

JAMES D. VANCE

107 Monroe Street
Hoboken, New Jersey 07030

May 20, 2024

Jennifer Gonzalez
Director of Climate Action & Innovation
City of Hoboken, New Jersey

Reference: Comments solicited by the notice regarding the public art hearing before the City Council May 15, 2024.

Dear Director Gonzalez:

The Hoboken Arts Advisory Committee is an important asset as evidenced on the committee's webpage showing decorated traffic signal boxes, murals, and other creative works placed throughout town. Many relate to the community, and all enhance the setting in which they are placed - parks, streetscapes, and playgrounds.

The waterfront is a different canvas. It was born of a revolt against an ill-conceived plan to privatize our south waterfront. Designed and created through extensive citizen participation, it grew to be renowned as one of the worlds outstanding waterfront parks.

At Wednesday's presentation concerns were raised about the piece proposed for Pier C. Comments were put forward about how it will be an out of scale distraction, create dissidence, and is otherwise inappropriate for the site. This says loudly it is time to stop and reconsider with serious input from the public, and civic organizations with a long history of creating, expanding, and protecting Hoboken's waterfront. They include The Waterfront Conservancy and Fund for A Better Waterfront.

One of the presenters mentioned time constraints as a reason for moving ahead. Considering this piece will cost \$500,000 and last for 100 years, time needs to be taken to get it right.

Regards,



cc: Phil Cohen
Paul Presinzano
Jim Doyle
Tiffanie Fisher
Jen Giattino
Emily Jabbour
Joe Quintero
Ruben Ramos, Jr.
Michael Russo