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Sirs:

I am a former collegiate rower who lives too far out of town to be a rowing member in the Whaling City Rowing Club, but I have a non-rowing membership and a keen interest in what the organization is doing.

Rowing is an ideal way for kids to learn about boats, about New Bedford Harbor, and about their community. Here are some reasons why:

- Rowing is cheap – Costs add up for other kinds of boating.
- Rowing is accessible – One whaleboat accommodates 5 rowers and a steersman, so that many people can have a chance to participate.
- Rowing promotes cooperation – No sport in the world requires or helps to develop a greater sense of teamwork.
- Rowing uses up lots of energy – Kids need to have a chance to exercise their muscles.
- Rowing is fun.
- Rowing is adventurous – Imagine being a kid and getting to explore New Bedford Harbor by boat.
- Rowing is purposeful – You have a crew, you have a person in charge, you have a place to go... Pull for it!

I believe the Community Rowing Boathouse Project proposed by the Whaling City Rowing Club will help that organization make rowing more accessible to young people – Therefore I am writing to express my support. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. My phone number is 508-823-4403.

Sincerely,



George F. McBride

JUL 27 2000



**The Congregational Church**  
The United Church of Christ  
17 Middle Street, P.O. Box 80608  
South Dartmouth, Massachusetts  
02748-0608

Comments: #18

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey W. Larsen, Minister

(508)993-6676

(508)994-2322

Fax (508)993-6676

E-mail: [Congochurch@mediaone.net](mailto:Congochurch@mediaone.net)

August 9, 2000

Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council Members,

I write to you in support of the Whaling City Rowing Club's proposal for a boathouse in New Bedford harbor. I believe this is an excellent use of the natural resources and a very important city image to develop.

The WCRC has continued to provide many fine things for the city and surrounding communities. It has an absolute respect for the natural environment of our harbor. It is committed to providing free educational opportunities for all ages, but especially for the young people. It honors the proud history of our area with its few traditional boats on the waters.

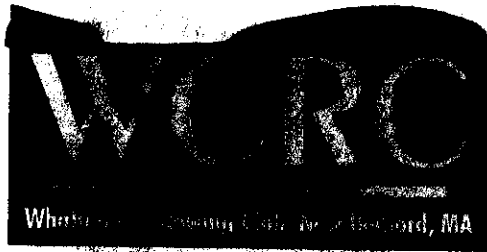
I have been personally involved with the club for about five months and am totally impressed with the dedication and vision of all those involved. Rowing is a new experience for me – one that has had a profound impact in a very short time. To be on the water, working as a team, feeling a part of a long history – it has given me a fresh set of eyes to see the beauty of this place in which we live.

Having a boathouse on the harbor is a logical step forward. I urge you to give it your support. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Larsen

AUG 23 2000



Comments: #19

# Whaling City Rowing Club Inc.

66 Spring Street + New Bedford, MA 02740 + Phone: 508-997-4393 + WCRC@msn.com

August 15, 2000

Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Trustees:

Thank you for granting preliminary approval to the Whaling City Rowing Club's proposal for a community rowing boathouse on New Bedford harbor. If final approval is granted, a study must be conducted to determine whether recreational boating was adversely impacted by PCB contamination in the harbor. The Board of Directors of the WCRC has asked me to communicate with you regarding the need for the study and the scope of the study.

A review of the 1986 Trustees' Report reveals that recreational activities, including boating, was determined to have been adversely impacted by PCB contamination. For example, the report states as follows:

All those who use or would use the natural resources of New Bedford Harbor have been affected by the contamination. This includes resident resource users as well as visitors to the area, and active as well as passive users. Active use of the Estuary has been restricted by the impacts of the contamination on fishing, and shell fishing, boating, beach going, and other recreational activities." (p. 3-71) (Emphasis added.)

The release of PCBs in the New Bedford Harbor Environment has resulted in a loss of recreational opportunities. Recreational boating and inshore sport fishing fell off dramatically when fishing bans were enacted. (p. 4-25) (Emphasis added.)

In light of these findings, we believe it is not necessary for a further study to be conducted. Moreover, a "recreational boating" rationale is not needed to justify the boathouse proposal because the unique nature of the WCRC proposal brings it within the same rationale relied upon by the Trustees to approve the Taber Park and Riverside Park projects. In both cases, a physical presence along the harbor's waters is being created that will provide people shoreline access and vistas of the harbor. Further, the boathouse proposal extends this consideration of access and vistas of the harbor from a shoreline activity to being on the water itself. As the 1986 Trustee Report states, "Recreational activities and access were directly harmed by the release of PCBs and other contaminants into the Harbor Environment. By selecting the no-action alternative, the public would not be compensated for those injuries and the injury would continue to occur." (p. 4-19) The community rowing boathouse proposal addresses the injuries that have already been determined by the Trustees.

If the Trustees nevertheless decide that a study is necessary, we are concerned that to focus only on the consideration of "recreational boating" will unfairly limit the appropriate scope of factors implicated by

AUG 23 2000

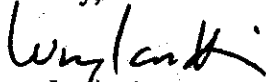
our proposal. As our proposal indicates, the main thrust of the boathouse will be on providing the people of New Bedford, especially young people, access to on-the-water, educational boating programs. There is significant literature that demonstrates that experiential, adventure-based programs, such as on-the-water educational boating programs, provide communities with a unique and effective strategy for positive youth development. (See, e.g., Ayers, 1994; McCabe, 1991.) Over the last twenty years, at least fifteen programs of this nature have been established in the Northeast. (E.g., The Sound School Boating Program, New Haven, CT; Floating the Apple, NY, NY; Hull Lifesaving Museum Open Water Rowing Program, Hull, MA; Cape Challenge, Chatham, MA; North Haven School Rowing Program, North Haven, ME; Fox Island School, Vinalhaven, ME; Newburgh Free Academy Rowing Program, Newburgh, NY.) None, however, were ever established in New Bedford harbor. The most obvious reason for this is that the appearance of such programs in other communities was taking place at the same time that New Bedford was absorbing the magnitude of PCB contamination in its harbor. For example, just over 20 years ago (1979) PCB contamination resulted in the closing of 18 square miles of water in the New Bedford area to lobstering and ground fishing. (p. 3-48)

Finally, to the extent that the study examines recreational boating, it is important to realize that marina slips and moorings are not a helpful indicator of meaningful access to and use of the harbor's environs. The sailboats and powerboats at these slips and moorings use the harbor essentially as a parking lot. The actual boating they do takes place in Buzzards Bay, not the harbor. The WCRC's programs, on the other hand, provide access and use of the harbor's waters. As outlined in the WCRC's proposal, the boathouse will enhance on-the-water educational programs that teach young people the history of the harbor, the environmental issues affecting it, and, most important of all, the beauty and value of the harbor as a natural resource. These considerations bring the boathouse proposal squarely within the parameters set forth in the 1986 Trustee Report:

By developing and/or enhancing recreational opportunities, a greater proportion of the community will be able to once again use the Harbor Environment. The Trustee Council will seek recreational opportunities that restore access for a large proportion of the public, have minimal adverse impact on natural resources, and allow for a better understanding of the importance of those natural resources in the Harbor Environment. Preferred activities are those that secure or enhance areas along the Harbor for passive recreational use; those that increase the public's access to natural resources; and those that enhance the overall aesthetics of the Harbor. (p. 4-20)

The WCRC is very grateful that the Trustees have granted preliminary approval to the community rowing boathouse project. We hope that the points outlined above are helpful to the Trustees' further deliberations in the review process.

Sincerely,



Lucy Iannotti  
Executive Director

**HARBOR TRUSTEE COUNCIL SHOULD FOCUS ON WATER QUALITY**

Artificial reefs, fish propagation and coastal wetlands restoration are some of the proposals that are being submitted to improve our harbor. Too often, we have been disappointed with the results of trying to manipulate nature. For example, fish hatcheries have been used on the Pacific coast to augment salmon stocks that are in decline. However, since the total salmon stocks have continued to decline in spite of artificial propagation at many hatcheries, the release of millions of hatchery reared juvenile salmon has caused uncertainty as to whether or not artificial is best.

There is technology available in the U.S. to restore wetlands with either eel grass or tide marsh. However, the majority of wetland restoration projects have not worked. As to artificial reef construction, there needs to be a pre-survey and a sound plan with a rational understanding of where reefs are useful and where they are not.

Various studies throughout the U.S. have shown that urban development and other human activities over the years have severely degraded watersheds, resulting in, among other things, reduced fish abundance and/or species diversity. Sites that are subject to non-point source pollution, such as from failed septic systems, may have high nutrient concentrations, particularly of nitrogen, which, in excess quantities, can adversely affect water quality and even degrade habitat, ultimately impacting a wide range of fish and shellfish species. In addition, point-source discharges from waste-water plants and industries of hazardous chemicals, such as PCB's, contribute to the degradation of critical habitats.

The impacts of habitat degradation from contaminants go beyond economics to the health of both marine resources and human beings. Shellfish are relatively immobile and are generally unable to move out of pollutant waters. The consumption of shellfish from these pollutant waters can create a serious public health issue. This has led to the closing of many of our shellfish beds, particularly after rainfall.

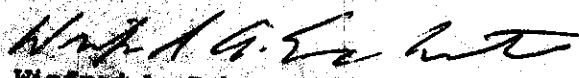
A productive path to follow in the restoration of our harbor is to work to return the system to its normal condition as much as possible by tailoring the restoration efforts to enhance the natural ecological processes and functions; in other words, to get the most "bang for our buck". Degraded water and habitat quality issues can be addressed via remediation efforts that stress non-point and point run off discharge treatment. An example of a positive contribution would be the Sconticut Neck Sewer Project, which would reduce the bad results of the failed septic systems along our water bodies. Water quality improvements go a long way in helping to restore an ecosystem to its normative state.

As to PCB contamination, specifically in the New Bedford Harbor/Acushnet River Estuary Complex, there is a higher concentration of contaminants in the inner harbor (inside the hurricane barrier dike) and a declining amount in the outer harbor, away from the original sources of contamination. The dike's restriction may now affect the flushing exchange rate of the inside harbor. However, PCB's were flushed out into the outer harbor and accumulating long before the dike

was constructed. The area impacted extends well beyond the hurricane barrier, particularly, to Sconticut Neck.

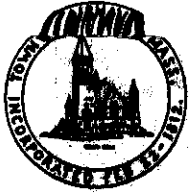
Along the 5 miles of Sconticut Neck exist large tracts of pristine conservation land. Yet, after years of PCB pollution, the ecosystem along this stretch has degraded most of the marine life to various degrees. In the last twenty years, the cottages along Sconticut Neck have turned into year round homes. Unfortunately, the septic systems in these homes are not compatible with this area, thereby failing and leeching into the already polluted harbor. Water quality is the key to the successful return to a healthy harbor. In turn, a healthy harbor, in its own natural course, will return the marine life, eel grass and marshes to their normal state.

Sincerely,



Winfred A. Eckenreiter  
Chairman, Board of Selectmen  
Town of Fairhaven

JUN 29 2000



**Town of Fairhaven  
Massachusetts  
Office of the Selectmen**

40 CENTER STREET  
FAIRHAVEN, MA 02719

Comments: #25,26,27,29,44

July 12, 2000

Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Re: Harbor Trustees Round 2 Restoration Ideas

Dear Mr. Terrill:

First, I would request that the Harbor Trustee Council support the acquisition of waterfront property listed as Popes Beach Land North - \$55,000. and Popes Beach Land South - \$145,000. Both of these areas currently have the potential to be developed into a series of house lots. By acquiring these parcels, direct access to the water for swimming, fishing and boating will be maintained for all citizens of the Commonwealth.

These parcels will help replace access that was lost due to PCB contamination in the Inner Harbor.

Second, I would request that the Harbor Trustee Council support the \$500,000. Shellfish Outgrow Program developed by the City of New Bedford and the Towns of Dartmouth and Fairhaven. This on going project will assist in restoring shellfishing that has been lost in the Inner Harbor and will provide an economic gain to commercial fishermen and recreational benefit for our citizens.

Third, and probably the most important, I am requesting that the Harbor Trustee Council reconsider their position on Upper Sconcut Neck Sewer/Shellfish (2.3.3.2.1.).

The Trustee Council is proposing to spend \$150,000. to perform Water Quality Testing. The State Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) has performed many surveys of the Outer Harbor. Mr. David Whittaker and Mr. Frank Germano from DMF have compiled volumes of information from Sanitary Surveys during the past few years for both the Inner Harbor and the Outer Harbor. This information is readily available. Some of this information for the Quahog Standing Crop Survey was commissioned by the Harbor Trustee Council and was published in June 1999.

JUL 14 2000



Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Both Michael Hickey, Chief Biologist DMF, in April 1996 and David Whittaker in July 1999 have indicated, in writing, that the correction of septic systems along Sconticut Neck and the reduction of stormwater flow would improve water quality. Improved water quality would re-open and/or allow for quicker re-opening of shellfish beds following rain events.

The shellfish industry has suffered millions of dollars in lost revenue due to the PCB contamination in the Inner and Outer Harbor. The June 6, 1999 Quahog Standing Crop Survey (commissioned by the Harbor Trustee Council) Table 6, page 13 and Table 7, page 14 identified \$17 million in lost revenue to fishermen and \$76.5 million lost in consumer market value.

At present, it is highly unlikely that the Inner Harbor will be open during the next 15-20 years, or ever for commercial or recreational shellfishing. It would appear that opening closed areas in the Outer Harbor makes the most sense.

This proposed project will restore/replace an injured natural resource and restore human use of natural resources, shellfishing and public access for swimming, boating, etc. by upgrading water quality.

The following comments were made at the Public Hearing held on June 29, 2000 and hopefully will provide the Trustees with a better understanding of the septic system issues on Sconticut Neck.

During 1996, the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) conditionally approved shellfishing in a major portion of the BB. 15.2 area-New Bedford/Fairhaven Outer Harbor. This was accomplished in part after a number of years of dedicated work by the Town of Fairhaven to clean and eliminate identifiable pollution sources contributing to the pollution of the waters, flats and tributaries of the New Bedford Outer harbor in Fairhaven. Working in concert with DMF the Town Boards and Commissions mandated septic system upgrades where failed systems were identified, restored wetland marshes and flats which were contributing to pollution of abutting resource areas, and reviewed, cleaned and repaired existing stormdrain systems while instituting a maintenance schedule. All of these steps were taken to affect pollution source identification and clean-up thus providing better groundwater protection to those waters and enabling the Town's people to more fully reap the benefits of this portion of the bay be they shellfishing, commercial fishing, enjoying the wildlife habitats or the like. It was quickly apparent however, with all of this work, that the abutting bay waters are still not entirely open to these fundamental shoreline activities due to continued pollution. The

Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Board of Health has come to understand, thanks in measure to the science of Title 5 of the State Environmental Code (310 CMR 15.000), that not all septic systems that pass the new code's septic system inspection criteria are actually protective of the environment and groundwater particularly. Having required septic system inspections since March 30, 1995 for all houses sold and serviced by a septic system and for all dwellings being renovated or modified which are serviced by a septic system, the Board of Health has amassed a good amount of information on the functionality of existing septic systems along the east and west sides of Sconticut Neck Road especially from Rockland Street south to Jerusalem Road. Whenever legally applicable, the Board has mandated a septic system upgrade per Title 5, however Title 5 only mandates this when the bottom of the leaching facility (field, pit, trench, chamber, etc.) is IN the groundwater. As a reference, for upgraded systems 3 feet to groundwater is a minimum requirement and for septic systems for new homes 4 feet to groundwater is a minimum. For a septic system inspection used for sale of house or renovation/alteration to an existing house-a leaching facility simply does not have to be in groundwater. Thus there may be literally one inch separation of leaching effluent to groundwater. As a source of confirmation to this observation and considering all the work the Town has done in this general area to clean known pollution sources, it is noted that the DMF is still currently finding significantly elevated fecal coliform counts (pollution source indicators) in stormdrain runoffs and shoreline samples at Highland Street, Frederick Street and Baxter Avenue to name a few in the area of concern.

Additionally, DMF has observed that fecal coliform counts in the BB.15.2 area of the bay rise in the winter, coinciding we believe, with the naturally occurring high groundwater period. Rain events and excessive snowmelts also add measurably to the fecal coliform counts due to stormwater runoff into already saturated zones just beneath the ground surface and by contributing this "first flush" of wash down materials into stormdrains from streets and yards into the bay, marshes, saltponds and creeks.

This proposed project will accelerate the ecological recovery, enhance environmental quality, provide economic recovery and improve the quality of life in the New Bedford Harbor Area. Now is the time to begin this project.

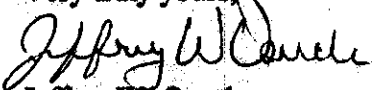
The Trustees have an opportunity to begin the process by approving the appropriation to sewer a portion of Sconticut Neck. The Town of Fairhaven in its proposal has indicated a match of 50%. The residents of this area appeared at the Public Hearing in great numbers to voice their support.

Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Now is the time to move forward. Please reconsider and appropriate the necessary funds.

If you have any questions, please call me at 508-979-4023.

Very truly yours,



Jeffrey W. Osuch  
Executive Secretary

June 29, 2000

Comments: #22

Dear Members of the Harbor

We are residents of Neck. We enjoy fishing and long walks along the Neck's shoreline, estuaries and conservation areas.

It is obvious that many homes are not equipped with adequate septic system in the area.

In some areas, one has noted what appears to be strong septic odors as well as raw sewage running into the Bay and some of our estuaries.

With the added incidence of Hepatitis or antibiotic resistant bacteria - as well as preserving our natural resources we STRONGLY support your efforts in addressing our area needs assessment for a sewerage system.

Candace J. Gustafson, R.N.  
Candace F. Gustafson, R.N.

Carl Gustafson  
Carl Gustafson

7 Sippican St.  
Fairhaven, MA  
993-9001

JUN 29 2000

TO:

The Newbedford Harbor Trustee Council  
c/o National Marine Fisheries Service  
ATN: Jack Terrill

Regarding the June 29 meeting.

I am a resident of Scotcut Neck. After listening to all the proposals brought up at the June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. It makes no sense to me to create an artificial reef and then let pollutants clog it up. It makes no sense to me to try to clean up a shellfish bed and allow fecal matter to clog it up. I find I can't support any of the proposals until the area is clear of all pollutants. Once an area is cleaned up it then makes sense to fix it up. Any other method seems to me to be a waste of tax money and time. Please support the effort to bring sewerage to all areas of Scotcut Neck.

Thank you

Brenda Banks -Tirone  
84 Raymond ST.  
Fairhaven MA.



TO:  
The Newbedford Harbor Trustee Council  
c/o National Marine Fisheries Service  
ATN: Jack Terrill

Comments: #4,36,45

Regarding the June 29 meeting.

I am a resident of Sciticut Neck. After listening to all the proposals brought up at the June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. It makes no sense to me to create an artificial reef and then let pollutants clog it up. It makes no sense to me to try to clean up a shellfish bed and allow fecal matter to clog it up. I find I can't support any of the proposals until the area is clear of all pollutants. Once an area is cleaned up, it then makes sense to fix it up. Any other method seems to me to be a waste of tax money and time. Please support the effort to bring sewerage to all areas of Sciticut Neck.

Thank you  
Mike Tirone  
84 Raymond ST.  
Fairhaven MA.

*Mike Tirone*

June 29, 2000

Attn; Jack Terrill

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, Mass. 01930-2298

Comments: #2, 20

Dear Sir;

Your 17 preferred projects of Restoration ideas, that The New Bedford, Mass. Harbor Trustee Council are proposing, have nothing to do with Natural Resources Restoration and they were never damaged by P.C.B.'s and should not be funded from the AVX Natural Resources Damaged Account.

Fairhaven, Mass. was and still is, the side of this harbor, that suffered the most damage from P.C.B.'s and many other problems that still exists in this harbor.

At one of your public hearings, I spoke about the vast native scallop beds that once existed between Popes Beach and the sand-bar, located one  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile south of Farmfield St., in Fairhaven, Mass. 02719. It was there P.C.B.'s and other harbor discharges, when they leave the dike, they are pushed toward the east, into an area of the Fairhaven harbor, left open by the out going tide and as the tide raises, it spreads through out that area of the harbor, creating problems in that whole area. This has created a sea-bottom that scallops and other marine life can not live in.

For many years now, as I walk the Beaches that surround that area in the fall, where sea grasses wash up on the beach in the fall, I never see seas scallops among the sea-weed.

Of the money you are planning on giving away at present, more should be given to Fairhaven, so the part of Sciticut without Sewers, work could start on them sooner.

Sincerely,



Mr. Roman Rusinski  
P.O. Box 143  
Fairhaven, Mass. 02719-0163

JUN 29 2000

ATTN: Mr. Jack Terrell

Comments: #5,12,17,21,34,39  
41,47

25 August 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 N. Second St.  
New Bedford, MA. 02740

Robert H. Silver  
34 Briarcliffe Rd.  
Fairhaven, MA 02719

re: Round II- Restoration Ideas Environmental assessment Draft dtd 29 June 2000

Dear Trustees,

I have lived in Fairhaven for the last 72 years and have watched the outer harbor water quality transform from good to bad. Over the last few years, the water quality has been improving.

It is apparent to me that these improvements are due to the termination of PCB dumping and reduction in untreated waste water dumping from the Fort Rodman sewage treatment facility.

Eel grass, shellfish (quahogs) and clams are plentiful. I have even observed a recent restock of seed bay scallops. Scup and flounder have already rebounded and are readily available to the average fisherman.

The outer harbor will cleanse itself naturally, as the tidal flow distributes clean Atlantic waters twice a day, provided current and future contaminants are reduced or eliminated. The inner harbor with its restricted water flow through the hurricane barrier does not receive the same benefits of the tidal action. Please restrict the inner harbor activities/use of money to land purchase ONLY to prevent further injurious development. Any other activity would be a waste of money, particularly fish stock, artificial reefs, PCB Exhibit and salt marsh creation (projects 5 through 8). At the very least, fund these items with the final round after the Hurricane Barrier Box Culvert has been installed (pending Army Corp feasibility study results as noted in first round funding proposals). It appears that the local political machine has blown some smoke in your eyes on these non-beneficial projects. Local residents can visit either the New England Aquarium in Boston or visit Woods Hole (NOAA) facility for fish studies.

Purchasing land with restrictive development covenants meets the goals of the AVX trust account and will help improve the harbor environment. Please fund projects 1, 10, 11 and 14.

The greatest benefit to the outer harbor water quality (a primary objective) would be to reduce the waste runoff from faulty septic systems along Sconticut Neck. The area is closed to shell fishing for 5 days after every rainfall leaving 2 days of shell fishing allowed during the month of July (2000). You have allowed insufficient moneys toward the most important project from the list of 35 reviewed. Using any money toward a study of this project is wasteful. The water quality is tested after each rainfall and shut down to shell fishing due to e coli and bacteria from fecal waste. No study is necessary....just a permanent cure.

Please increase the funding for the Sconticut Neck sewage treatment (project 16) to \$ 4.5 million. The town folk will pay for the other half if given a financial incentive by the Trustees. Otherwise, the Sconticut Neck system will continue to be voted down by the town meeting members (our outdated form of government) as the Sconticut Neck residents do not have enough votes to win a majority vote on this issue (as proven by the lack of approval in the 2000 annual budget).

Sincerely,

Robert H. Silver

AUG 28 2000



to Jane Terill

Comments: #4,16,28,42

27 August 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dear Trustees,

Please consider my comments regarding the recent round of funding for Round II-  
Restoration Ideas Environmental assessment Draft dated 29 June 2000.

The Trustee funding guidance documents indicate a Holistic View, as indicated in 4.2.4 of the RP/EIS, should be followed. Upon review of the preliminary approved projects, I fail to see where this approach has been adhered to in regards to water column quality. The Holistic View should be applied toward the "preferred actions", particularly toward the enhancement and overall quality of the water column (as per 2.3.3.2). The fact is the water quality of the outer harbor is clearly and continuously contaminated by focal bacteria as well as the historic PCB contaminants and heavy metals. As the EPA responsibility includes removal of sediments and marshes with greater than 50 ppm PCB contamination and restoration of same and the fact that the inner harbor cannot flush and cleanse itself properly due to hurricane barrier inlet restrictions; why are monies being wasted in the inner harbor prior to additional culvert installation or on projects that the EPA will restore with their own funds?

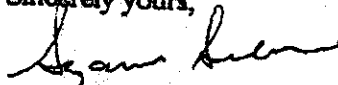
Further, to install marshes in a commercial/industrial site (Electric plant), where the cost is higher due to removal of concrete and potential polluted soils or to build a hatchery in a polluted environment seems an irresponsible waste of limited funds.

The Trustee monies would be best spent on holistic water quality improvement projects outside of the EPA's jurisdiction, namely sewage runoff to the inner and outer harbor.

In this regard, please allow a higher funding level of the Scotcut Neck sewage project (# 16) to a maximum of \$ 4.7 million.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Suzanne Silver  
624 Scotcut Neck Rd  
Fairhaven, MA 02179

AUG 28 2000

# Brian K. Bowcock, D.C.

Fairhaven Chiropractic Office  
84 Huttleston Ave. (Rte. 6), Fairhaven, MA 02719  
Telephone: 508-997-3600 Fax: 508-999-3012

Comments: #20

September 1, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, Ma. 01930-2298

Attn: Mr. Jack Terrill

Gentlemen:

The Harbor Trustee Council is responsible for distributing more than \$20 million in funds to restore natural resources that were lost, injured or destroyed by PCB's and toxic metals in New Bedford harbor. The Sconticut Neck Shellfish Restoration Project meets the criteria set down by the Council. This project should be funded.

I am well aware of the political pressures and coercion placed on the Council Trustees by outside sources. I do not feel that I have to reiterate all that has gone on behind the scenes and behind closed doors. I applaud the Harbor Trustee Council members for not wilting under the pressure and political intrigue associated with the granting of funds for the various proposed projects.

I would like to add my voice to those hundreds of voices that have called for funding of the Sconticut Neck Restoration Project and Sewer Line Extension. You have before you an opportunity to impact the New Bedford harbor region by restoring an area to viable shellfishing and in doing so will return a damaged area of the harbor to commercial and recreational use.

A Massachusetts politician once wrote a book entitled PIC (Profiles In Courage) in which he talked about a number of situations where people in the public sector were forced with difficult decisions and they had to choose between the right decision and the politically expedient decision. The Harbor Trustee Council members are at that crossroad.

SEP 5 2000

September 1, 2000

The Profiles that John F. Kennedy described were of people who made decisions no matter how unpopular or against the political pressure that had been exerted by outside sources and they made the decisions because it was the right decision. The Harbor Trustee Council members have an opportunity to fund the Shellfish Restoration Project in Fairhaven on Sciticut Neck and to move this project forward without creating road blocks or needlessly delaying progress on this project.

The so called study that would determine the amount of run off from Sciticut Neck and contamination of the shellfish beds is data that is readily available. No study is necessary. There are those voices that have stated that increased nitrogen outflow in the inner harbor of New Bedford would cause irreputable harm to the inner harbor area. The data, numbers and facts eluded to in making such statements have now been shown to be erroneous and based on faulty assumptions.

The true data, which is now becoming available, demonstrates that this is a good project and will benefit the damaged area of the outer New Bedford harbor. I call on the Harbor Council Trustees to make the right decisions in face of enormous pressures and fund the Sciticut Neck Shellfish Restoration Project.

Respectively,

*Brian K. Bowcock, D.C.*

Brian K. Bowcock, D.C.  
Selectman, Town of Fairhaven

BKB/as

Comments: #1,14,20,36,42

July 15,2000

Same Letter  
Received: 73

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council Members,

We agree with funding ideas supporting land purchase, water quality monitoring, and water quality improvement, and believe this should be the primary focus.

We do not agree with funding the Aquarium projects for reefs, fish stock, or saltmarsh creation as the water quality is too poor for success.

Please use the monies attributed to same on the Sciticut Neck sewer installation, as you have under funded this water quality improvement plan. (increase to 7.2 million)

Sincerely,

Wayne E Fyfe Sr.  
70 Ocean ave.  
Mash.

JUL 27 2000

July 18, 2000

Comments: #20

Same Letter  
Received: 191

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council Members,

As a resident of the Sconticut Neck area I hope that the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council would seriously consider supporting, and funding the proposed sewer hook up.

If anyone should get help from the trustees, it should be the town of Fairhaven. With the prevailing southwest wind, and the current of the water, it was the residents of Fairhaven, Sconticut Neck, that had been directly affected by the effects of Cornell Dubilier, dumping PCB's into the harbor.

It is my contention that this project would do more to help clean up the harbor than (the Aquarium) or the other proposed project.

Sincerely,

*Kathleen Stusterout  
22 Bruceliff Rd.  
Fairham, MA 02719*

JUL 27 2000

Comments: #20,26

July 23, 2000

Same Letter  
Received: 81

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council Members,

As a Fairhaven resident, I was deeply disappointed by the failure of the New Bedford Harbor Trustees Council to directly and immediately fund the extension of sewer lines on Sconticut Neck. Failed septic systems are both a hazard to the environment and a financial burden to homeowners. We do not need another "study" of this issue as the Council has proposed. We need aid in the design and construction of this vital public works project for the people of Fairhaven.

I look forward to your consideration and support in this matter.

Sincerely,

*Gene Causel*  
*9. Buerchle Rd.*  
*Fairhaven, MA*  
*02719*

Comments: #20,26

Same Letter  
Received: 7

231 Sconticut Neck Rd  
Fairhaven, MA 02719

July 24, 2000

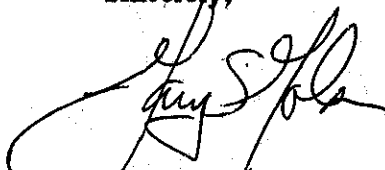
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Council Members,

As a Fairhaven resident, I was deeply disappointed by the failure of the New Bedford Harbor Trustees Council to directly and immediately fund the extension of sewer lines on Sconticut Neck. Failed septic systems are both a hazard to the environment and a financial burden to homeowners. We do not need another "study" of this issue as the Council has proposed. We need aid in the design and construction of this vital public works project for the people of Fairhaven.

I look forward to your consideration and support in this matter.

Sincerely,



Gary S. Golas

AUG 23 2000

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July 20, 2000

Harbor Trust Council  
37 N. Second St.  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Comments: #30

Dear Members of the Harbor Trust Council,

Sea Tech, a division of Satkin Industries, and myself would like to thank you for your support of both the Northern and Southern Popes Beach Land Purchase Projects on Sciticut Neck in Fairhaven. These strips of land are precious wetlands located directly outside New Bedford Harbor.

Having lived in the area for over fifteen years, I have seen the damage caused by PCB's, heavy metals, hazardous waste oils and other various forms of pollution disseminating from the New Bedford Harbor and being blown in from Buzzard's Bay's prevalent Southwest winds. Over the last three years I have seen this portion of the Bay improve remarkably, however shell fishing is still banned due to pollution, which needs not be. With adequate restoration funds from the Council, the Town of Fairhaven could purchase this portion of coastline and preserve it for the benefit of fisherman, shell fisherman and for the general public that wishes to use the beach. Furthermore with the current cleanup of the old Atlas Tack factory, the new sewerage treatment plant and your help, this land will only increase in value and could become an ideal area for aqua-culture and student research.

We urge you to continue your support of this project and to ensure that the grant amount awarded will accomplish it's purpose. This is a very worthy project and should meet the criteria of how your PCB restoration monies are spent.

Thank you for your careful consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

SeaTech, a div of Satkin Ind.

Victor F. Satkin  
President



62 Highland Ave  
Fairhaven, MA 02719

Mr. Jack Terrill, Coordinator  
New Bedford Harbor Trust Council  
37 N. Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
July 21, 2000

Dear Mr. Terrill:

This is to support two of the preferred alternatives as described in the Round II - Restoration Ideas Environmental Assessment Draft, specifically Project 2.3.4.2.1 Popes Beach Land Portion (Northern Portion) and Project 2.3.4.2.2 Popes Beach (Southern Portion).

Purchasing these two waterfront areas with restoration funds meets the criteria for expenditure of these funds. Investment of these funds in this area together with the project to clean up the Atlas Tack Company area will halt further pollution, promote this section of shoreline as a light impact public recreation area and cause it to become once again healthy environment for shellfish, waterfowl and people.

However, the amount of monies recommended for the purchase of the Northern Portion and the Southern Portion, \$55,000 and \$145,000 respectively, may not be enough to achieve the desired objective, considering the increase in property values in today's real estate market.

Since the Northern portion does include environmentally protected flora, is extremely near to designated wetlands, and consists of sand and dunes, the present owners may not realize that the property may be unbuildable. This would certainly affect the value.

In the interests of saving an otherwise natural environment from further pollution, providing a safe habitat for marine life, and making available for future generations the enjoyment of a section of coastline that could otherwise become the private domain of a privileged few, I encourage your decision to purchase these properties and to provide sufficient funds to do so.

Yours truly,



Robert W. Cook

Cc: Jeffrey Osuch, Fairhaven Executive Secretary  
Daniel Fortier, Chairman, Fairhaven Town Planning Board

48 Highland Ave.  
50 Highland Ave.

Harbor Trust Council:

We are writing to support projects 2,3,4,2,1 Popes Beach Land Purchase and 2,3,4,2,2 Popes Beach Land Purchase Southern Beach in the town of Fairhaven.

The value of these properties has increased dramatically in the last couple of years. We feel the purchase of these properties is very worthwhile.

Please help preserve our valuable and fragile coastline.

Sincerely,

*Elizabeth Rey*

*Ernest Aye*

*Kevin Felling*

*Patricia Hart*

61 Bayview Avenue  
Fairhaven, MA 02719  
July 12, 2000

Harbor Trust Council  
37 N. Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

To: Members of the Harbor Trust Council

We are writing in support of Projects 2.3.4.2.1 Popes Beach Land Purchase (Northern Portion) and 2.3.4.2.2 Popes Beach Land Purchase (Southern Portion) in the town of Fairhaven. We appreciate your support of these projects in Round 1. However, we feel the grant monies recommended (\$55,000 for the Northern Portion and \$145,000 for the Southern Portion) are too low as the value of land in Fairhaven on or near the water has increased dramatically in the last two years.

We feel the purchase of these properties is very worthy and satisfies the criteria of how the grant monies should be utilized. This land borders the New Bedford outer harbor on Sconticut Neck and was contaminated by PCB's, heavy metals and other toxic chemicals. The purchase of this land with these restoration funds will protect this portion of the Fairhaven coastline from further pollution and help restore shellfish, birds and fish habitat and improve the water quality. At present, because of the pollution by toxic chemicals, shell fishing is banned. This particular stretch of coastline is one of the most popular areas in Southeastern Massachusetts for blue and bass fishing. Purchase of this land with grant monies will also complement the present clean-up of the former Atlas Tack Company which is proximate to the land in question. The Atlas Tack Company is presently being cleaned up by cooperative efforts of the Town of Fairhaven and the Environmental Protection Agency.

If these worthy restoration ideas are funded by the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Fund, it will forever preserve this valuable and fragile coastline for public access to the ocean.

**Thank you for consideration of this very important matter.**

**Sincerely,**

**Augustine Silveira, Jr., Ph.D., Sc.D. (Hon.)**

*Augustine Silveira, Jr.  
Beverly A. Silveira*

**Beverly A. Silveira**

**cc: Daniel Fortier, Chair, Fairhaven Town Planning Board  
Jeffrey Osuch, Fairhaven Executive Secretary**

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
c/o National Marine Fisheries Service, F/NER4  
1 Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Comments: #29

Attention: Jack Terrill

Same Letter  
Received: 102

To: Members of the Harbor Trustee Council:

We are writing to request your consideration of coastal land acquisition in the Town of Fairhaven with restoration monies from the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Fund.

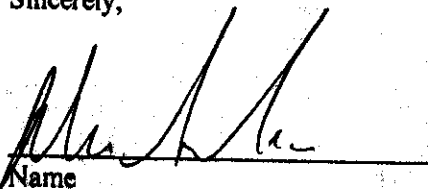
We feel the grant proposal submitted by the Town of Fairhaven to purchase waterfront beach and marsh lands west from Highland Avenue to Girl's Creek and east from Manhattan Avenue to Hathaway Street, which for many years has been used by the public as a beach, is very worthy and satisfies the criteria of how these monies should be utilized. This land borders the New Bedford outer harbor on Sconticut Neck which was contaminated by PCB's heavy metals and other toxic chemicals by Cornell Dubilier and Aerovox Corporation.

The purchase of this land with these restoration funds by the Fairhaven Conservation Commission will protect this portion of the Fairhaven coastline from further pollution and help restore shellfish, birds, fish habitat and improve the water quality. At present, because of the pollution by toxic chemicals, shell fishing is banned. This particular stretch of coastline is one of the most popular areas in Southeastern Massachusetts for blue and bass fishing. Purchase of this land with grant monies will also complement the present cleanup of the former Atlas Tack Company which is proximate to the land in question. The Atlas Tack Company is presently being cleaned up by cooperative efforts of the Town of Fairhaven and the Environmental Protection Agency.

If this worthy grant proposal is funded by the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Fund and the land is purchased by the Town of Fairhaven, it will forever preserve this valuable and fragile coastline for the public.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important matter.

Sincerely,

  
Name

25 Harwood St  
Address

Fairhaven MA 02719  
City/Town State Zip Code

AUG 3 2000



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**TOWN OF ACUSHNET**  
122 MAIN STREET, ACUSHNET, MA 02743  
OFFICE OF THE  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
DAVID E. WOJNAR  
PETER W. KOZERA  
ROBERT J. ST. JEAN

ALAN G. COUTINHO  
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

TELEPHONE (508) 998-0200  
FAX (508) 998-0203  
<http://www.acushnet.ma.us>

Comments: #38

August 23, 2000

Jack Terrill, Coordinator  
Harbor Trustees Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

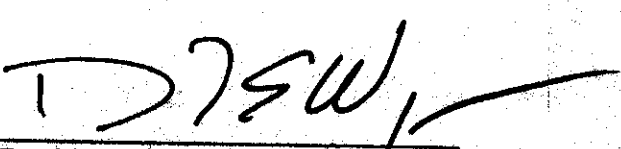
Dear Mr. Terrill:

Please be informed that the Acushnet Board of Selectmen are in full support of the Hands Across the River's grant application for \$675,000.00, which will be used to acquire the property that is currently owned by Riverside Auto Wrecking.

This parcel would be a great asset to the town and the regional area for so many reasons. The first being that this would allow our town feasible access to the Acushnet River. The second being that this acquisition would give the Town the ability to use the existing natural estuary to raise awareness for environmentally sensitive areas using research and educational programs with local schools and organizations. This would foster an environment to enable future protection of these valuable areas.

We hope you look favorably upon this request and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
David E. Wojnar, Chairman  
Acushnet Board of Selectmen

cc: Hands Across the River

Aug 31 2000

August 24, 2000

Comments: #44

FROM:

MANUEL FARIA  
653 Brook Ave  
New Bedford Mass 02744

Same Letter  
Received: 26

TO: New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930-2298

RE: Regional Shellfish Grow-Out Up-Well Proposal

Sir,

I am submitting this communication in support of the Regional Shellfish Restoration Committees proposal to use restoration funds for a shellfish grow-out Up-well system.

Sincerely,

*Manuel Faria*

AUG 28 2000



PO Box 1706  
New Bedford, MA 02741

Comments: #8,9,52,59

July 26, 2000

Mr. Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
c/o National Marine Fisheries Service  
1 Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

JUL 28 2000

Dear Mr. Terrill and Trustees:

I am submitting my formal comments in regard to the non-preference for funding of NBH2-25, Landing and Recreational Facilities on Palmers Island. Since I have appeared and spoken before every one of your public meetings I won't belabor this issue. I have appreciated your time, interest, and patience, but please accept these final comments.

As I once again go by Palmers Island on my harbor tours and point out "that the master plan for the harbor calls for this island, a great natural resource, to be a green area, an open space, with nature trails; a place for people to go and relax, and to take in the panorama of this great working waterfront", it is most disappointing to know that we are no closer to making this a reality than we were last year at this time.

This harbor and this island needs to be opened up and made accessible to our citizens. My hands on experience of taking local residents on tours of this harbor tells me that they are completely divorced from the greatest asset that New Bedford has- our harbor. Whether this was from the image that PCB contamination created or from whatever else, I don't know, but they have a right to be able to use this harbor, and Palmers Island is a great place to start.

I was disappointed that in your review you had "concerns that the project would primarily benefit a commercial entity". I am sorry that my proactive persistence created the impression that only the water taxi business would benefit from this. The overwhelming benefit would obviously belong to all those who utilize the island, the same as those who benefit from using the Boston Harbor Islands. Both the State and Federal Governments endorse the use of water taxis, to the point of subsidizing them.

Maybe my pleas would have been better received if I had worn my hat as the facilitator of the Waterfront Community Forum, a group that I formed last November "to reconnect our citizens to our harbor and waterways". This group is comprised of about thirty stakeholders on the harbor, from the fishing industry to the Harbor Development Commission and meet monthly to discuss where we are going with this harbor. This group has become the main mouthpiece representing the waterfront community and has recently taken a seat on the Regional Community Congress.

This project dovetails well with NBH2-20 Harbor Open Space Public Access Study Phase 2/Implementation, as well as your desire to fund Marsh Island. The problem that I see with Marsh Island, as it now exists, is that it is under private ownership, with major access problems (parking etc.). Certainly any restoration improvements made to Palmers Island would enhance Mayor Kalitz's initiative in restoring Palmers Island Lighthouse last Summer. As I also point out on the tour, the relighting of this 150 year old lighthouse certainly "signals" the great renaissance going on in New Bedford. With the Council's assistance, this renaissance could take another major step forward.

My suggestion is to allocate a portion of the \$750,000 to all three projects. This would allow a planning effort to go forth on Open Space, answer your concerns on landing facilities on Palmers Island, and if manageable, have Palmers Island open to the public next Spring. With a relatively minimal amount of funding, this natural resource would become available to the greatest number of people, and would be a first hand reminder of the role that the Council is playing in the restoration of this harbor. Thank you for again allowing me to put forth my thoughts on this project.

Sincerely,



Jeff Pontiff

Applicant NBH2-25

cc: Mayor Frederick Kalitz, City of New Bedford  
David Kennedy, New Bedford City Planner  
Arthur Motta, Director of Tourism, City of New Bedford  
John Simpson, Executive Director, Harbor Development Commission  
Tony Souza, Chairman, Harbor Master Plan and Open Space Committees



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

Comments: #53

**WILLIAM M. STRAUS**  
**REPRESENTATIVE**  
10TH BRISTOL DISTRICT  
TEL. (508) 992-1270

LEGISLATIVE AIDE  
STEPHEN SYLVIA

Committees:  
Transportation (Vice-Chairman)  
Health Care and Administration  
Natural Resources and Agriculture

ROOM 162, STATE HOUSE  
TEL. (617) 722-2040

E-Mail:  
Rep.WilliamStraus@house.state.ma.us

July 21, 2000

**Mr. Jack Terrill**  
**New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council**  
**One Blackburn Drive**  
**Gloucester, MA 01930-2298**

Dear Mr. Terrill,

I am writing in support of Fairhaven Fisheries Institute, Inc. Striped Bass Project Proposal, which has been submitted to the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council. This project is vital in helping to restore the saltwater fish population that was negatively affected by polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination of New Bedford Harbor.

The Striped Bass Project proposes that saltwater fish be cultured in an upland facility and made available for stocking an envisioned research and demonstration local mariculture farm. The land-based facility would provide the opportunity for demonstration, research and handicap-accessible education during the upcoming school year.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

**William Straus**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

JUL 25 2000



# City of New Bedford

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Comments: #53

**FREDERICK M. KALISZ, JR.**

**Mayor**

July 31, 2000

New Bedford Harbor  
Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Councillors,

In addition to the various projects I have asked the New Bedford Harbor Trustees Council to consider funding, I write to lend my support to the request of the Fairhaven Fisheries Institute, Inc. for its Striped Bass Project.

As has been outlined in the Project Idea Summary submitted to the Council, the Striped Bass Project proposes that saltwater fish be cultured in an upland facility for the purpose of stocking a research and educational farm.

Your consideration of the Fairhaven Fisheries Institute, Inc. application is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Frederick M. Kalisz, Jr.  
Mayor

cc: Robert J. Oliveira  
35 Rodman Street  
Fairhaven, MA 02719

BARNEY FRANK  
*11th District Massachusetts*

2210 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2104  
(202) 225-5931

29 CRAFTS STREET  
SUITE 375  
NEWTON, MA 02458  
(617) 332-3920

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC**

August 22, 2000

558 PLEASANT STREET  
ROOM 309  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
(508) 999-6462

222 MILLIKEN PLACE  
THIRD FLOOR  
FALL RIVER, MA 02721  
(508) 674-3551

89 MAIN STREET  
BRIDGEWATER, MA 02324  
(508) 697-9403

Comments: #53

**The New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council**  
**1 Blackburn Drive**  
**Gloucester, Massachusetts 01930**

Dear Trustees,

I write to express my hope that you will find some way to fund the aquaculture project which was submitted to you by Mr. Robert Olivera. I recognize that you have found this to be outside your guidelines, but I believe for reasons I have previously expressed that the broadest and most expansive possible interpretation of the guidelines is in the public interest. Dealing with a water based site presents in many cases questions that have not previously been resolved, and if things are generally going to produce a beneficial result in the harbor, I would hope you would be strongly inclined to find some way to be supportive. I believe Mr. Olivera has made a reasonable case that the PCB contamination had a negative effect on the prospect of aquaculture, and thus funding for his project does seem to me capable of being brought within your guidelines. I urge you to reconsider your rejection of this position.

  
BARNEY FRANK

AUG 28 2000

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION  
FOREIGN RELATIONS  
INTELLIGENCE  
SMALL BUSINESS

Comments: #53

August 25, 2000

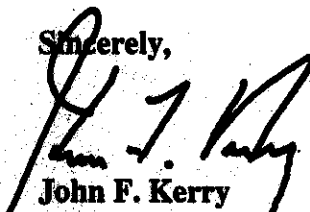
**New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298**

Dear Council Members,

I write to you in support of the proposal made by the Fairhaven Fisheries Institute through the New Bedford Harbor Superfund program. The Institute's proposal, the Striped Bass Project, envisions a thriving aquaculture facility replete with educational and research opportunities. It is particularly encouraging that the Project intends to reclaim abandoned structures and, in addition, employ several hundred residents.

I respectfully request the Council to consider the Striped Bass Project as a forward-thinking course of action in the reclamation of New Bedford Harbor. Please contact me with any questions you may have regarding my endorsement of this proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry  
United States Senator

cc: **Mr. Robert Olivera, Director, Fairhaven Fisheries Institute**

AUG 28 2000

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

421 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-2742

ONE BOWDOIN SQUARE  
BOSTON, MA 02114  
(617) 565-8519

222 MILLIKEN PLACE  
SUITE 311  
FALL RIVER, MA 02722  
(508) 677-0522

145 STATE STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01103  
(413) 785-4810

90 MADISON PLACE  
SUITE 205  
WORCESTER, MA 01608  
(508) 831-7380

email: [john\\_kerry@kerry.senate.gov](mailto:john_kerry@kerry.senate.gov)  
www: <http://www.senate.gov/~kerry/>

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

August 25, 2000

Comments upon NBHTC Environmental Assessment-Rou  
2.3.5.3.1 Striped Bass Project

Comments: #54

The Striped Bass Project proposes that saltwater fish be cultured in an upland facility and made available for stocking an envisioned research and demonstration local mariculture educational farm. The land-based facility would provide the opportunity for demonstration, research and handicap-accessible education during the upcoming school year. Suitable water must be brought to the facility because the treatment of PCB and heavy metal contaminated New Bedford Harbor water would be very expensive.

We maintain that the injury to the natural resource, the water of New Bedford Harbor, is relevant to whatever species of finfish chosen to be cultured here in saltwater. Fairhaven Fisheries Institute has informed the Harbor Trustee Council at public hearings and in written comments that we were prepared to culture and release any species of finfish and in whatever quantity the Council deemed most apt. Based upon a study we performed for the New Bedford Corp. in 1995-'96; we concluded that the culture of striped bass would, however, have the most likelihood of success locally.

An assessment of the physical and chemical environment of local waters and competing uses produced the conclusion, which we incorporated into a GIS format, that there is adequate space for the employment of over 250 people directly in local mariculture. The majority of jobs in the land-based facility would be filled by local residents.

Fairhaven Fisheries Institute, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) research and educational community economic development corporation, publicly supported, with a representative governing body organized to benefit the New Bedford/Fairhaven area. Since 1994, we have collaborated on aquacultural initiatives with several educational institutions including University of Mass., University of Maryland, Memorial University in Newfoundland, and Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational and Technical High School.


AUG 28 2000

Early in the scoping process, at the Oct. 26, 1999 public hearing, it was the apparent disinclination of the Trustees to be supportive of the concept of generating matching funds through sale of a portion of the cultured fish, being as it was outside the HTC's mandate, that prompted me to affirm our willingness to release all of the fish for stock enhancement that we produced with HTC funding. The project's primary purpose is not "the raising of fish to be sold to restaurants for consumption" as stated in the "Rationale for Non-preference" in the Round II Draft EA. Sale of the fish was merely an adjunct to the Striped Bass Project.

The preliminary phase of this project will enable us to reassemble a staff of experienced aquaculturists and marine science educators, right away. Equipment necessary to begin the culture of marine fish, e.g. four 300-gallon tanks, pumps and testing equipment, has been donated and is available, right now. Through our already established Web Site, our program of distributing virtual reality aquaria and fish collecting CD-ROMs free to local families, and our experience as video producers, we are ready to begin multimedia educational outreach in furtherance of the NBHTC's goals, immediately.

We are experienced in live fish transport and grow-out. Already, we have a good working relationship with aquaculturists, educational institutions, governmental entities, and the people of the New Bedford area. Since we utilize recirculating aquaculture systems, there will be no effluent released from the facility.

We request that the original preliminary classification of the Striped Bass Project as a Non-preferred Alternative be revisited and that a grant be made available for this project in this round of funding.

  
Robert J. Olivera, Director  
Fairhaven Fisheries Institute



December 4, 1999

Comments upon second round ideas for the restoration of the New Bedford/  
Fairhaven Harbor Environment

My support for the concepts of tern and shellfish restoration can be found at page 10-57 of the RP/EIS.

I support the idea of Dr. Debra Ellis for bioremediation of PCBs by micro-organisms in wetland sediments. In a personal communication with her, we were in agreement that this project has potential to provide long-term financial benefits to the New Bedford/Fairhaven Harbor's seafood industry. We concur that functioning micronutrients and antigens are beneficial to the health of the fish and shellfish that inhabit estuaries; that shellfish relays and finfish grow-out maricultural activities have increased success when acclimatization has taken place in the presence of these substances. I support the role of CMAST and the Biology Dept. of U. of Mass, Dartmouth, in this project.

I affirm the relevance of utilizing these components of the university to address local conditions. Beginning in 1994, when Chancellor Cressy of U. of Mass., Dartmouth, pledged that all the resources of the institution would be at the disposal of Fairhaven Fisheries Institute, Inc., we have had recourse to these entities for scientific and institutional support. For several years, they provided us with office space and equipment: FFI received its mail, phone and fax messages there: they helped us to submit grant proposals and offered, at reduced rates, to provide financial administration to grants that FFI obtained. They recognized the advantages of collaboration with a highly flexible, not encumbered with an unwieldy bureaucracy, local marine science and technology nonprofit to address the area's needs. This remains an opportune strategy for dealing with some of the issues relating to New Bedford/Fairhaven Harbor.

This responsiveness of FFI was demonstrated at the Oct.26 meeting of the HTC. Trustee Michael Bartlett questioned me about the ultimate disposition of the stripers we would be culturing. Although our plan envisions the release of only a few fish into the wild for research and educational purposes, I indicated to the Council that we would be prepared to release for stock enhancement whatever quantity they recommend.

Although stripers are not an endangered species or considered to be subject to a rate of fishing which would lead to collapse of the stock, problems with the fishery are still apparent. The Striped Bass Policy Board of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission decided on Oct.7,1999 to require states reduce mortality on age 8 and older stripers by 14% in the year 2000. The ASMFC Striped Bass Technical Committee found that the total weight of fish that compose the spawning stock decreased and the species has been subject to a harvest rate which equals "over-fishing", according to the Fisheries Management Plan, for the last 2 years. The Commonwealth allowed commercial fishing for stripers of 28 days in 1998 and 40 days this year. Dealers were only allowed to sell striped bass for 40 days in 1998 and 77 days this year. Aquaculture is relevant in this situation.

The water of New Bedford/Fairhaven Harbor lacks in suitability for the aquaculture of finfish for human consumption as the result of pollution by PCBs.

New Bedford has over 8,000,000 square feet of empty factory space. New Bedford/Fairhaven Harbor's saltwater cannot, typically, be used to culture finfish for human consumption in the manner common to comparable estuaries. This depresses the worth of this factory space, provides economic disincentives to the development of local aquaculture, negatively affects the availability of local investment capital; furthermore, fishers, fish processors and distributors, restaurateurs and others here are negatively affected.

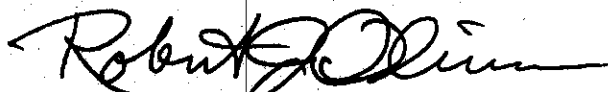
The aquaculture policy of the Dept. of Commerce was given approval last August, outlining its commitment to work with stakeholders to create a "business climate and technological base for industry to develop environmentally sound aquaculture". Among the plan's stated objectives is increasing U.S. production to \$5 billion per year from the present \$900 million and increasing employment to 600,000 from today's 180,000. This from the Special Counsel for Natural Resources, DOC, seems apt, "A resource trustee has a responsibility for those who depend upon the fisheries for commercial fishing and the coastal areas for tourism and recreation based business."

Past shellfish enhancement here has often resulted in a boom and bust in-shore fishery. By allowing local fishers to supplement their income with aquaculture, the Council's goals will be furthered, human predation should decrease, and an environmental ethic can be fostered among individuals with a powerful economic rationale for clean local waters.

This from the proposed N.B. Aquarium's idea is pertinent:

In the New Bedford Harbor case, state and federal trustees relied almost entirely on the loss of services in their assessment of natural resource damages against responsible parties. Indeed, the sovereigns persuaded the Court to exclude evidence of the actual effects of PCBs on the viability of fish and wildlife.... Instead, the sovereigns based their case on the fact that PCB contamination rendered the fish unfit for human consumption. In other words, the focus was not injury to the fish, but rather on the potential injury to the people who might eat the fish or earn their living catching and selling the fish.

This PCB contaminated water is the reason we ask the HTC for funding.



Robert J. Olivera, Director  
Fairhaven Fisheries Institute

**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2101

Comments: #53

August 28, 2000

Mr. Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Terrill:

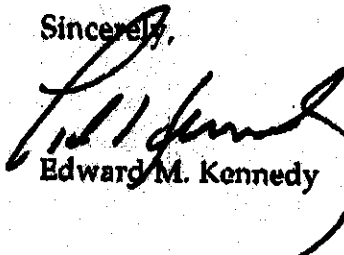
I am writing to you in regards to the Fairhaven Fisheries Institute's Striped Bass Project and their proposal for funding which has been submitted to the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council.

The Fairhaven Fisheries Institute (FFI) was formed to benefit the local harbors, preserve fish and their habitat, and to promote fisheries science. FFI has taken part in numerous projects in the past with the University of Massachusetts, the University of Maryland, and Memorial University in Newfoundland.

The aim of the Striped Bass Project is to cultivate striped bass and other saltwater fish for stock enhancement in New Bedford Harbor. In addition to restoring certain species of saltwater fish, FFI would run "tag and release" educational programs that would promote the understanding of the effect of pollution on New Bedford Harbor and its habitat.

I urge you to give the Fairhaven Fisheries Institute's proposal every consideration.

Sincerely,



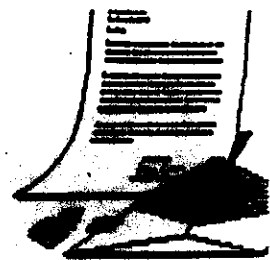
Edward M. Kennedy

AUG 28 2000

# FRANK CYGANOWSKI

52 Cedar Street  
Fairhaven, MA 02719

TEL. 508.993-0513 August 02. 2000



MR JACK TERRILL, Council Coordinator  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 N. Second Street  
New Bedford, MA. 02740

Comments: #55

Dear Mr Terrill and Council Members:

In answer to your request for comments, I offer you the following. A very interesting report about PCBs in the Chesapeake Bay as reported in the National Marine Fisheries Service's "Marine Fisheries Revue" dated February 1980. As described, PCBs are bi-phenyl crystals which have been impregnated with Chlorine. The crystals themselves are harmless, it is chlorine which makes them dangerous. The enclosed report states they have low water solubility. In effect the chlorine is "bottled" in the crystals which have to be ingested to be harmful. PCBs are a marketable product, expensive to make and were not thrown away indiscriminately. During the manufacturing process, any PCBs that fell to the floor were washed into floor drains that eventually exited into the Acushnet River via the sewer pipes. PCBs sink to the bottom and in time get buried in the silt on the river bottom. There-fore they are toxic only to sea worms that have to ingest the PCBs to be harmed by them. The fish and shellfish in the Chesapeake Bay had a very low content of PCBs. The damage done to fish and shellfish, as in the Acushnet River, was done by free chlorine accompanying a steady flow of sewer discharges over many years by New Bedford and Fairhaven into the inner and outer harbors. Since chlorine was first discharged into the harbor, eelgrass was the first to go, followed by oysters and scallops which couldn't spawn successfully because chlorine kills the larvae. Last Friday evening on the Dan Rather CBS evening news, they showed new types of sea-grasses that have proliferated in California's coastal waters and are choking off other Flora and Fauna. The remedy which will be used to kill off the grasses? "CHLORINE". Fairhaven continues to dump chlorinated and other chemicals in its outflow from their sewer plant. New Bedford dumps the same chemicals into the outer harbor in it's sewer discharge. The tides carry the discharged water north for six hours and then, south for six hours during which time the discharges from both sewer plants mingle (see accompanying chart).

(2)

Each cycle increases the chlorine content of the river because the Buzzards Bay currents contact very little of the Fairhaven discharges and only about half of the New Bedford discharges. (See green dots on chart)

The judge decreed that the money in question be used to repair the damage done to the harbor by PCBs but the toxic chemical (chlorine) that does the damage to the fish environment is locked in bi-phenyls. It's the free chlorine being discharged into the river daily that is doing the damage. There should be the necessary money spent on the Fairhaven and New Bedford sewer plants to equip them with ultra-violet disinfection of the effluent instead of chlorine to clean up the harbor.

The aquarium will be using 1.6 million gallons of water for the fish to swim in and we must remember that fish also defecate and urinate and expectorate and regurgitate, not to mention the distribution of uneaten food which will eventually contaminate the water. How do they intend to purify the water? CHLORINE? What good will planting eelgrass and shellfish in the harbor do if the same chemicals that killed the original Flora and Fauna are continued in use?? Forget the politics. Do what the judge said to do. Repair the damage done to local waters by chlorine by eliminating chlorine.

Respectfully yours,

*Frank Cyganowski*  
Frank Cyganowski

# Polychlorinated Biphenyls in Fish and Shellfish of the Chesapeake Bay

MAX EISENBERG, REBA MALLMAN,  
and HASKELL S. TUBIASH

## Introduction

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) were first synthesized in 1881 and prepared commercially in 1930 when physical characteristics and potential industrial applications were described (Standen, 1964). Since then they have been universally employed and highly regarded for their wide spectrum of useful chemical and physical properties, including low vapor pressure at ambient temperatures, resistance to combustion, remarkable chemical stability, high dielectric constant, high specific electrical resistivity, low water solubility, and high lipid solubility.

PCB's are synthesized commercially by controlled chlorination of biphenyls with anhydrous  $\text{Cl}_2$  in the presence of iron filings or  $\text{FeCl}_3$  as a catalyst, yielding a mixture of PCB's and HCl. The

Max Eisenberg is Acting Director of the Environmental Health Administration, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Baltimore, MD 21201; Haskell S. Tubiash is with the Toxic Substances Control Program of the Administration; and Reba Mallman (retired) was with the Pesticide Laboratory, Laboratories Administration, Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

**ABSTRACT.**—Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) are a class of persistent, highly stable, almost universally distributed toxic industrial chemicals with an affinity for fatty tissues of terrestrial and aquatic animals. Their use other than in closed-system electrical applications, such as transformers

and capacitors, is banned in the United States. In 1976, a survey of approximately 300 samples of mollusks and finfishes from 100 stations in the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries revealed no instances of PCB levels exceeding or approaching generally accepted safe levels.

PCB's are identified by a four digit numbering code, the first two digits representing the molecular type, while the last two digits give the weight percent of chlorine (Fig. 1). Thus Aroclor 1254 (Monsanto)<sup>1</sup>, is a 1-2 chlorinated biphenyl containing 54 percent chlorine. The line of biphenyls available from Monsanto, for example, ranged from 21 to 68 percent chlorine. Two hundred nine possible chlorobiphenyl isomers exist (Mieure et al., 1976).

<sup>1</sup>Reference to trade names or commercial firms does not imply endorsement by the National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA.

concentrated as they proceed up the trophic levels of the food web, which makes them so environmentally hazardous.

As universal contaminants, PCB's have essentially the same distribution pattern as DDT. The ubiquitous presence of PCB's is partly explained by the range and diversity of their utility, which has been so extensive that scarcely anyone can or has escaped their contact.

Since 1971, the employment of PCB's has been closely restricted and at present they are principally used in "closed-system" transformers and capacitors. But prior to 1971, approximately 40 percent of U.S. PCB production went into such "open" applications as plasticizers, hydraulic fluids, lubricants, sealants, and adhesives; as laminates in the fabrication of safety glass, ceramics, and metals; and as additives in paints, varnishes, putties, and

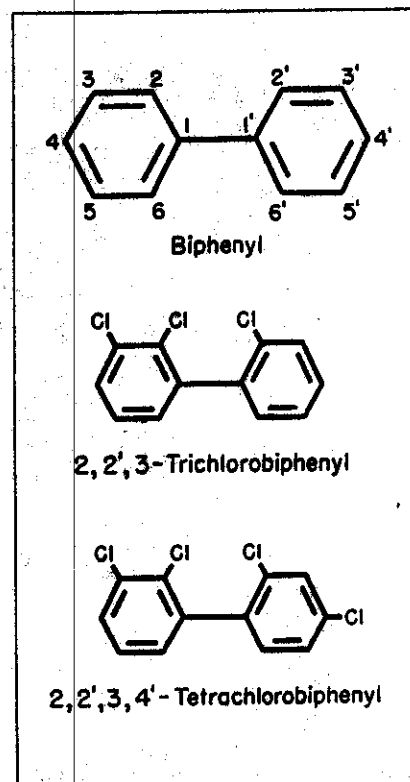


Figure 1.—Numbering system for biphenyl structure (from Mieure et al., 1976).

caulking compounds. They were incorporated into washable wall coverings and upholstery materials, and were widely used for flame- and water-proofing canvas and synthetic yarns.

After serving such expendable uses, such PCB's became (and continue to become) "lost" into the environment where they infiltrate the biosphere and continue to resist degradation. Since PCB's were used extensively in printing inks and dye microencapsulation for carbonless duplicating papers, these persistent agents thereby still find a ready entry into recycled paper and paper products.

As chemical toxicants, PCB's are unique since, unlike most other persistent contaminants (i.e., pesticides), they were never consciously distributed into the environment.

### Effects on Humans

The deleterious effects of PCB's on human health became evident in 1968 when a Japanese rice oil became massively contaminated with PCB leaking through a defective heat exchanger (Kuratsume, 1976). Over 1,000 clinical cases of the new disease called "kanemi yusho" (literally "oil disease") occurred with an estimated sub-clinical exposure of up to 15,000 subjects. In this episode involving Kanechlor 400, a Japanese manufactured PCB, the average clinical case ingested about 2,000 mg of PCB. It was estimated that the minimum dose for breaching the clinical horizon was 500 mg ingested over 50 days—approximately 200  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  body weight per day (Higuchi, 1976; Kuratsume, 1976).

Four stages of the disease were identified: latent, visceral, manifest, and delayed. The latent stage was asymptomatic in the adult, but PCB entered the tissues and, in lactating mothers, was transferred to nursing infants via the milk. Dark pigmentation of the infants' nail beds and mucus membranes of the eyes were signs of latent contamination.

In the visceral stage, victims experienced nausea, vomiting, and weak to mild jaundice with coughing and bronchitis. The manifest stage was charac-

terized by dermatological signs with dark pigmentation of skin and nails, runny eyes, hair loss, numbness of extremities, dizziness, and some long-range chronic effects.

In the delayed or tardy stage, the pathologic signs and symptoms remained latent for up to 3 years following the rice oil incident.

As awareness of the Japanese episode spread through the medical and scientific community, PCB's were identified as cosmopolitan contaminants in air, water, animal, and human tissues, where they show an affinity for and accumulate in fats.

### PCB Control

During the intervening years, Federal and State legislation has increasingly restricted the use of PCB's with the objective being ultimate elimination. Their use in other than limited closed systems (capacitors and transformers) is presently banned and disposal of existing PCB stocks is closely regulated by Federal and State laws. PCB levels in terrestrial, aquatic, and marine ecosystems and their biota are being monitored routinely by State and Federal agencies.

Maryland's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene includes PCB analyses among an array of parameters assayed in finfish and shellfish from the Chesapeake Bay, the Nation's largest and most productive estuary. The State of New York has a comparable program for monitoring PCB's in the Hudson River watershed and estuary (Hetling et al., 1978).

Filter-feeding bivalve mollusks are efficient concentrators of most particulate and some dissolved pollutants and heavy metals and they are sometimes employed as indicator species. Monitoring shellfish serves both to determine their safety and wholesomeness as food and to evaluate the condition of their aquatic environment.

### Materials and Methods

The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene continually monitors the edible fishes of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries for

heavy metals, chlorinated hydrocarbons, and other physical and biological parameters (Fig. 2). During 1976 approximately 300 samples of finfish and shellfish collected from 100 stations in Maryland's portion of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries were analyzed for PCB's. Shellfish were collected by tongs or dredges while finfish were taken by trawls, gill nets, or hook-and-line. Occasionally, samples were obtained on station from commercial fishermen. Mollusks were sampled on a year-round basis, and finfish were sampled as they were seasonally available.

One hundred thirty-one samples of mollusks (principally American oyster, *Crassostrea virginica*) and 146 samples of finfish—principally bluefish, *Pomatomus saltatrix*; striped bass, *Morone saxatilis*; white perch, *Morone americana*; and weakfish, *Cynoscion regalis*—were included in the study. All samples were analyzed for pesticides and heavy metals. Several miscellaneous shellfish and finfish were also analyzed, including roe samples of gravid striped bass, white perch, and yellow perch, *Perca flavescens*, and the meat of three blue crabs, *Callinectes sapidus*.

For pesticide and PCB analyses, finfish were gutted and filleted and the fillets used for extraction. Mollusks were scrubbed clean, shucked and drained, and the shell liquor discarded. In both cases approximately 200 g of meat were homogenized. For finfish 50-g and for shellfish 100-g portions of homogenate were utilized. Analytical procedures were in accordance with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) procedures (McMahon and Sawyer, 1977). Homogenates were extracted with acetonitrile. The acetonitrile extracts were diluted with water, the residues transferred to petroleum ether, and the ether put through a Florisil column<sup>2</sup> to separate the residues from the other extracted substances. Hexane was used as the first eluant to separate the PCB's from most of the other chlorinated hydrocarbons. The eluate

<sup>2</sup>10 percent DC 200 on Chromosorb WHP, 80/100 mesh; column temperature 190°C.



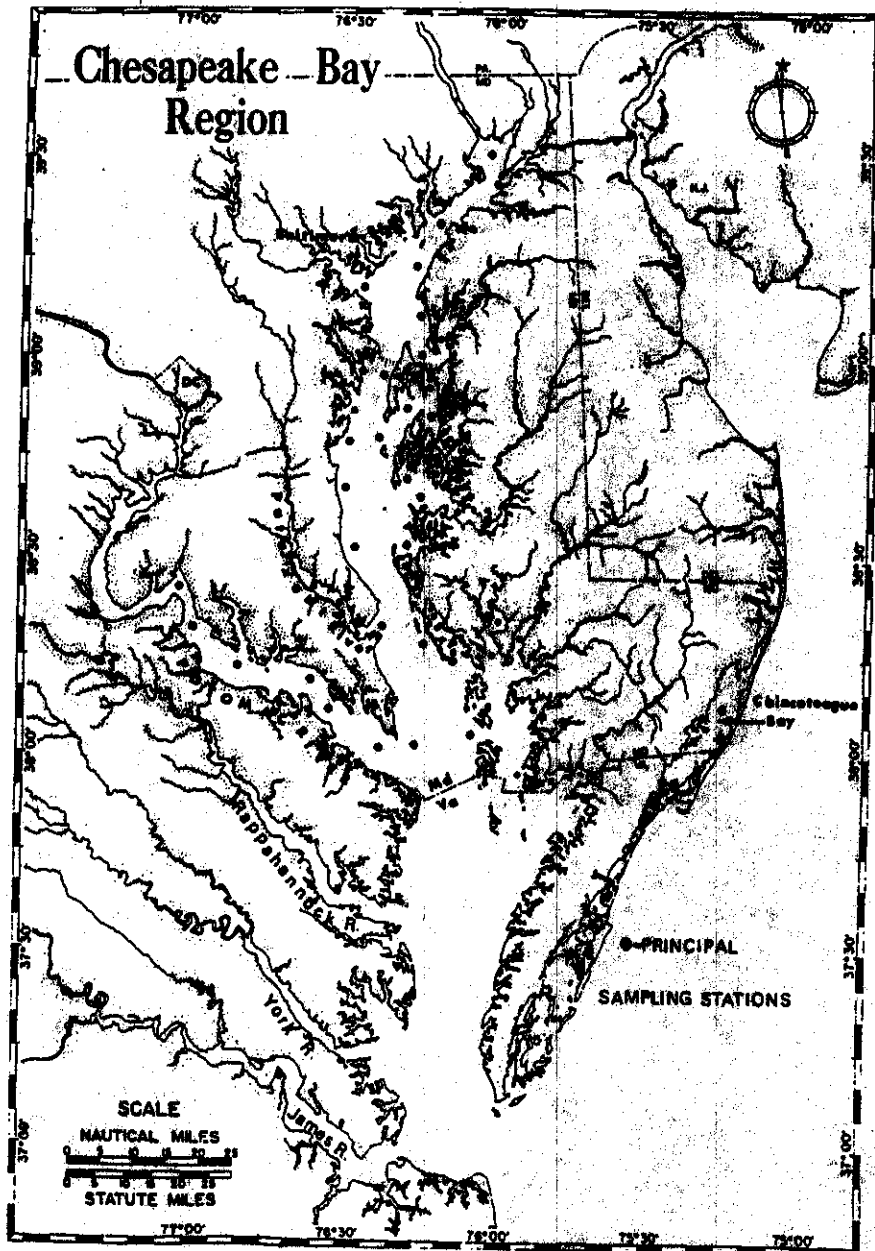


Figure 2.—Chesapeake Bay showing principal sampling stations.

was concentrated and the residues identified and quantitated on Perkin Elmer Models 900 and 3920 and Barber Coleman Model 5360 gas chromatographs equipped with  $^{63}\text{Ni}$  detectors. Retention time of peaks in the standard were matched against peaks in the sample (Fig. 3) and concentrations were calculated from height of matching peaks.

### Results

Finfish results for both PCB 1254 and 1260 are summarized in Table 1 and for shellfish in Table 2<sup>3</sup>. Combined

<sup>3</sup>Detection limits are valid to parts per billion (ppb).

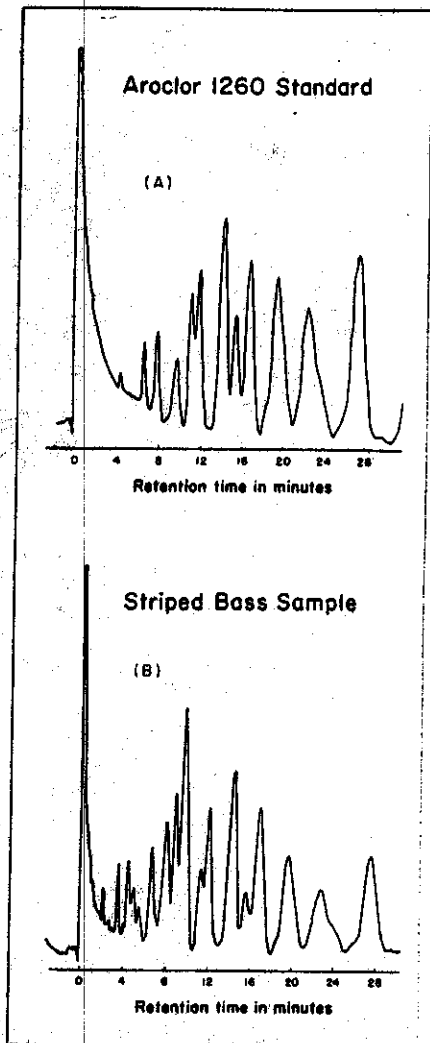


Figure 3.—Gas chromatograms of standard Aroclor 1260 (A), and of striped bass sample (B). Gas chromatography was performed on a Barber Coleman 5360 chromatograph with 10 percent DC on Chromosorb WHP (80/100 mesh) and electron capture detector ( $^{63}\text{Ni}$ ). The injection temperature was 250°C and the column temperature was 230°C.

results are listed in Table 3. In 80 finfish samples the level of PCB 1254 averaged 0.20 ppm while in 66 samples PCB 1260 showed an average concentration of 0.34 ppm. The weighted PCB's average for 146 samples tested was slightly less than 0.27 ppm, with a range of 0 to 0.98 ppm. Striped bass averaged 0.23 ppm, bluefish about 0.35

Table 1.—Maryland PCB survey of finfish, 1976.

Species and PCB	Number of samples	PCB levels (ppm)		
		Mean	Median	Range
Finfish (1254)				
Rockfish	44	0.23	0.18	0.14 to 0.38
Bluefish	2	0.32	0.32	0.31 to 0.33
Sea trout (weakfish)	12	0.05	0.05	0.02 to 0.13
White perch	13	0.21	0.24	0.19 to 0.42
Yellow perch	3	0.20	0.18	0.19 to 0.29
Pumpkinseed	1	0.35	0.35	
Mohican	1	0.49	0.49	
Channel catfish	1	0.43	0.43	
Carp	1	0.12	0.12	
Spot	1	0.07	0.07	
Flounder	1	0	0	
(1254) Averages and range	80	0.20	0.18	0 to 0.55
Finfish (1260)				
Rockfish	4	0.24	0.25	0.22 to 0.26
Bluefish	62	0.35	0.32	0.04 to 0.98
(1260) Averages and range	66	0.34	0.31	0.04 to 0.98
(Both PCB's) Averages and range		0.27	0.23	0 to 0.98

Table 2.—Maryland PCB survey of shellfish, 1976.

Species and PCB	Number of samples	PCB levels (ppm)		
		Mean	Median	Range
Shellfish (1254)				
Oysters	115	0.02	0.03	0 to 0.07
Hard Clams	3	0.02	0.02	0 to 0.03
Softshell clams	13	0.02	0.03	0 to 0.06
Averages and range	131	0.02	0.03	0 to 0.07
Shellfish (1260)				
Blue crabs	3	0.05	0.05	0.04 to 0.05

Table 4.—PCB (1260) content of finfish roe.

Species	Number of samples	PCB levels (ppm)		
		Mean	Median	Range
Rockfish (total roe)	1	2.20	2.20	2.20
White perch	1	0.33	0.33	0.33
Yellow perch	2	2.55	2.55	1.77-3.33
Average and range	4	1.90	1.98	0.33-3.38

ppm, weakfish (sea trout) 0.50 ppm, and white perch 0.21 ppm.

Bivalve mollusks had almost negligible PCB burdens, showing a mean level of 0.02 ppm in 131 samples. Oysters, the most important food resource in the Chesapeake Bay, ranged from 0 to 0.07, with an average 0.02 ppm of PCB 1254. Softshell clams, *Mya arenaria*, showed mean and median levels identical to oysters. Three blue crab, *C. sapidus*, samples tested for PCB 1260 also gave low readings with mean and median levels of 0.05 ppm. With both finfish and shellfish, no area tested in Maryland waters showed marked PCB increases above the mean or median.

Four incidental samples of fish roe were included in the study. This was insufficient to constitute a representative sample, but possibly adequate to indicate a trend (Table 4). As expected, the gametes showed appreciably elevated PCB (1260) levels as compared with somatic tissues, averaging 1.9

ppm with a range of 0.33 to 3.33. White perch roe averaged 0.33 ppm while striped bass and yellow perch averaged 2.20 and 2.55 ppm, respectively.

#### Discussion

The PCB values of finfish in our study averaged approximately 0.26 ppm, well below the present FDA limit of 5 ppm and an order of magnitude below the proposed 2 ppm standard. In 1976, Westinghouse Electric Corporation conducted a study of PCB's in the Chesapeake Bay for the Environmental Protection Agency (Munson et al., 1976). In 27 samples of striped bass

Table 3.—Maryland PCB survey of shellfish and finfish, 1976.

Species and PCB	Number of samples	PCB levels (ppm)		
		Mean	Median	Range
Shellfish (1254)				
Oysters	115	0.02	0.03	0 to 0.07
Hard clams	3	0.02	0.02	0 to 0.03
Softshell clams	13	0.02	0.03	0 to 0.06
Shellfish (1260)				
Blue crabs	3	0.05	0.05	0.04 to 0.05
Shellfish (1254 & 1260) average & range	134	0.02	0.03	0.00 to 0.07
Finfish (1254)				
Rockfish	44	0.23	0.18	0 to 0.58
Bluefish	2	0.32	0.32	0.31 to 0.32
Sea trout (weakfish)	12	0.05	0.05	0.02 to 0.13
White perch	13	0.21	0.24	0 to 0.42
Yellow perch	3	0.20	0.18	0.19 to 0.29
Pumpkinseed	1	0.35	0.35	0.35
Mohican	1	0.49	0.49	0.48
Channel catfish	1	0.43	0.43	0.43
Carp	1	0.07	0.07	0.07
Spot	1	0.07	0.07	0.07
Flounder	1	0.00	0.00	0.00
Finfish (1254) average & range	80	0.02	0.16	0.00 to 0.58
Finfish (1260)				
Rockfish	4	0.24	0.25	0.22 to 0.26
Bluefish	62	0.35	0.32	0.04 to 0.98
Finfish (1254) average & range	66	0.34	0.31	0.04 to 0.98
Finfish (1254 & 1260) average & range	146	0.26	0.26	0.00 to 0.98
Finfish roe (1260)				
Rockfish	1	2.20	2.20	
White perch	1	0.33	0.33	
Yellow perch	2	2.55	2.55	1.77 to 3.33
Finfish roe (1260) average & range	4	1.90	1.98	0.33 to 3.33

from the Maryland portion of the Chesapeake Bay, the Westinghouse study showed an average PCB burden of 0.26 ppm, an almost identical value to our findings with approximately 140 samples of mixed species.

PCB levels in Chesapeake Bay fishes determined by the Annapolis Laboratory of the Environmental Protection Agency were also in general agreement with ours (Forns<sup>4,5</sup>). Conversely, findings by New York State's ongoing PCB monitoring program indicated levels in New York's freshwater and estuarine finfishes substantially higher

<sup>4</sup>Forns, J. M. 1975. Marine biology. In T. O. Munson, D. K. Fla. and C. Rutledge (editors), Upper bay survey, final report to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, II, p. 1-35. Westinghouse Ocean Research Laboratory, Annapolis, Md.

<sup>5</sup>Forns, J. M. 1976. PCB concentrations in striped bass and eggs. Final report to EPA, No. WD6-99-0673B, 10 p. Westinghouse Ocean Research Laboratory, Annapolis, Md.

Table 5.—PCB levels in selected New York finfish, 1977.<sup>1</sup>

Location	Species	No. of samples	Average PCB levels (ppm)
Lake Ontario	Smallmouth bass	297	4.02
	Trout	20	5.30
	White perch	61	4.11
St. Lawrence River	Smallmouth bass	48	2.20
	White perch	14	5.00
Hudson River	Striped bass	116	13.68

<sup>1</sup>Derived from: New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, 1977. Monthly report on toxic substances impacting on fish. Division of Fish and Wildlife Report I, April 20, 1977, 14 p.

than some we have found (Hetting et al., 1978; Table 5). Munson et al. (1976) found that Virginia samples were generally higher than those from the Maryland portion of Chesapeake Bay.

The PCB in bivalve mollusks was predominantly compound 1254 and in the decapod crustacean blue crabs it was mainly formula 1260. In the finfish 1254 was also predominant, except for bluefish, where 1260 again prevailed

(Tables 1-3). Munson et al. (1976) found PCB 1254 predominant in Maryland fishes while 1260 predominated in the Virginia portion of the Bay. However, regardless of geographic origin, the predominant PCB in finfish was 1260, again in accordance with our findings (Table 4).

The current FDA tolerance or "action level" for PCB's in finfish is 5 ppm. Barring drastic, unanticipated increases in concentrations, PCB's in edible fishes from the Chesapeake Bay should remain far below existing or proposed maximum permissible levels. Preliminary data from our 1978 Chesapeake Bay survey show no significant variations for the results reported here.

#### Acknowledgments

The authors are grateful to personnel in the Environmental Health Administration and the Laboratories Administration of the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene for sample collection and analysis. We thank

Hardy I. Chou of the Laboratories Administration for editorial review.

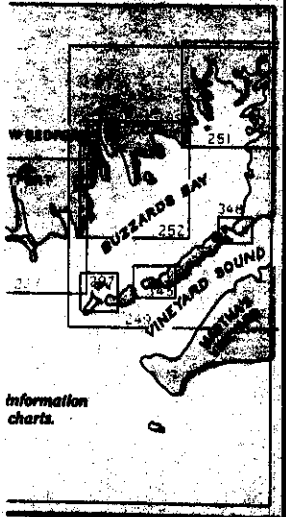
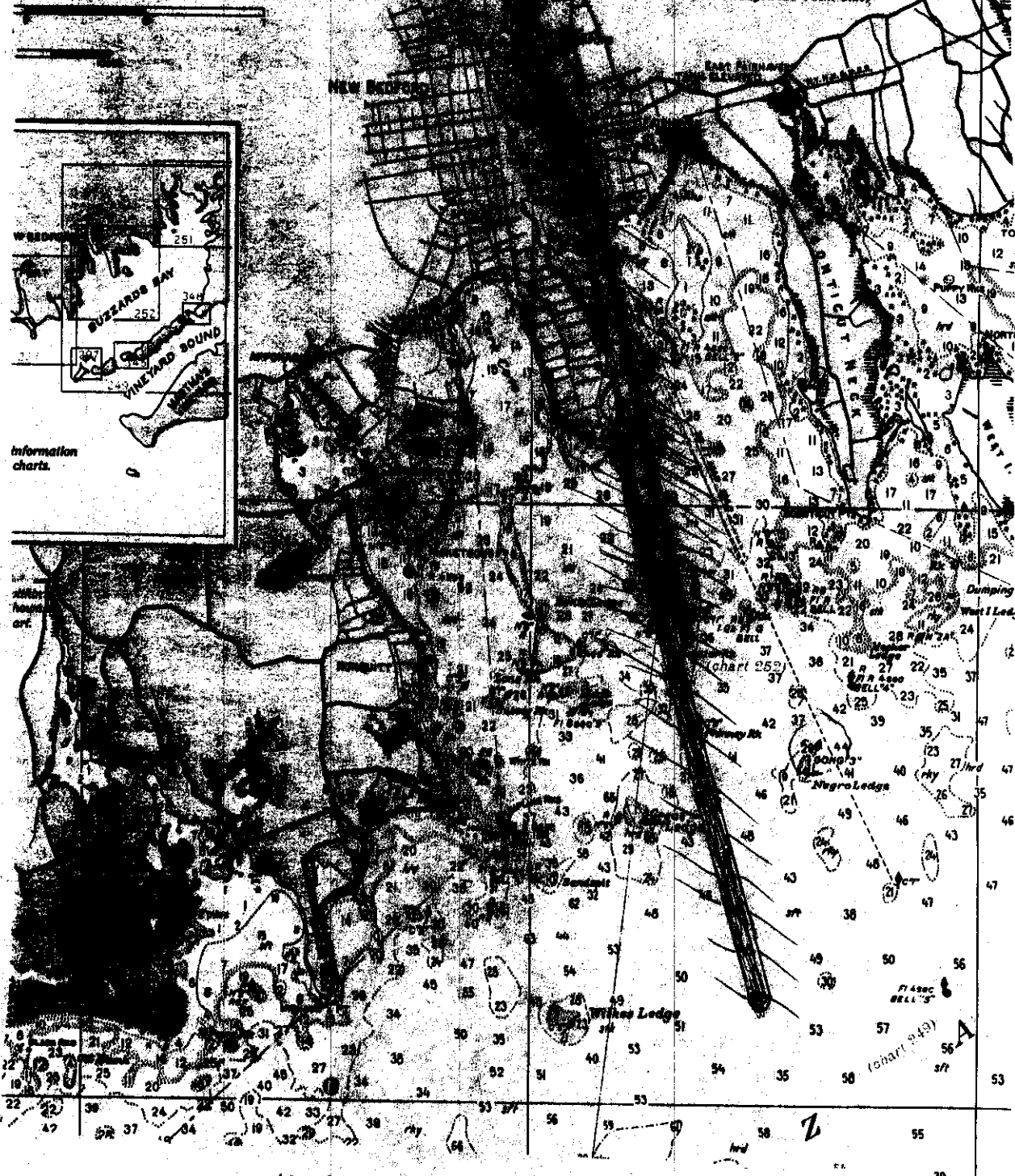
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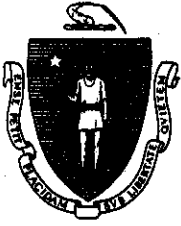
Scale 80000

SOUNDINGS IN FEET  
AT MEAN LOW WATER

**STORM WARNINGS**  
The U. S. Weather Bureau displays storm warnings at  
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Farquhar Cove, Mass.  
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Pittsfield, Mass.  
Southwester, R. I.  
Point Judith, R. I. (U. S. Coast Guard)  
Newport, R. I. (N. Y. Yacht Club) (May 15 - Nov. 15)  
Block Island, R. I.  
Wickford, R. I.  
Cranston, R. I. (Edgewood Yacht Club)



1942 CHART



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



DIVISION OF RESOURCE CONSERVATION  
 100 CAMBRIDGE STREET, BOSTON, MA 02202  
 PHONE 617-727-3160 FAX 617-727-2630  
 www.state.ma.us/dem/

Comments: #56

May 3, 2000

Argeo Paul Cellucci  
 GOVERNOR

Jane Swift  
 LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Bob Durand  
 SECRETARY

Peter C. Webber  
 COMMISSIONER

Mr. Jack Terrill  
 New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
 37 North Second Street  
 New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Terrill:

I am writing to support reconsideration of a proposal presented by the Schooner ERNESTINA Commission in partnership with the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission requesting \$225,000 to plan and design a public outreach and educational facility on the southwest corner of the New Bedford State Pier. Both the New Bedford Harbor Master Plan and the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Master Plan recommend development of a facility on the southwest corner of New Bedford State Pier to serve as an educational facility primarily for the Schooner ERNESTINA, the official vessel of the Commonwealth. In addition, the facility would be used by other local historical, cultural, and maritime organizations appropriate for the site as well.

Without doubt, this facility would have a profound impact on New Bedford's central waterfront area, and would make a significant contribution to environmental education in the area, as well as, provide direct access to the harbor for the people of New Bedford and visitors to the city. I can not think of a better, nor more direct way to expose the public to the value of the harbor than by providing educational programs in conjunction with direct access to the harbor. This facility would have the capability to provide environmental programs to many different constituent groups.

I urge you to look closely at this proposal again and to see if the entire proposal can not be funded, at least look at providing funding for the planning portion (\$75,000) of the proposal. A planning grant now would help assure that the many changes currently being made at State Pier unfold with a plan that provides a place where the Schooner ERNESTINA Commission can fulfill its educational mission and provide the public access to the harbor for generations to come.

Very truly yours,  
  
 Peter C. Webber  
 Commissioner



MAY



Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts

SCHOONER  
ERNESTINA  
COMMISSION

P.O. BOX 2010  
NEW BEDFORD, MA  
02741-2010

TEL (508) 992-4900  
FAX (508) 984 7719

<http://www.ernestina.org>



Massachusetts Department of  
Environmental Management

July 18, 2000

Mr. Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Comments: #56

Dear Mr. Terrill:

We are writing to express our disappointment that our proposal presented in partnership with the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission requesting \$225,000 to plan and design a public outreach and educational facility on the southwest corner of the New Bedford State Pier was not funded. Both the New Bedford Harbor Master Plan and the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Master Plan have highly recommended the development of an educational and public outreach facility on the southwest corner of the State Pier to serve primarily as an educational facility for the Schooner ERNESTINA, the official vessel of the Commonwealth. In addition to the Schooner ERNESTINA, the facility would also be used by other local historical, cultural and maritime organizations appropriate for the site as well.

Without question, an educational facility located on state pier would have a profound impact on New Bedford's central waterfront area. It would make a significant contribution to environmental education in the area, as well as, provide direct access to the harbor for the people and visitors of New Bedford. A facility that provides educational programming, in conjunction with direct access to the harbor is a powerful way to expose the public to the value of the harbor and would allow for the development of environmental programs for many different constituent groups.

We urge you to look closely at our proposal again. If the entire proposal can not be funded, we ask that you consider funding the planning portion (\$75,000) of the proposal. A planning grant now will help assure that after ferry terminal section is completed and other changes have been made at State Pier, the Schooner ERNESTINA Commission will be able to fulfill its educational mission and with the public, continue to have access to the harbor for generations to come.

Sincerely,

The five Citizen Commissioners of the Schooner ERNESTINA Commission

H. James Brown  
Carol Pimentel  
Peter Lawrence  
Bettina Borders  
Pauline Macedo

CC: Senator Mark C. W. Montigny  
Representative Antonio F.D. Cabral  
Representative George Rogers  
Representative Robert M. Koczera

JUL 27 2000

Official Vessel of the Commonwealth

MASSACHUSETTS

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Page 178



Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts

SCHOONER  
ERNESTINA  
COMMISSION

Comments: #57

July 18, 2000

Mr. Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740-  
Re: NBH2-10

Dear Mr. Terrill:

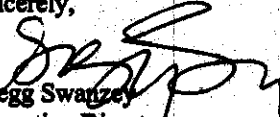
This letter is to request reconsideration by the Council for inclusion for funding of the planning and design proposal for a public outreach and educational facility on the southwestern corner of State Pier presented by the Schooner Ernestina Commission and the Harbor Development Commission. The facility will serve as the primary base of operations for the waterborne programs for the official vessel of the Commonwealth and associated small boat programs utilizing Ernestina's dories and other smaller vessels. In addition, the facility will be used by other local historical, cultural and maritime organizations to interpret whaling, fishing industry and the immigration stories of New Bedford. It will provide the only access point for the public to the harbor in the central waterfront area.

There are several features that make the project both feasible and competitive:

- 1) The property is currently owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and no land acquisition will be necessary
- 2) The project is currently identified in both the New Bedford/Fairhaven Harbor Master Plan and the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Master Plan and consistent with other long term initiatives
- 3) The project has municipal, state and federal endorsement as well as strong public support
- 4) The project is located at a critical site for public access to the Harbor
- 5) Multi-uses such as interpretation, launch services, education and logistical support for the Schooner Ernestina as well as seasonal public events are identified uses for the site
- 6) The site has been identified as a primary gateway to the Harbor and to Buzzards Bay and important for collaborative use by other organizations
- 7) Planning for the central waterfront area and development of New Bedford's Open Space Plan are key to other decisions for the harbor and, without adequate planning for this location, other projects will be constrained

Several of the projects identified in the Council's preliminary decision have shortcomings in regard to site acquisition, present ownership or general articulation with current master plans and current planning processes. As a result, I respectfully question the rationale for the exclusion of this proposal and ask for a reconsideration for a reallocation or additional allocation of funds to be applied to enable the planning portion (\$75,000) of this proposal at minimum at this time with a consideration for the design components (\$150,000) either now or during the next round.

Sincerely,

  
Gregg Swazey  
Executive Director

Cc: Harbor Development Commission, Harbor Master Plan Committee,  
Legislative Delegation, New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park

~~~ Official Vessel of the Commonwealth ~~~

JUL 27 2000

P.O. BOX 2010  
NEW BEDFORD, MA  
02741-2010

TEL (508) 992-4900  
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<http://www.ernestina.org>



Massachusetts Department of  
Environmental Management

MASSACHUSETTS

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Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
  
SCHOONER  
ERNESTINA  
COMMISSION

July 18, 2000

*Egry*

Your View  
The Standard-Times  
25 Elm Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740  
Fax: 508-997-7491

Dear Editor:

Last month the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council came out with preliminary decisions for 'preferred' projects to be funded through the AVX Natural Resources Damage Account. A joint project including planning and design for a facility on the Southwest corner of New Bedford State Pier presented by the Schooner Ernestina Commission and the Harbor Development Commission was not included among the selected projects.

The proposed facility will serve as the primary base of operations for the educational programs of the official vessel of the Commonwealth, Schooner Ernestina, and associated waterborne programs connecting citizens of New Bedford with the Acushnet River, Buzzards Bay and beyond. In addition, the facility will be used by other local historical, cultural and maritime organizations to interpret immigration stories of New Bedford, fishing industry and in conjunction with the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. It will provide the only access point for the public to the harbor in the central waterfront area.

There are several features that make the project both feasible and competitive:

- 1) The property is currently owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and no land acquisition will be necessary
- 2) The project is currently identified in both the New Bedford/Fairhaven Harbor Master Plan and the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Master Plan and consistent with other long term initiatives
- 3) The project has municipal, state and federal endorsement as well as strong public support
- 4) The project is located at a critical site for public access to the Harbor
- 5) Multi-uses such as interpretation, launch services, education and logistical support for the Schooner Ernestina as well as seasonal public events are identified uses for the site
- 6) The site has been identified as a primary gateway to the Harbor and to Buzzards Bay and important for collaborative use by other organizations
- 7) Planning for the central waterfront area and development of New Bedford's Open Space Plan are key to other decisions for the harbor and, without adequate planning for this location, other projects will be constrained

Several of the projects identified in the Council's preliminary decision appear to have shortcomings in regard to site acquisition, present ownership or general articulation with current master plans and current planning processes. As a result, I respectfully question the rationale for the exclusion of this proposal and ask for a reconsideration for a reallocation or additional allocation of funds to be applied to enable the planning portion (\$75,000) of this proposal at minimum at this time with a consideration for the design components (\$150,000) either now or during the next round.

Citizens of New Bedford can help support this request by forwarding comment letters of support to Mr. Jack Terrill, New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council, 37 North Second Street, New Bedford, MA 02740- with reference to project number NBH2-10. Letters may be faxed to Mr. Terrill at 978-281-9301. The comment period will close at the end of July.

Sincerely,

  
Gregg Swanzey  
Executive Director, Schooner Ernestina Commission

P.O. BOX 2010  
NEW BEDFORD, MA  
02741-2010

TEL (508) 992-4900  
FAX (508) 984 7719

<http://www.ernestina.org>



Massachusetts Department of  
Environmental Management

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

Comments: #56

ANTONIO CABRAL  
REPRESENTATIVE  
13TH BRISTOL DISTRICT  
212 MAPLE STREET  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
TEL. (508) 997-8113

CHAIRMAN  
COMMITTEE ON ELECTION LAWS

STATE HOUSE, ROOM 26  
TEL. (617) 722-2080

E-Mail:  
Rep.AntonioCabral@house.state.ma.us

July 28, 2000

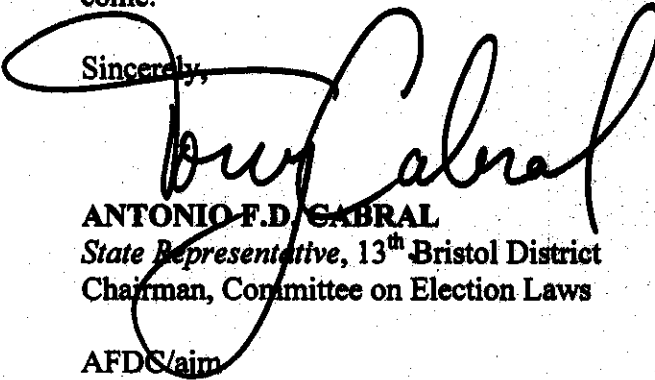
Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Terrill:

I write to express disappointment regarding the council's funding decision of the proposal presented by the Schooner Ernestina Commission and the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission requesting \$225,000 to plan and design a public outreach and educational facility on the southwest corner of the New Bedford State Pier. This plan received strong recommendations by the New Bedford Harbor Master Plan and the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Master Plan. In addition, an educational facility located on a state pier would be a wonderful contribution to environmental education in the area, as well as, provide direct access to the harbor for New Bedford visitors.

I would greatly appreciate your re-consideration of this proposal for a facility that will have a significant impact on New Bedford. I ask that you consider funding the planning portion of the proposal at \$75,000 should a problem arise funding the entire proposal. It would be a pleasure to see the Schooner Ernestina Commission fulfill its educational mission and allow the people to continue to have access to the harbor for generations to come.

Sincerely,

  
ANTONIO F.D. CABRAL  
State Representative, 13<sup>th</sup> Bristol District  
Chairman, Committee on Election Laws

AFDC/aim

AUG 23 2000



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
House of Representatives

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054  
ROOM 167  
TEL (617) 722-2692  
FAX (617) 722-2846

Comments: #56

REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE ROGERS

12TH BRISTOL DISTRICT  
HOUSE COMMITTEE  
ON WAYS AND MEANS

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
23 ROBESON STREET  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
TEL 508 996-2716  
FAX 508 997-2202  
PAGER 978 736-0888

July 26, 2000

Mr. Jack Terrill  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Terrill:

I am writing to express my disappointment that the proposal of the Schooner ERNESTINA Commission, presented in partnership with the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission requesting \$225,000 to plan and design a public outreach and educational facility on the southwest corner of the New Bedford State Pier, was not funded. Both the New Bedford Harbor Master Plan and the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Master Plan have highly recommended the development of an educational and public outreach facility on the southwest corner of the State Pier to serve primarily as an educational facility for the Schooner ERNESTINA, the official vessel of the Commonwealth. In addition to the Schooner ERNESTINA, the facility would also be used by other local historical, cultural and maritime organizations appropriate for the site as well.

Without question, an educational facility located on State Pier would have a profound impact on New Bedford's central waterfront area. It would make a significant contribution to environmental education in the area, as well as provide direct access to the harbor for the people and visitors of New Bedford. A facility that provides educational programming, in conjunction with direct access to the harbor, is a powerful way to expose the public to the value of the harbor and would allow for the development of environmental programs for many different constituent groups.

I urge you to look closely at the proposal again. If the entire proposal can not be funded, I ask that you consider funding the planning portion (\$75,000) of the proposal. A planning grant now will help assure that after the ferry terminal section is completed and other changes have been made at State Pier, the Schooner ERNESTINA Commission will be able to fulfill its educational mission and with the public, continue to have access to the harbor for generations to come.

Sincerely,

GEORGE ROGERS  
State Representative, 12<sup>th</sup> Bristol District  
House Committee on Ways and Means

GR/mm

JUL 31 2000

# RICHARD A. KELLAWAY

Comments: #56

July 20, 1990

Mr. Jack Terrell  
New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Terrell:

I strongly endorse the application of the Schooner Ernestina Commission and the Harbor Development Commission for funding from the council to develop a center on our State Pier. I have supported the work of the Ernestina for many years. It is an important asset to our community, providing a galaxy of outstanding programs, many of them related to the ecology of our local marine environment. The projected programs and the location of the proposed center make it an obvious choice for educating local citizens as well as visitors about the harbor - its history, problems, and potential.

I share their confusion about the rationale for funding projects at a considerable distance from our harbor which are significantly less related to the actuality of its situation.

As the Founding President of the New Bedford Art Museum and the Minister Emeritus of The First Unitarian Church in New Bedford, I have been in continuing contact with a large cross section of our citizens. They share my enthusiasm for the Ernestina and would see this project as an important element in the educational and cultural rebirth of our community.

Please encourage the council to reconsider its decision and provide the help vital to enable this project to begin.

Sincerely,

*Richard A. Kellaway*

Rev. Richard A. Kellaway

5 DOVER STREET / NEW BEDFORD / MASSACHUSETTS / 02740  
508 - 991 - 5870

ishmael @ empire.net

JUL 27 2000

BARNEY FRANK  
*NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS*

2210 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2104  
(202) 225-5931

29 CRAFTS STREET  
NEWTON, MA 02158  
(617) 332-3920

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC**

558 PLEASANT STREET  
ROOM 309  
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740  
(508) 999-6462

222 MILLIKEN PLACE  
THIRD FLOOR  
FALL RIVER, MA 02721  
(508) 674-3551

89 MAIN STREET  
BRIDGEWATER, MA 02324  
(508) 697-9403

Comments: #56

August 9, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
c/o NMFS-F/NER4  
1 Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930-2298

Dear Trustees:

Since I was elected to represent the constituents who border New Bedford Harbor, I have repeatedly maintained that the Harbor Trustee Council has an obligation to fund worthwhile projects in a timely manner to compensate for losses in their harbor. I applaud this second round of funding and urge the council to spend whatever monies are necessary.

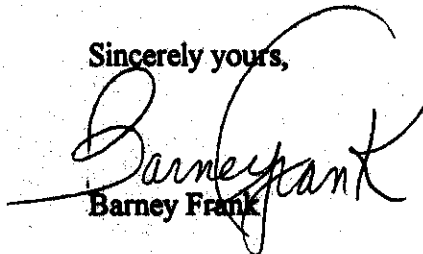
I write to strongly support the proposal by the Ernestina Commission in cooperation with the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission requesting \$225,000 to plan and design a public outreach and educational facility on the southwest corner of the New Bedford State Pier.

Certainly the ERNESTINA, berthed at State Pier in New Bedford, a symbol of New Bedford's ties to the sea and the immigrants who sailed here and worked in her factories, fits that standard.

Furthermore, a permanent landside facility that provides educational programming and, subsequently, year-round direct access to New Bedford Harbor is in my judgment more than eligible.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

  
Barney Frank

BF/ers

AUG 11 2000



*City of New Bedford*  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**FREDERICK M. KALISZ, JR.**  
Mayor

Comments: #58

July 29, 2000

Jack Terrill, Coordinator  
New Bedford Harbor Trustees Council  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Terrill:

During an eighteen-month planning process, representatives of waterfront interests in Fairhaven and New Bedford met to discuss future plans and opportunities for enhanced public access to New Bedford Harbor.

Among the short-term recommendations of the New Bedford-Fairhaven Municipal harbor Master Plan (1999), was preparation of an open space and public access study with several potential sites identified for priority consideration. The intent of the Harbor Public Access study is to afford residents with increased access to restored natural areas and other parts of the harbor and waterfront.

For many people, access to New Bedford Harbor has been physically prevented as well as inhibited by perceived fears of the contaminated environment. In light of the fact that Superfund clean-up construction process is underway in New Bedford Harbor, now is the time to begin removing physical barriers to public access.

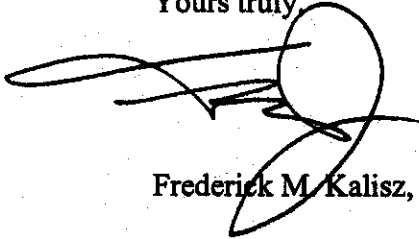
Thanks to funding provided by the Harbor Trustees Council, the first phase of the Public Access Study is nearing completion. A Subcommittee of the Harbor Master Plan Committee has helped the consultants produce a preliminary site analysis, a copy of which is enclosed for your reference. As a recommendation of this initial work, the Harbor Development Commission submitted a proposal (NBH2-20) to extend Study boundaries, expand programming analysis and implement a few 'fast-track' projects.

AUG 28 2000

Please accept this letter as a request for your support of our continuing efforts to create a public access plan which will afford New Bedford, Fairhaven and Acushnet residents the option to enjoy the Acushnet River in a fashion that has not been possible for generations.

Over the past three years, we have done much to improve the quality of life in New Bedford, making it a more livable city. The Harbor/Public Access Study is an integral part of these efforts and we look forward to your continued support.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frederick M. Kalisz, Jr.', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Frederick M. Kalisz, Jr.

Enclosure



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park  
33 William Street  
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

Comments: #58

IN REPLY REFER TO:

August 24, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
Attn. Jack Terrill, Coordinator  
37 North Second Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mr. Terrill:

It is with great pleasure that I add the support of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park to the City of New Bedford / Harbor Development Commission's request for funding of Phase II Harbor Open Space and Public Access Study and Implementation project.

As a start-up National Park Service unit we understand the importance of planning and public participation in our decision making process. We therefore strongly support the city's application for project funding for Phase II of the Harbor Open Space and Public Access Study and Implementation project. As a participant in Phase I of the Harbor Open Space Study, we believe that Phase II is key to build and expand on the work accomplished to date. Phase II will identify and determine specific opportunities for public access, recreational space and open space within New Bedford / Fairhaven harbor. This information is critical for future project funding requests to the trustee council and other sources.

We are also excited about the short-term restoration and public access component for Palmer's Island which is home to the whaling era Palmer's Island Lighthouse. This project as well as others to be identified and prioritized through this planning process are in line with the park's mission goal of supporting "...preservation of historic landscapes, structures, museum and archival collections in New Bedford that are associated with the history of whaling."

New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park strongly supports the City of New Bedford / Harbor Development Commission's application for project funding. We hope that you will give their proposal your highest consideration. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (508) 996-4469.

Sincerely,

John W. Piltzecker  
Superintendent

AUG 28 2000



# City of New Bedford

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Comments: #58

**FREDERICK M. KALISZ, JR.**

Mayor

August 25, 2000

New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council  
c/o National Marine Fisheries Service  
1 Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930  
Attn.: Jack Terrill, Coordinator

Dear Mr. Terrill

I am writing to ask for your consideration and support of a proposal submitted on behalf of the citizens of New Bedford and Fairhaven through the New Bedford Harbor Development Commission proposing that an identification and analysis of possible public access points along the New Bedford and Fairhaven shoreline be funded by the Trustee Council. We are aware of the requirements of the Council to abide by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) mandate to restore and replace natural resources which have been injured by a release of a hazardous substance. In that context the Council has initially found that planning studies do not represent a restoration. We would politely challenge the definition of restoration, where restoring what once was, and now is not, certainly seems to be in keeping with the Superfund mandate.

Further, we are of the opinion that planning studies, as significant as the Phase I component, funded in the previous round, truly represent the cognitive process of establishing the physical link to the areas and habitats proposed for biological restoration. In the case of the legitimacy of the proposed Phase II study, we hope through a further series of public meetings outline and develop the programmatic uses which allow restored public access, viewing and passive enjoyment symbiotically with the re-established biota.

It is this restoration of lost public access that the first phase study recommended within the Harbor Master Plan Open Space Component sought to remedy. The second phase of this study is an extension and expansion of the area of analysis along the New Bedford and Fairhaven shoreline where public access, once allowed and encouraged has systematically and carelessly been denied as a result of chemical degradation from industrial discharge.

The future ability to restore views toward the river depends upon a planning exercise which evaluates selected sites and analyzes their strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities as contributing elements to a renewed and restored shoreline public access network. The City's commitment to eradicating obsolete, dilapidated and dangerous mill structures are currently

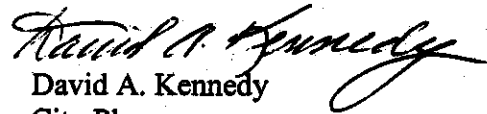
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creating new waterfront vistas, albeit haphazardously. The phase II component, if approved by the Council will frame site evaluation policy and develop guidelines for developing these viewsheds for public access and incorporation into several immediate development projects such as boardwalks, landings and small craft insertion areas, shoreline interpretative stations and water quality monitoring areas.

Again, thank you for your devoted interest to the restoration of the Acushnet River, and we sincerely hope that your consideration of our planning strategy (identified as NBH2-20) can be understood as an integral part of the restorative process.

Sincerely,

  
David A. Kennedy  
City Planner

Dear Harbor Trustee Counsel

Has the harbor trustee council forgotten that every time we have a significant amount of rain, the CITY OF NEW BEDFORD dumps their raw sewer over flow and storm drain gray water into the inner and the outer harbor.

The, (CITY OF NEW BEDFORD) has to do this because they can't process sewerage and rain water in large quantities when it is raining. We all know it rains at least twenty percent of the time. TEN PERCENT OF THE TIME NEW BEDFORD IS DUMPING RAW SEWERAGE INTO THE HARBOR THAT YOU ALL CLAIM TO CARE ABOUT,

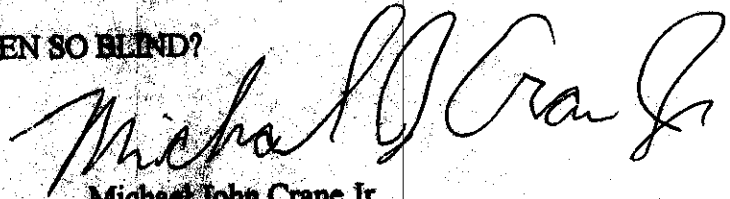
New Bedford needs large holding tanks at the dozen or so over flow pipes so when the rain stops, the treatment plant can process, or catch up on the stored over flow.

I do not not how much this will cost.

I do know that that the City of New Bedford is in violation of Ma. state law title five regulations. No houses conected to city sewer should be able to be sold, HAHAHA.

I do know this problem that has been somehow forgott must be delt with first.

HOW COULD YOU ALL HAVE BEEN SO BLIND?



Michael John Crane Jr.  
239 Scoticut nk. rd.  
Fairhaven Ma. 02719

PH-993-1456

PS HAVE FUN BULDING YOUR AQUARIUM

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