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**From:** veronica hofstetter < >  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2016 9:04 PM  
**To:** DOT Environmental Planning  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Saugatuck Swing Bridge

**Mark W. Alexander**  
**Transportation Assistant Planning Director**  
**CTDOT, Bureau of Policy and Planning**  
**2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06131**  
**Email: [dot.environmentalplanning@ct.gov](mailto:dot.environmentalplanning@ct.gov)**

*Dear Mr. Alexander,*

**I am a Westport resident and I strongly support preservation of the Saugatuck Swing Bridge. The bridge is one of Westport's most important and iconic historical resources and it is greatly valued by those of us who live here and use it every day. It contributes to the special character of Saugatuck Village and it prevents large trucks from using our local streets and endangering pedestrians and bikers.**

**I also live on Bridge Street. I walk over the bridge daily with my 3 children. My husband jogs across it everyday. I see the impact of traffic and speeding first hand and up close on a daily basis, and I strongly believe that wider lanes and/or taller clearance, whether by construction of a new bridge or changes to our existing bridge, would be extremely dangerous to pedestrians and drivers. I strongly believe that any changes in size, width or height of the Saugatuck Swing Bridge will only serve to exacerbate traffic and will lead to accidents.**

**The Saugatuck Bridge holds important historic value to our community. The Bridge connects us to the past as well us connects us to center of the Saugatuck community. The Saugatuck Historic Swing Bridge is an emblem of what Westport stands for. A wonderful town with roots in our country's history. The bridge is a historic treasure and any changes to this bridge would be a great loss to our town.**

**It has been pointed out that the Saugatuck Swing Bridge is the nation's oldest, active span of its type. For this reason, and those mentioned above, the bridge should be repaired and preserved in its current dimensions, not enlarged, raised, moved or replaced.**

**Again, as Westport residents who also grew up in this town, we feel very fortunate to be raising our family here. Westport is a special place. The Saugatuck Swing Bridge is a part of what makes Westport so special.**

**Thank you.**

**Veronica Hofstetter**

**Tom Hofstetter**