

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



FRANK PADAVAN

SENATOR, 11TH DISTRICT
ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER
FOR CONFERENCE OPERATIONS

PLEASE RESPOND TO

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March 1, 2010

Susan Kupferman, President
MTA Bridges and Tunnels
1 Randalls Island
The Robert Moses Building
New York, NY 10035

Re: Environmental Toxins Surrounding the Throgs Neck Bridge

Dear President Kupferman:

On December 15th, 2009, I wrote to you outlining concerns of local residents involving lead and other contaminants emanating from construction at the Throgs Neck Bridge. I received a response on your behalf from Mr. Ed Knightly in which he indicates that the concerns were unfounded. Clearly this is not the case.

Attached is data compiled by Dr. James Cervino based on laboratory tests of earth samples taken under the bridge and ramp extending various distances from the worksite. This data unequivocally identifies the presence of lead in quantities that pose a serious health hazard.

There are over a thousand children who participate in various recreational activities in this area. We are very concerned about the health dangers this situation represents for them and many others who use this park area.

In addition to the earth samples, photos were taken of piles of rubble and debris above and along the shore line which clearly contain toxic material.

The athletic groups will begin their season on April 15th. It is imperative that remedial steps be taken to remove this contaminated soil as soon as possible.

Although this situation should never have been permitted to happen it is now your responsibility to act expeditiously to restore this area to its prior condition.

By copy of this letter I am requesting that the Department of Environmental Conservation investigate the work site, review the test data developed by Dr. Cervino, and monitor the remedial steps you must take.

I look forward to your earliest possible response.

Page 2
March 1, 2010
Susan Kupferman, President
MTA Bridges and Tunnels

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Padavan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Frank" being more prominent than the last name "Padavan".

Frank Padavan
State Senator

FP: esg
Enc.

C: Pete Grannis, Commissioner NYS DEC
 Hon. Dan Halloran, City Council District 19
 Dr. James Cervino
 Bob LoPinto
 Community Board 7
 Paul Graziano
 Jay Walder, President & CEO MTA
 Caswell Holloway, Commissioner NYC DEP
 Greater Whitestone Taxpayers Association
 Beechhurst Property Owners Association
 Robinwood Property Owner Association
 Malba Civic Association
 St. Luke's Sports Association
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