March 8, 2010

I have spent a great deal of time reading through the LWRP and DGEIS for the Hudson Waterfront and have found several inconsistencies and issues that should be addressed before any ratification.

First, and to my mind most important is the issue of the Wetlands involved. The South Bay is a designated Class 1 Wetland, the most important designation given to these precious areas. A post-civil war railroad right of way is proposed as the preferred site for a gravel company’s new road. This road will divide the precious wetland in half, and thus contributing to the degradation of the wetland, rather than to its remediation.

There is only one workable alternative to this new, private trucking route, bisecting the South Bay, and it is not mentioned in either the LWRP or the DGEIS. This is a gross inconsistency. And most likely will be kicked back by the Office of Coastal Resources.

There is no mention of a HARBOR MANAGEMENT PLAN, which is absolutely necessary if the Hudson Waterfront, our most valuable asset, is to reconcile the competing water uses in Hudson’s under-regulated harbor. A comprehensive harbor management plan, in my opinion, should be the most important part of LWRG, and it is missing.

On a more positive note I believe the proposed zoning amendments should be ratified, as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Belinda Breese