

The Dangerous Dock

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Photo by D. WILLINGER

Four out of five boat sinkings happen at the dock.

If I told you that statistics on boats sinking showed that the dock is four times more dangerous than the open waters, you might tell me to check my calculator, amongst other things. But study after study shows that four times as many boats sink at the dock than underway! Why?

If you are underway and you see water coming up from below, you are going to do something about it. The odds are in your favor that you can save the vessel, even if you have to beach her. But why do so many boats sink at their docks?

Many people believe "big boat, big bilge pump. Little boat, little bilge pump." Wrong! Big boat, big bilge pump. You need to get the water out of your 17' Seahunt as fast as possible. 500 gallons per minute isn't half as good as 1,000 GPM because once she goes down, no bilge pump can re-float her. Experts estimate that it costs 40% of the original value of the boat to re-wire her and restore the engine. Oh, and throw out the radio, GPS and fish finder. So, your \$20,000 17' Seahunt will cost you as much as \$8,000 to restore versus the \$200 a 1,000 GPM bilge pump costs. Is she worth that much today?

Still, bilge pumps don't save boats, they buy time. Again, the statistics say that boats sink at the dock for two major reasons. Half the time, a thru-hull fitting gives

up the ghost and water eventually overwhelms the battery/bilge pump arrangement. So, check the thru-hulls with every lay-up. And check the screws around them. If the screws rot*, that is another source of water that will add up.

The second most common source of sinking at the dock is snow and rain (30%). I had this happen once because the self-bailing scuppers had clogged from leaves. Rain followed and followed until I had a submarine. Many skippers believe that biminis and canvas covers prevent water from entering the boat. Wrong. They slow it but don't stop it. In the winter, shrink wrap the boat.

So, check the boat at the dock from time to time. Or pay the dock hand to do so, or your teenager. But check it. Would you leave a box with \$20,000 unattended for months at a time?

Now, if 4 out of 5 boats sink at the dock, what about that other boat? Well, that is a story for another time.

If you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at USCGAUX2006@aol.com or go direct to MaryJo Cruickshank, who is in charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."

*Marine screws don't rot. They get eaten away by electrical charges in the water.

LEGAL NOTICES LEGAL NOTICES

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK STATE OF NEW YORK

Aquisition of Properties for the Reconstruction of C.R. 80, Montauk Highway from William Floyd Parkway to Barnes Road, Town of Brookhaven Suffolk County, N.Y. CP 5516 PIN: 0756.68

SYNOPSIS OF DETERMINATIONS AND FINDING OF GEOFF MASCARO, AS HEARING OFFICER DULY DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS PURSUANT TO SECTION 204 OF THE NEW YORK STATE EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEDURE LAW

Pursuant to New York State Eminent Domain Procedure Law Section 201, on September 26, 2006, a hearing regarding the above-entitled project was held to inform the public about said project and to review the public use to be served by the project and to determine the impact of the project upon the environment and upon the residents of the locality where said project will be constructed. On November 29, 2006, the Condemnor, to wit: The County of Suffolk, by GEOFF MASCARO, as Hearing Officer duly designated by the Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Public Works made its Findings and Determinations based upon said hearing. Furthermore, on November 30, 2006, said Findings and Determinations, together with the Minutes and Exhibits of the Hearing, will be duly filed in the Office of the Clerk of the Suffolk County Legislature.

A copy of the Findings and Determinations will be forwarded to any interested person without cost upon written request to:

Clerk of the Suffolk County Legislature
William Rogers Bldg.
P.O. Box 6100
Hauppauge, NY 11788-0099

Under Sections 207 of the New York State Eminent Domain Procedure Law, there are thirty (30) days from the completion of the Condemnor's newspaper publication requirement to seek judicial review of the Condemnor's Determinations and Findings. Under Sections 207 and 208 of the New York State Eminent Domain Procedure Law, the exclusive venue for Judicial Review of the Condemnor's Determinations and Findings is the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in the Judicial Department where any part of the property to be condemned is located. The synopsis of said Findings and Determinations of GEOFF MASCARO, as Duly Designated Hearing Officer by the Commissioner of the Suffolk County Department of Public Works, is as follows:

a. That, contrary to your Hearing Officer's Determinations and Findings filed with the Clerk of the Suffolk County Legislature on February 25, 2004, Alternative V rather than Alternative VI, is the best alternative for the proposed project because:

1) Both Alternatives V and VI meet the area's present and future land use needs but the acquisition costs of

Alternative VI will be greater.

2) Both Alternatives V and VI are designed to address the deficiencies discovered by the Department of the Public Works as a part of their studies but Alternative VI will have the undesirable effect of causing the dispossession and relocation of property owners and tenants.

3) Alternative VI will require that more property owners will be impacted by the takings than Alternative V because greater land acquisitions will be required to permit the construction of roundabouts than is required for signalized intersections.

b. That the public, use, benefit, or purpose to be served by the proposed public project is the upgrading of the roadway to correct deficiencies in safety, congestion, and pavement condition which adversely affect pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicular traffic.

c. That the approximate location for the proposed public project is County Road 80, Montauk Highway, from the vicinity of C.R. 46, William Floyd Parkway, to the vicinity of Barnes Road, within Hamlets of Mastic and Shirley in the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York.

d. That the reason for selecting this location is that a study of subject corridor was undertaken by the Department of Public Works wherein the following deficiencies that were discovered must be resolved.

1) An accident rate higher than the statewide and county averages for the same type of roadway;

2) Traffic congestion during peak periods has exhibited a continuous increase;

3) Deteriorating road pavement;

4) Inadequate storm water drainage systems causing roadway flooding and contributions to hazardous conditions;

5) Discontinuous and limited provisions for pedestrians and bicyclists; and

6) Driver confusion due to numerous unidentified access points, or driveways to businesses.

e. That the general effect of the proposed project on the environment is non significant because:

1) The proposed action will not exceed any of the criteria in Section 617.7(c) of Title (6) NYCRR, which sets forth thresholds for determining significant effect on the environment;

2) The proposal does not appear to significantly threaten any unique or highly valuable environmental or cultural resources as identified in or regulated by the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York or the Suffolk County Charter and Code;

3) The parcel does not appear to suffer from any severe environmental development constraints; no poor soil properties, no high ground water and no unmanageable slopes;

4) Direct discharge of road runoff to the Forge River will be eliminated and all New York State DEC and EPA requirements

will be adhered to;

5) The project conforms to the principles of smart growth, including incorporating an entrance park, center medians, roundabouts, street lights and benches;

6) Traffic flow and safety will be improved in the C.R. 80, corridor; and

7) Extensive community outreach has been undertaken by the Department of Public Works, and the C.R. 80 corridor improvements are supported by the Town of Brookhaven and the local community.

This determination is supported by Suffolk County Resolution Number 876-2004 issuing a SEQRA determination of Non-significance on August 26, 2004, for the Proposed Reconstruction for Improvements to C.R.80, Montauk Highway, from the vicinity of C.R. 46, William Floyd Parkway to the vicinity of Barnes Road, Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York, C.P 5516, that this location be considered as a Type I Action under SEQRA and that a determination of Non-significance was issued.

f. That the general effect of the proposed project on the residents of the locality is positive because it will provide a safer, less congested and more aesthetically pleasing roadway in the Acquisition area.

g. That other factors considered in deciding to approve the proposed project are:

1) The improvement of roadway drainage systems and the improvements of storm water runoff at the Forge River;

2) Improved access to roadside businesses provided by clearly defined driveways;

3) Enhancement to pedestrian safety provided by continuous sidewalks on both sides of the roadway with sidewalk ramps at all intersections;

4) Safety improvements for bicyclists through the installation of continuous 6 foot shoulders;

5) Enhancement of the roadside with landscaping, decorative sidewalk treatments and other amenities where appropriate.

Dated: Yaphank, New York
November 29, 2006

GEOFF MASCARO, AS HEARING OFFICER DULY DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
335 Yaphank Avenue
Yaphank, NY 11980-9608

SSP, L2043, 12/6/06, 12/13/06

JMC Food Center Corp.
2618 Route 112,
Medford, NY 11763

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a license # 1179016 for Beer has been applied for 67 JMC Food Center Corp. to Sell & for on premises consumption under the Alcoholic Beverage control law at 2618 Rt. 112, Medford, NY 11763.

SSP, L2044, 12/6/06, 12/13/06