

Submitted Tuesday November 17, 2020

To Chairperson Mattison and Members of the City Plan Commission,

My name is Nancy Alderman and I am testifying as a member of the Quinnipiac River Fund, which is part of the Foundation of Greater New Haven.

I am submitting my testimony which opposes allowing the special permit for the site at 19 Wheeler Street.

The proposal for the site at 19 Wheeler Street would allow seven Connecticut towns to bring their trash to that site and then have the trash eventually carted off.

The site at 19 Wheeler Street abuts the Quinnipiac River. The Quinnipiac River Fund has devoted itself for over 20 years to cleaning-up the Quinnipiac River. The Fund has given out grants annually to organizations that have made proposals that will help to clean up the river.

It is in this capacity that I am testifying.

Putting a 7-town trash site next to the Quinnipiac River in no-way is good for the river. The run-off from this site will pollute a river that so many people have worked tirelessly for years to clean up.

To make matters worse, this site is in the Annex Section of New Haven, which is home to a large number of Hispanic and African American people. It is reported that the make-up of people living in the Annex are populations that are 26% Hispanic and 18% African American.

Hispanics and black populations have disproportionately higher rates of asthma than exist in white populations.

Asthma Program, The CT Department of Public Health

For example:

#### Average Asthma Rate in Children

White children have 8.5% rates of asthma

Black children have 14% rates of asthma

Hispanic children have 16.2% rates of asthma

#### Average Asthma Rates in Adults

White adults have 9.1% rates of asthma

Black adults have 15.3% rates of asthma

Hispanic adults have 13% rates of asthma

Poverty also affects asthma rates. Those families making \$15,000 or less have double the asthma rates as those families making \$75,000 or more.

[https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/pdfs/asthma\\_facts\\_program\\_grantees.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/asthma/pdfs/asthma_facts_program_grantees.pdf)

There is so much asthma in the Fair Haven and in the Annex area of New Haven that the Fair Haven Health Clinic has opened a special clinic devoted to asthma and respiratory issues.

<https://ctmirror.org/2018/12/02/outreach-targets-asthma-hot-spots-help-needed/>

#### Known triggers of asthma

Diesel exhaust is a serious trigger of asthma and asthma attacks.

We know this site will have diesel flat-bed trucks moving trash in and out of the site. People have already observed many flat-bed trucks moving in and out of the site – and the expansion of the site has not even taken place.

Air pollution is a serious trigger of asthma attacks

Open trash heaps will cause serious air pollution issues. If this permit is approved, the people in the Annex will have to endure the odors – and it will negatively affect their health.

Trash is made up of various things, including harsh chemicals, perfumed items, and other things that give off odors. Air pollution is a serious trigger of asthma.

If this transfer station is allowed there will be serious health implications for the neighborhood and for the Quinnipiac River. Please deny this application.

Submitted by Nancy Alderman, Member of the Quinnipiac River Fund which is part of the Foundation of Greater New Haven