



NORTH END/WATERFRONT RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 130319
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July 15, 2011

Anne S. Ferro, Administrator
Federal Motor Carrier Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Suite W60-300
Washington, DC 20590

Jeffrey B. Mullan, Secretary
Department of Transportation
Ten Park Plaza, Suite 3170
Boston, MA 02116

Subject: City of Boston Hazardous Cargo Routing Study

Dear Administrator Ferro and Secretary Mullan:

The North End/Waterfront Residents' Association (NEWRA) is an organization of more than 300 members who have primary residency in the historic and densely populated North End/Waterfront neighborhood of Boston. For more than a decade, NEWRA's mission has been to protect and improve the quality of residential life in this community. With protection of the more than 10,000 residents and thousands of visitors each day to the North End/Waterfront in mind, we write to urge you to expedite implementation of the recommendations of the City of Boston's hazardous cargo routing study.

The City of Boston Transportation Department (BTD) issued its HazMat Route Evaluation Report to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation on April 26, 2011, and released the results on May 13, 2011. The results of the study confirmed what residents of the North End/Waterfront have assumed and long feared: that trucks carrying hazardous cargo through the City of Boston, and most especially the North End/Waterfront, present a danger with considerable risk for loss of life and property in the event of an accident. The report strongly recommends that only hazardous cargo vehicles with drop-off or pickup locations within Boston should be allowed to travel within city limits, and it supports banning hazardous cargo trucks not doing business in the city from using city streets to reach destinations outside the city. BTD estimates that 75%-80% of the hundreds of hazmat trucks coming through the North End every week are not doing business in the city. To reduce the risk to the public, these trucks should use alternative routes outside the city.

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We who live in the North End/Waterfront neighborhood through which these hazardous cargo trucks now travel are at greatest risk, a risk that will continue until the recommendations of the City of Boston's study are implemented. We ask that you reduce this risk and bring protection to our neighborhood as quickly as possible by relocating the pass-through hazardous cargo trucks to safer routes outside the city.

Yours truly,

Stephanie Hogue
President

cc: Mayor Thomas Menino
State Senator Anthony Petrucci
State Representative Aaron Michlewitz
City Councilor Salvatore LaMattina
Thomas Tinlin, Commissioner, Boston Transportation Department
Donna Freni, President, North End/Waterfront Neighborhood Council