

Coalition Against An UnSound Crossing

Contact: Kevin Wilkinson
O: 516.829.8374 / C: 631.707.6141
kwilkinson@zimmed.com

For Immediate Release

****P R E S S R E L E A S E****

Coalition Against An UnSound Crossing Celebrates Cuomo Administration Decision to Drop Long Island Sound Tunnel Plan

Oyster Bay, N.Y. (June 29, 2018)—The Coalition Against An UnSound Crossing hails Governor Cuomo’s decision to suspend any plans to pursue a cross-Sound tunnel project that would have connected Long Island to Westchester. This announcement by the State follows the coalition’s press conference on Wednesday announcing its formation and dedication to stopping plans to build a crossing across the Sound.

“We are very pleased to hear that Governor Cuomo has abandoned the tunnel project; hopefully, a suspension that is permanent,” said Heather Johnson, executive director of Friends of the Bay and now also president of the coalition. “The coalition was focused on fighting for the environmental protection of our bays, harbors and Long Island Sound and the Governor’s decision is beneficial to this mission. It is welcomed news for Long Island and New York State.”

During the coalition’s press conference, held on Wednesday, June 27, the group’s members voiced their concerns regarding the dangerous environmental impacts a tunnel could have on Long Island’s sole-source aquifer and the visual and environmental impacts of several, massive ventilation towers. Members also questioned the \$55 billion cost of the project and construction period that had the potential to span over two decades. The coalition hopes to work with the administration to identify current State infrastructure that desperately needs funding and resources to improve transit options on Long Island.

“Over the past several months, we have worked closely with local and state officials, civic groups and individual citizens to explain why this proposal is a bad idea for Long Island and for New York as a whole,” stated Peter Janow, the coalition's executive director. “We remain firmly committed to ensuring this decision is final and not a temporary suspension during election season. The coalition will continue to work with elected officials and other community leaders to monitor the issue and remain ready to respond should the project once again develop steam.”

Regional residents are encouraged to visit the coalition’s website: www.unsoundcrossing.org or its Facebook page for further updates.

###