



Bike Hoboken
PO Box 3441
Hoboken, NJ 07030
November 22, 2017

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Land Use Regulation
P.O. Box 420, Mail Code 501-02A
501 East State Street
Trenton, N.J. 08625

Attn: Hudson County Section Chief

RE: NJDEP Waterfront Development Permit Application by Port Imperial Ferry Corp.
d/b/a NY Waterway for Block 259, Lot 1; 901 Sinatra Drive, City of Hoboken, Hudson
County

Dear Hudson County Section Chief:

Bike Hoboken is an all-volunteer group that strives to make Hoboken a haven for pedestrians and bicyclists alike while making bicycling safe, fun and accessible. We organize regular group rides and have a large following that extends beyond Hoboken.

A major focus of our organization is to advocate for municipal policy that promotes safe routes for cycling. The City has a ten foot wide protected bicycle path at the Hoboken South Waterfront built in the 1990s that runs four blocks from Newark Street up to Fourth. The City has long proposed continuing this protected bike path from Fourth Street up to Eleventh along the waterfront at Sinatra Drive. We strongly support this proposal as it would provide the safest route for traveling via bike in Hoboken and would be ideal for young cyclists.

Retaining an industrial use at the former Union Dry Dock site would be an impediment to implementing such a plan. Currently, it is difficult for cyclists who are competing with people running, walking and using scooters to navigate this narrow passageway between the sidewalk and street along the Dry Dock site which extends for over 600 feet in length.

The City's plan to acquire this property for a public park would be the ideal solution since that would open up over three acres of land as public open space leaving plenty of room for the walkway, landscaping and the protected bike lane which then run continuously nearly a mile from Newark Street up to Eleventh.

I understand that the state's Coastal Zone Management and walkway design rules promote both bicycle and pedestrian access along the waterfront. Allowing diesel-powered polluting ferries at this location is a terrible idea. We support mass transit, including ferries, but to repair, refuel and store at this location contradicts the recreational, public resource that Hoboken's waterfront has become.

Please deny this waterfront permit application. We also request a public hearing on this application as many of our members would like to speak to this issue.

Yours truly,

Chris Adair, President