
From: don bergmann < >
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 11:00 PM
To: DOT Environmental Planning
Subject: Fw: Westport Cribari Bridge

Mr. Alexander, I have been mistyping your e mail address. Hopefully I have now got it right. Don Bergmann
----- Forwarded Message -----

From: don bergmann
To: "dotenvironmentalplanning@ct.gov"
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 5:48 PM
Subject: Fw: Westport Cribari Bridge

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: don bergmann
To: "DOTenvironmentalplanning@CT.Gov"
Cc: Priti S. Bhardwaj
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 5:46 PM
Subject: Westport Cribari Bridge

Dear Mark W. Alexander, Transportation Assistant Planning Director

I write to express my unequivocal support to preserve the Westport Cribari Historic Swing Bridge. I will make only two points in this e mail:

1. In my judgment and quite possibly under the law, a full determination of the historic elements of the Cribari Bridge must be determined as the initial finding of the review by the CT DOT. Plans as to how best to preserve the bridge should be addressed only AFTER a report on the "historic" elements of the bridge that need to be or should be preserved has been completed. (I note that replacement of the bridge should have already been eliminated as a possibility.); and
2. The CT DOT and I trust you have received the "historic" report on the Cribari Bridge that was prepared as part of the decision of Westport to move ahead with the designation by Westport of this bridge as "historic". The report is dated May 2016 and was prepared by a Subcommittee of the Historic District Commission of the Town of Westport. It is quite an amazing document and sets forth a wealth of information about the Cribari Bridge, including how the bridge in its various forms over a vast number of years has played an important, indeed crucial role, to Westport, its citizens, its politics, its commerce and its appeal. Any analysis of the Cribari Bridge must, in my opinion, include recognition of all of that history. To ignore it, is to separate the history of the Cribari Bridge from its physical elements. I can't imagine how any thoughtful historic analysis of the Cribari Bridge can fail to address and include all that was occurring during the many iterations of the Cribari Bridge and its predecessors. Accordingly, I ask that all involved in this effort re-read that wonderful May 2016 report and relate that report to all efforts that you and others will be pursuing to assure Westport and its citizens that the Cribari Bridge will be preserved and that its historic elements will remain untouched.

I and most in Westport expect the CT DOT to take the most minimal of actions as to the Cribari Bridge, with those actions being limited to only fundamental structural issues such as the one bad piling. That approach will assure the preservation of the historic integrity of the Cribari Bridge.

Thank you,
Don Bergmann