

City Council
City of Hoboken
94 Washington Street
Hoboken, NJ 07030



Theresa Castellano
First Ward Councilwoman
Michael Russo
Third Ward Councilman

Letter to the Editor:

We are writing with reference to the ferry service. First, be assured that no elected official or resident wants these ferries to be discontinued.

When the ferry service was reinstated after its demise some years ago, it was hard to imagine why it ever stopped. We can all state the reasons why the ferry service should continue, since we are a stones throw from Manhattan and it is so convenient. But there are many questions that need to be answered and considered before any elected official can vote on spending taxpayers' money.

1. Why are the people who are experts in transportation not jumping out of the seats for this opportunity? The Port Authority was created by New Jersey and New York for the purpose of managing transportation.
2. Does Dave Roberts think he is capable of managing a transportation system like he's managing the Parking Utility? The same Dave Roberts who plunged this city into a financial disaster by raising spending by \$30 million since taking office.

If his performance as Mayor is used as a barometer, we say NO WAY.

3. Why should Hoboken taxpayers (Hudson County Taxpayers) be responsible for bailing out a private company owned by a wealthy developer?
4. Just where does the responsibility lie if something goes wrong?
5. What about liabilities and insurance issues (remember the Staten Island ferry crash)?

Neither the City of Hoboken nor the County of Hudson is in a position financially to acquire and manage a maritime company. It seems to us that we need to find a solution that doesn't expose our taxpayers to potential financial liabilities. Is the RISK worth the purported gain?

Sincerely,

Michael Russo
Third Ward Councilman

Theresa Castellano
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