

February 5, 2009

**Re: House Bill #5485
Act Authorizing Bond of the State for Flood Control Project in Bridgeport**

To Whom it May Concern:

Please be advised that I am in support of and strongly urge the moving forward of **House Bill 5485 an Act Authorizing Bond of the State for Flood Control Project in Bridgeport.**

I own two houses which are greatly effected by this project. One house is at 29 Sidney Street which is my resident. The other house is rental property next door at 1267-1269 Madison Avenue.

The Ox Brook flows by my house at 29 Sidney Street. When it rains moderately to heavily, the brook overflows and covers 3/4 of the back yard at 29 Sidney Street and into the yard of 1267-1269 Madison Avenue. The water rushes by so quickly and forcefully through the brook itself that a person could easily be pulled into it and drown. I am unable to landscape my backyard as anything planted would be ruined with the first overflowing of the brook. The basements of both houses become flooded which renders them unusable. This also results in mold forming which is dangerously unhealthy. This effects any rent to be realized from the Madison Avenue property and the resale value of both properties. My heat and hot water equipment have been damaged.

When the flooding occurs, I am unable to get in or out of my vehicle in front of the house. This is not only dangerous but could be catastrophic in the event of an emergency.

These problems continue to grown worse over the years. In addition, I am forced to pay a high premium for flood insurance.

I strongly urge you to go forward with this bill.

Sincerely,

Francene Sanchione
29 Sidney Street
Bridgeport, CT 06606