

Tracy Delaney

From: Tom DePietro
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 2:00 PM
To: Tracy Delaney
Subject: Fwd: Claverack residents' Statement re Hudson Truck Study
Attachments: Truck Study Statement by Claverack Residents Final Version.pdf

Please add to communications. Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Kramel <jk1@johnkramel.com>
Date: June 23, 2021 at 12:36:18 PM EDT
To: Kamal Johnson <mayor@cityofhudson.org>, Michael Chameides <mayoralaide@cityofhudson.org>
Cc: Tom DePietro <councilpres@cityofhudson.org>, Jane Trombley <jane.trombley@cityofhudson.org>, Rebecca Wolff <rebecca.wolff@cityofhudson.org>, Dewan Sarowar <dewan.sarowar@cityofhudson.org>, Tiffany Garriga <tiffany.garriga@cityofhudson.org>, Shershah Mizan <shershah.mizan@cityofhudson.org>, "Calvin Lewis, Jr." <calvin.lewis@cityofhudson.org>, Malachi Walker <malachi.walker@cityofhudson.org>, John Rosenthal <john.rosenthal@cityofhudson.org>, Eileen Halloran <eileen.halloran@cityofhudson.org>, Dominic Merante <dominic.merante@cityofhudson.org>, Gunnar Worden <wording@gmail.com>
Subject: Claverack residents' Statement re Hudson Truck Study

Greetings,

Attached please find a Statement of Recommendations from a group of Claverack residents regarding the City of Hudson Truck Traffic Route Feasibility Study.

At the April 27, 2021, Zoom meeting to discuss the Truck Study, many residents of the Town of Claverack were present. Several of us posed questions regarding the impact of the study on the Claverack hamlet. MJ Engineering's Brian Cooper stated that they would like very much to hear our concerns.

The next day, I contacted Mr. Cooper and arranged a Zoom meeting between Claverack residents and MJ Engineering. At that meeting, which took place on the morning of May 11, many questions were posed, and issues presented, by our group.

After the Zoom meeting, we recorded our issues in a collaborative document that was eventually pared down to a Statement of Recommendations. At the Thursday, June 10, Claverack Town Board meeting, I presented the Statement to the Board.

An additional concern was left out of the Statement, as it was not specific to the Town of Claverack or the Hamlet, and did not have the support of all participants. However, it is germane to the City of Hudson, and I offer it here in this introductory letter:

Many Claverack residents are of the opinion that approving the Colarusso haul-road application currently under review by the city of Hudson, to give trucks direct access from/to Route 9, would mitigate or eliminate at least the gravel truck problems in Hudson. While this is not a formal

recommendation presented in our Statement, it came up enough times in discussion that I felt it was warranted to include here.

Thank you,
John Kramel
589 State Route 23B, Claverack

cc:

Mayor Kamal Johnson - Mayor@cityofhudson.org
Mayor's Aide - mayoralaide@cityofhudson.org
Common Council President Tom DePietro - councilpres@cityofhudson.org
Jane Trombley - jane.trombley@cityofhudson.org
Rebecca Wolff - rebecca.wolff@cityofhudson.org
Dewan Sarowar - dewan.sarowar@cityofhudson.org
Tiffany Garriga - tiffany.garriga@cityofhudson.org
Shershah Mizan - Shershah.mizan@cityofhudson.org
Calvin Lewis, Jr. - calvin.lewis@cityofhudson.org
Malachi Walker - malachi.walker@cityofhudson.org
John S. Rosenthal - John.rosenthal@cityofhudson.org
Eileen Halloran - eileen.halloran@cityofhudson.org
Dominic Merante - Dominic.merante@cityofhudson.org

Claverack Residents' Statement on Hudson Traffic Study – June 22, 2021

This document reflects the views and concerns of Claverack residents in response to the City of Hudson's Truck Traffic Engineering study, which was presented in April, 2021.

A discussion took place among Claverack hamlet residents over the course of several weeks, during which comments were offered by the community and data was collected via audience polling.

At the request of the group, a meeting was held via videoconference with MJ Engineering on Tuesday, May 11, 2021, to help residents better understand the various scenarios being presented and the potential impacts on Claverack.

On June 10, a version of this Statement was presented to the Claverack Town Board at their monthly meeting, and the Statement has been subsequently updated based on discussions that took place during and after that meeting.

The greatest concern voiced by participants is for protecting the Claverack hamlet and ensuring that any truck route changes do not impede or prevent the eventual development of the hamlet as a walkable town center. We believe the truck traffic issue is a sub-regional challenge that affects multiple communities, including Hudson, Greenport and Claverack. Any redrawing of the truck route in Hudson must respect neighboring communities' needs for safety and livability. It is in this spirit that we offer the below recommendations:

1. Recommendation: None of the proposed options should interfere with Claverack's plans to create a walkable town center with related improvements, including better traffic control, sidewalks, crosswalks and crossing signals. This is among the busiest intersections in Columbia County and it is in the middle of a heavily residential area. Specifically, residents of the Claverack hamlet will oppose any solution that is designed to increase heavy truck traffic on NY Route 23 / 23B through the residential Claverack hamlet.
2. Recommendation: Because the state will not consider improvements to the intersection until the town installs sidewalks, it is recommended that the Claverack board redouble efforts toward this goal.
3. Recommendation: Any change to the truck route that increases traffic through the intersection of 23B and 9H should be accompanied by accommodations for the patrons of the Claverack library and businesses that are located at that intersection. Any future changes to traffic management must guarantee accessibility to the library by pedestrians and cyclists, by children and by seniors. Pedestrian safety will be jeopardized by increasing truck traffic on any road passing through the hamlet without lower, well-enforced speed limits, crossing signals, and crosswalks.

4. Recommendation: Speed and other traffic violations (failure to yield to pedestrians and other drivers, running red lights) happen routinely on 9H. The Town, and any planners with appropriate jurisdiction, should advocate that the speed limit be lowered to 30 mph within the hamlet. No other town center or hamlet in the region has a speed limit as high as 40 mph. On Route 23 alone: South Egremont, MA has a strictly enforced speed limit of 25 mph, Hillsdale 30 mph, Greenport 35 mph, Hudson 30 mph and several villages and hamlets in Greene County on Route 23 have speed limits of 30 mph, while the Claverack hamlet speed limit remains at 40-55 mph).
5. Recommendation: The study area should be expanded to include, or a related study should be commissioned, to show the positive and negative impacts of proposed route changes on Claverack and Greenport, and data-collection points should be increased to include all residential areas. We all use the Greenport commercial corridor, and this is a regional planning issue.
6. Recommendation: The Town, and any planners with appropriate jurisdiction, should advocate for the implementation of traffic calming and speed reduction measures such as rumble strips, solar-powered radar speed signs, raised medians and narrower turning lanes.
7. Recommendation: The Town, and any planners with appropriate jurisdiction, should advocate that any truck route study or alternate truck route comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and Section 14.09 of the New York State Historic Preservation Act, see inventory and notes below:
 - a. 1784 Ludlow-Van Rensselaer House, 1786 William Henry Ludlow House, 1786 First Columbia County Courthouse, 1784 Stephen Hogeboom House, 1767 Cornelius S. Muller House, 1901 Trinity Episcopal Church, 1932 Claverack Free Library, 1715 Van Rensselaer Lower Manor House, 1780 Steven Miller House, 1822 Dr. Abram Jordan House, 1768-1805 Jacob Rutsen Van Rensselaer House and Mill Complex along Route 23 and 23B; and along Route 9H: 1818 William W. Van Ness House, 1767 Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack, 1922 George Felpel House, 1846 Elbert Porter House, and 1878 Harmon Miller House. Also, the Hamlet along Routes 23B, 9H, and 23 is eligible to be listed as a National Register Historic District.
 - b. Any planned Truck Route Study is required to take into account the impact (including the size, weight, and speed of trucks) on National Register properties and eligible Districts, including the impact of noise and shaking, from speeding heavy trucks and trailers that weaken the historic buildings' masonry, create dust, and spill gravel or other debris along the street.

8. Recommendation: To engage the community in a broader discussion and make residents aware of this potential issue, the Town of Claverack, and any other municipal entities involved in this process, should publicize all future steps in the planning process, including notifications received by the Claverack Town Board and other municipal governments.

Editors: John Bradley, Mame Bradley, John Kramel, Ian Solomon, others

List of Claverack residents signing the statement (23):

John Kramel <jk1@johnkramel.com>,
Ian Solomon <eyesolomon@gmail.com>,
Jean Adams <adams2jean@aol.com>,
Gloria Jean Cestero-Hurd & William H. Hurd <cestero_hurd@icloud.com>,
Ian Nitschke <ian.nitschke@mac.com>,
Jason Forrester <jasonwforrester@gmail.com>,
Mary Luft <mluft@tigertail.org>,
Julius James <juliusjamesny@gmail.com>,
Katy Cashen <katcashen@gmail.com>,
Kenneth Silver <kenneth.silver@nyu.edu>,
Mame Bradley <mamebradley@gmail.com>,
John Bradley <Johnbrad322@gmail.com>,
Mike Grimes <musicmikemedia@gmail.com>,
Rune Olsen <rabolsen@me.com>,
Rory Carlton <rcarlton@arketi.com>,
Barry Leach <barryleach@mindspring.com>,
Russ Pomeranz <rcpomeranz@gmail.com>,
Stephen King <stephenking443@gmail.com>,
Peter Bevacqua <peterbevacqua9693@yahoo.com>,
Dave Sutton <sutton.davi@gmail.com>,
Victoria Masters <vicmasters@gmail.com>,
Stephanie Sussman <stephitwo@gmail.com>,
Gail Shafer <findgailshafer@gmail.com>