



THE Hudson River Fishermen's Association

TO: Jennifer Gonzalez
Director of Climate Action + Innovation
Hoboken, New Jersey
jgonzalez@hobokennj.gov

DATE: May 24, 2024
CC: Please see below.

Dear Ms. Gonzalez,

A sculpture of this magnitude is usually chosen with several criteria. Intrusion on public space, ability to stand up to environmental factors, the reputation of the artist to deliver said criteria and public awareness. I see none of that here.

When asked to consider a possible piece for Jersey City (a proposal that never happened), I considered, bronze or stainless steel. No other material can stand up to the corrosive nature of the river. No color coating! Sun, salt and wind have a devastating impact on the life of exterior coatings. Installation and maintenance for the life of the work. The power of river ice is incredible. In conclusion, I would give heavy thought to proposing any physical installation so close to the river.

Competition for aesthetics assures that the public is behind and understands how the piece enriches the community. There is more to public sculpture than designing a "wouldn't that be nice there" work.

Furthermore, it is our opinion that (although this may be considered a great work of art) it is totally inappropriate for a fishing pier.

Best!
Gil Hawkins
Gil Hawkins Sculpture
Environmental Chair and Past President HRFA
Web < Gilhawkins.com >

Best Regards,
Joseph Albanese
2024 President HRFA
president@thehrfa.org

CC FBW: Heather Gibbons

CC HRFA EBoard Members: Capt. Aram H. Setian treasurer@thehrfa.org, Michael Sardinias vicepresident@thehrfa.org, Arnie Ulrich membership@thehrfa.org, Dan Harrison DHarrison@cdtresources.com

NOTE: The Hudson River Fishermen's Association is an IRS recognized nonprofit 501c3 tax-exempt organization. Our Employer Identification Number: 31-1788307. All donations are welcome and possibly tax deductible. We are a group of recreational fishermen who make active use of the N.Y. Bight and the surrounding water system and are concerned with the present and future state of these fisheries. Our objectives are to encourage the responsible use of aquatic resources and protection of habitat. We assist where possible in efforts to abate pollution and promote sportfishing and the management of that recreation.