



## *Town of Redding*

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Natalie Ketcham  
First Selectman

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March 3, 2009

Dear Chairman DeFronzo, Chairman Guerra, Ranking Member Boucher and Ranking Member Scribner and other distinguished members of the Transportation Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **SB 434 An Act Concerning the Disposition by the Department of Transportation of Land Originally Acquired For the "Super 7" Highway.**

The Town of Redding has long opposed the construction of the proposed Super 7 Highway because of its significant and detrimental environmental impact on one of the largest wetlands in our state. We believe that the project would never receive the required affirmative federal environment impact statement.

In addition, new national roadway engineering requirements make the twenty mile span cost prohibitive, particularly for a road that is opposed by the towns it traverses. It is time to close the door once and for all on this project that should not, and will not, be built.

Therefore, particularly in these troubled economic times, it makes perfect sense to untie the DOT's hands with respect to the property it acquired for Super 7. If it is not going to be used for the project, the DOT should have the ability to sell the land for some productive purpose. It is not in the state's best interest to have the unusable land on its books, nor is it in any municipality's best interest to keep it there.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB 434, put Super 7 behind us, and turn your attention to transportation solutions for the twenty-first century. We desperately need them.

Sincerely,

Natalie Ketcham  
Redding First Selectman