



Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director

June 6, 2023

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309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Edward Markey
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Representative William Keating
2351 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Representative Seth Moulton
1126 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Use of Department of Defense Funds for Cape Cod Canal Bridges Project

Dear Senator Warren, Senator Markey, Representative Keating and Representative Moulton:

On behalf of the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), the Cape region's leading nonprofit environmental advocacy and education organization, I wish to commend your ongoing support of the effort to replace the aging Sagamore and Bourne bridges, as well as your pursuit of federal funding sources to pay for this important infrastructure project.

The recent letter you sent to Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin seeking earmarks in Department of Defense funds for the bridge replacement project may be one avenue worth considering. However, we are concerned that this request for DOD funding may become linked to the discussion surrounding the multipurpose machine gun range proposed on the Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve at Joint Base Cape Cod.

As you know, the Environmental Protection Agency has conducted a comprehensive evaluation of the proposed multipurpose machine gun range and has issued a draft determination that the project has the potential to contaminate the aquifer, creating a significant public health hazard. If this draft determination is finalized by the EPA, no federal funding may be allowed for the machine gun range project.



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APCC therefore respectfully urges you to clarify with Secretary Austin that any potential DOD funding should under no circumstances be conditionally tied to your support of the machine gun range. We also seek assurances from you that no pressure will be exerted on the Environmental Protection Agency to amend its findings on the range's potential environmental impacts in exchange for bridge funding.

Replacement of the Sagamore and Bourne bridges is long overdue, and Cape Cod and the rest of the Commonwealth will greatly benefit from the construction of new canal bridges. At the same time, Cape Cod's single source of drinking water must be protected at all costs and should not be compromised by actions that threaten it. Both objectives can and should be achieved without sacrificing one for the other.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Gottlieb', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Gottlieb
Executive Director

cc: The Honorable Maura Healey, Governor of Massachusetts
Quentin Palfrey, Director of Federal Funds and Infrastructure
Sen. Julian Cyr
Sen. Susan Moran
Rep. Sarah Peake
Rep. Christopher Flanagan
Rep. Kip Diggs
Rep. David Vieira
Rep. Dylan Fernandes
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