

Mainiero, Phil

From: JOHN GASKELL <jsgaskell@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, February 05, 2017 10:16 AM
To: tratestimony
Subject: Please add our voices!

Dear Federal Railroad Administration

Re: The Old Saybrook to Kenyon Bypass Proposal

As a taxpayer and long time resident of Lyme and I'm deeply concerned and opposed to the plan to re-route the existing rail tracks as presently proposed. The devastation that would be wrought, particularly in the area of Old Lyme, CT is unthinkable. Historic, cultural and environmental habitats are irreplaceable, not to mention the destruction of the many private dwellings in the train's path. The proposed savings of time and or convenience do not justify this ill-informed plan.

Old Lyme is one of the oldest and most historic towns in the state. It was also home to the American Impressionist and was the largest Artist Colony in the United States. The proposed bypass would run through the center of the small, historic village of Old Lyme devastating the landscapes that impressionist flocked here to paint. The nationally renowned Lyme Academy would fall victim to the rails too.

I implore you to reconsider the location and scope of this project. Let's put our children's interest forefront:

PLEASE DO NOT DESTROY THIS IMPORTANT, HISTORIC TOWN!

PRESERVE OUR UNIQUE CULTURAL HERITAGE

SAVE THE MARSHLANDS - ANIMAL AND BIRD HABITAT

I could not be more dismayed by this proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Suzanne Gaskell

115 Blood Street

Lyme, CT 06371

Old Saybrook to Kenyon bypass proposal

I am opposed to the plan to re-route the existing tracks as per the proposal. The destruction that would be wrought, particularly in the area of Old Lyme, CT is unacceptable. The damage that would be inflicted on the environment, as well as cultural and historical sites, and the damage to private property is too much for any proposed savings of time and/or convenience. Old Lyme is one of the oldest and most historic towns in the state, and to irrevocably change the town is an act of thoughtless, wanton destruction. The cost of the project is daunting and I insist that the entire scope of the work be reconsidered. As a taxpayer and long time resident of this area, I am very unhappy with the proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Gaskell

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