

To whom it may concern:

I am completely opposed to using State Tax Revenue to fund the building of a new stadium in Hartford. The New Britain stadium is completely safe and functional and is a very young structure in terms of its position in any useful life calculation. If it lacks up to date amenities and features from sky boxes, handicap accessible facilities which meet current regulations, to up-to-date toilets and concession areas add those functions and features to the existing facility. Adding those things would be far less expensive than a new facility.

The whole concept of the Hartford Stadium and the New Britain to Hartford bus-way all seem to be one grand political scheme to divert State Revenue by fiat to projects which could never be funded by private investors because there is no feasible payback or return on investment which is sufficient to attract private funds to those projects. Neither of those projects makes any financially adequate sense.

If Connecticut has a surface transportation problem, it has a need for investment in publically accessible roadway improvements on existing roads and rights of way. Connecticut has no problem with adequate facilities to play professional sports of any kind. If we attract new sports teams which singly or in combination attract sufficient economic activity to justify the investment of private or public funds, then we can make a facility plan which makes sense. The Connecticut reality is repeated failures in attracting viable professional sports teams leading to loss of the money used to build facilities to house the teams which never seem to meet their advertised promise.

Our Federal Constitution specifically identifies the necessity to decentralize decision making to the lowest possible level... where the needs are identified and where the funding may be best and efficiently utilized to address the issues which need to be managed. Usurping all of the locally developed tax revenue to build facilities in some other community can never meet the Constitutionally intended efficiency and prioritization.

Respectfully and thoughtfully submitted,

Bruce T. Klein