

Member, Public Works and Highways
Member, NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission

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Subject: Representative Ulery Does not Speak for Hudson

Dear NH House Committee for Public Works and Highways,

My name is Brett Gagnon and I am reaching out to you as an active volunteer, conservationist and current sitting Hudson NH selectmen. I should clearly state that the following comments and thoughts are on my own accord and I am not speaking for the board as a whole.

Please do not take anything that representative Ulery says as fact, or even average opinion. Representative Ulery says that he speaks for Hudson but has never asked for input from his constituents, the board of selectmen or anyone else that may be involved in such a project like the Circumferential Highway. He acts with devious intentions and back door negotiations that his constituents are getting quite aggravated about.

I have been volunteering in Hudson for years now. Not only have I sat on the Hudson Conservation Commission, but I have co-founded a grassroots effort to bring the facts about the circumferential highway to the constituents of Hudson. During this time I have also sponsored numerous petition warrant articles to protect 3 state forests, increase Land Use Change Tax to the Conservation Fund and flip the planning board from appointed to elected. All of this was able to happen because Hudson voters support conservation efforts and they have had less and less trust in their past leadership based on back door dealings and decisions that don't represent the voters. I can confidently say that everyone who knows me (and voted for me as a Hudson Selectmen) clearly understands my campaign platforms. My election alone

shows that Hudson voters are concerned about the character of their town due to the over development and lack of logical planning in Hudson.

In conclusion, I highly recommend that you disregard anything Representative Ulery or Representative Rice stated at your committee meeting. I will be speaking with my fellow selectmen and town engineer to make sure any efforts associated with the circumferential highway are publicized and reviewed in detail before any advice, recommendations or suggestions are forwarded to the state. Representative Ulery currently sits on the Hudson Planning Board where he has not raised any concerns with traffic from one of the largest commercial developments in New England (Hudson Logistics Center). For him to then go in front of your committee and beg for traffic relief with the town engineer is not only preposterous, but out of line. A project of this impact needs proper vetting and public input, anything less is a disgrace to our democracy.

With that said, I personally believe this project is far past its time and has no realistic merit to move forward. The state has continually said they wont fund the project, the town says they don't want to pay for the project and the environmental impacts are disastrous (numerous great ponds, prime wetlands, vernal pools, streams, brooks, ledge cliffs and open fields amongst many others). The original designs show a road that intersects all crossing roads, which clearly falsifies the highways sales pitch of reliving traffic. Seeing as though the highway right of way is all zoned G1, this project is clearly an excuse for more development. Not to mention the NH DOT currently owns and rents three dilapidated homes in Hudson that unfortunate tenants have to deal with.

If you grant me the opportunity, I would be happy to propose an alternate idea that ties together light commercial growth with recreational assets and conservation initiatives. There could be a potential win for everyone and a project that could make the southern NH area a wonderful place to visit.

Thank you for your time and I'm sure you will be hearing more from me if this project does move forward.

For your reference;

<https://hudsonallianceforresponsibledevelop>

and

<https://hudsonallianceforresponsibledevelop/highwy-hudson-blvd-synopsis-hard.pdf>

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Sincerely,

Brett Gagnon

Hudson NH Selectmen

(Join the effort)

*and a Member of the Right To Know NH
Organization*

www.RightToKnowNH.org