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NOTICE
Regarding
THE PROPOSED WEST END MARINA IN PROVINCETOWN
Jan. 25 Hearing
150 people attending according to Lawrence

On Thursday, January 25, the Committee on Harbors and Public Lands, Mass. General Court, will hold a hearing on a bill, #H2686, to transfer 57 acres of the Province Lands to the town of Provincetown for the purpose of developing a marina and attendant facilities. This hearing will receive testimony from a large group of local officials and fishermen who believe that the proposed marina is the only chance left in a long list of attempts to acquire a harbor of refuge for Provincetown. We wholeheartedly endorse a harbor of refuge but we believe the fishermen are being used as a front to acquire this land, which rightfully belongs in the National Seashore, in order to develop certain parts of it for commercial purposes, thus destroying the scenic area of Long Point and costing the town many thousands of dollars it can hardly afford.

We urge you, therefore, to address your protest to:

Chairman Charles W.R. Olson, Com. on Harbors & Public Lands,
Massachusetts General Court, Boston, Mass.

Testimony should be sent as soon as possible but letters will be acceptable after the hearing date. The following points may be made in addition to your own personal reasons:

1. The cost of this marina will far exceed the ability of the town to pay for its building and upkeep. A thorough examination of the marina plans reveal that the final figure of \$850,000 may be double the present estimate with the town slated to undertake at least 25% of the dredging cost and 50% of all other work.
2. The motives behind this request for 57 acres are questionable. It has been known for some time that the controlling interests of land adjacent to the marina site are friends of the Dir. of the Div. of Waterways. The building of a marina at this particular location would greatly increase the value of this property thus creating financial advantage for a few at the expense of the town. Certain features about the background of a marina in this particular location have been made clear in the New Bedford Standard Times.
3. Extra acreage is being requested that was not authorized by the voters at the July 10th Special Town Meeting. At that time, only 38 acres were asked for and approved. -- Now, with no reason given, 19 acres have been added.
4. There has been no survey made of the marina site by U.S. Army Engineers as claimed by local officials and Rep. Albro. In a letter received by our committee on July 7, 1961, the Army Corps stated--"The Corps of Engineers has not made any survey of Provincetown Harbor relative to the most advantageous location for a marina."

5. The disturbance of the marshlands will upset the whole ecology in this area and destroy a very valuable wild life refuge. The importance of marshlands as spawning grounds for fish and as breeding places for many species of birds has been increasingly recognized.
6. The alternatives to a town owned and operated marina are two:
1. That the National Park Service may very possibly build such a marina when the land is acquired by the Cape Cod National Seashore or 2. That the Federal Government may undertake the construction of a harbor of refuge in the center of town as originally proposed in 1947. Either alternative would leave the entirety of the Province Lands under the supervision of the National Seashore and insure us a marina at the same time.
7. You are a taxpayer. You will bear the tax burden of this marina and should emphasize in your protest your tax responsibility and the taxable property you represent.

Copies of your letter may also be sent to:
Francis Lappin, Legislative Secretary to
Governor Volpe, State House
Charles H.W. Foster, Dept. of Nat. Resources
15 Ashburton Place, Boston

The Emergency Committee for the
Preservation of the Province Lands
Provincetown, Mass.