

From: Kim Shapiro
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2016 9:31 PM
To: Bhardwaj, Priti S.
Cc: info@preservewestport.com
Subject: Saugatuck Swing Bridge

I am writing regarding the upcoming meeting on Wednesday addressing proposed changes to the Saugatuck Swing Bridge. I am not able to attend the meeting, but wanted to make my voice heard as a long-time Saugatuck area resident with three children and a vested interest in plans for the bridge. As someone who uses the bridge multiple times daily as a motorist, pedestrian and cyclist, I am adamantly opposed to any changes that will encourage more traffic from the nearby I-95 interstate to flow over onto Route 136. The traffic at rush hour — especially in the morning, which I witness every day taking my children to their neighborhood school or my husband witnesses driving to the train station — is beyond capacity. The idea of widening the bridge (encouraging more I-95 traffic) or removing the height requirement (allowing commercial 18-wheelers) would be DEVASTATING to the neighborhood which is entirely residential once reaching Greens Farms Road. It would be a crime to make a change to the nature of this important neighborhood bridge. While repairs may be necessary, not at the cost of changing its historic character or originally intended purpose.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kim Shapiro