

March 6, 2022



Fairfield Beach Residents Association Newsletter



State House Bill 5254 under consideration

We would like you to consider writing a letter if you feel this would impact our neighborhood
E mails need to be received by Monday
March 7th Before 11 am

FBRA Members:

We want to alert you to a legislative measure being considered in the CT Joint Committee on Transportation that directly affects our beach community. It is Connecticut House Bill 5254, Titled "An Act Ensuring Access to Parking Near Public Beaches and Recreational And Scenic Areas."

Below is a letter FBRA sent to the Transportation Committee voicing **strong opposition** to the bill.

We urge you to make your own voice heard by writing to the Chairs of the Transportation Committee: Roland.Lemar@cga.ct.gov and Haskell@senatedems.ct.gov. Please also cc our beach area legislators: Jennifer.Leeper@cga.ct.gov and Tony.Hwang@cga.ct.gov.

First Selectwoman Kupchick referred to this legislation in her Friday newsletter. You can click the link for the bill language as well as the written testimony submitted by Parks and Recreation Director, Anthony Calabrese.

The Transportation Committee will hold a public Hearing on this measure, Monday, March 7, 2022, at 11:00 A.M. via zoom. The public hearing can be viewed via [YouTubeLive](#). In addition, the public hearing may be recorded and broadcast live on [CT-N.com](#)

First Selectwoman Kupchick's newsletter:

BEACH ACCESS & PARKING

[HB 5254](#) would prevent the Town of Fairfield, and other beach communities, from restricting access to parking near a public entrance to a public beach, recreational area, or scenic area. It would also prevent the Town from charging parking fees or continuing with our current beach permit program. The bill would have a huge impact on the Town's current budget, would take away the Town's ability to have control over its own shoreline,

and would negatively impact residents who live near our beaches. You can read Fairfield's Parks & Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese's testimony in opposition to this bill [here](#). The Fairfield Beach Residents Association is also submitting testimony in opposition.



March 4, 2022

Testimony Regarding: H.B. No. 5254- AN ACT ENSURING ACCESS TO PARKING NEAR PUBLIC BEACHES AND RECREATION AND SCENIC AREAS.

Dear Transportation Committee Members:

This testimony is written and submitted on behalf of the Fairfield Beach Residents Association in **OPPOSITION** to raised Bill 5254- AN ACT ENSURING ACCESS TO PARKING NEAR PUBLIC BEACHES AND RECREATION AND SCENIC AREAS.

Founded in 1955, the Fairfield Beach Residents Association is a 501(c)4 advocacy organization comprised of homeowners from the Old Post Road south to Fairfield Beach Road west to the end of the road, and Reef Road east to Beach Road. The FBRA aims to: represent and implement the interests and desires of the membership in maintaining and improving Fairfield Beach and vicinity; promote cooperation among the owners and renters; represent the common interests of the membership in relation to governmental authorities, and provide for the mutual assistance, enjoyment, and quality of life for all people residing in the Fairfield Beach area.

We understand that Anthony R. Calabrese, Director of Parks and Recreation, Town of Fairfield has already submitted testimony detailing the devastating financial impact H.B. No. 5254 would have on the Town of Fairfield. By his calculations, this legislative measure would deprive our town of \$1.2 million.

Maintenance of the beach does not come without costs. It falls directly on the taxpayers of the town in which the beach is located. We welcome residents from our neighboring communities to visit our beaches, but as the taxpayers that financially support these public beaches, it is only fair and equitable that nonresidents pay an additional cost to contribute to the maintenance of the beaches.

In addition to the financial effects of the bill, our very congested beach neighborhoods will become even more congested. If parking cannot be restricted on our narrow New England streets, emergency personnel in their vehicles cannot respond appropriately putting residents' safety in jeopardy.

The beach community in Fairfield is extremely busy in the summertime. Not a weekend goes by that there is not a charity walk, bike, or run including the Fairfield Half Marathon and Fairfield 5K race. Our narrow streets are crowded with pedestrian traffic, people biking, people pushing baby strollers, people pulling kayak wagons. Overcrowding

already puts beachgoers in danger.

FBRA asks you oppose this bill as currently written. I am available through FBRA06824@gmail.com or at 203-292-9840 should you have questions, or I can provide more information on behalf of beach residents in Fairfield.

Regards,

Carolyn Kamlet

Carolyn Kamlet

President, Fairfield Beach Residents Association

P.O. Box 513, Fairfield CT 06824 * FBRA.ORG * FBRA06824@gmail.com



Aquarion offers discounted Rain barrels for CT residents

Order your rain barrel today!

Save water, save money with Aquarion's discounted rain barrel program! Collect and store water for your garden every time it rains—with a barrel designed to fit under your downspout and catch rainwater running off your roof.

[ORDER HERE](#)

For only \$75, Connecticut customers can purchase a high-quality, 60-gallon upcycled rain barrel designed to fit under a downspout and catch rainwater running off of the roof. Customers can collect and store water for use in a garden whenever it rains. It takes just one quarter-inch of rainfall on an average roof to fill the barrel and provide water to use during dry periods, even when restrictions are imposed on water usage. The usage of rain barrels can help conserve water and reduce water bills.

Key Features:

- 60-gallon food-grade upcycled rain barrel with brass spigot
- Removable intake screen keeps insects and debris from entering
- Overflow directs water away from the foundation
- Connects to drip irrigation, soaker or garden hoses
- Terra cotta color prevents light transmission & inhibits algae growth
- Easy to set up and use – screw off top for easy cleaning
- Join multiple barrels for extra capacity

Customers can order barrels online at

www.aquarionwater.com/rainbarrels. Orders must be received by May 6, 2022. Pickup locations will be subject to COVID-19 restrictions.

Barrels will be available for pickup Saturday, May 14

- Fairfield, CT - at Fairfield Town Hall Campus, 725 Old Post Road - 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We have seen a few car break-ins in the neighborhood lately - Just a reminder to do the following:

- -Always lock doors and roll up windows when car is not in use
- -remove key fobs, cash, and valuables from the vehicle when not in use
- -park in a well lit area when possible
- -equip your property with motion lighting and/or surveillance (Ring, Nest, etc.)
- -call police immediately when observing suspicious behavior around your vehicle

Captain Eddie Weihe, Badge #104

Field Services Bureau Commander

Fairfield Police Department



There was a rally this weekend at the Ukrainian club in Southport

Several suggestions on how you can help:

- Donate to [Save the Children](#): **UKRAINE: 7.5 MILLION CHILDREN CAUGHT IN THE CROSSFIRE OF WAR**
- [Americares](#), a nonprofit that provides medicine and medical supplies during conflicts and other emergencies, said it is prepared to respond to the conflict in Ukraine. "Americares has contacted international emergency response partners on the ground in Ukraine and in Eastern Europe to offer assistance,"
- [The International Committee of the Red Cross](#) -The ICRC says it will use funds to respond to urgent, humanitarian needs. ICRC water engineers and doctors are aiming to help more than 3 million people access clean water as well as improve the living conditions of 66,000 people whose homes were damaged from the conflict.

[Text Link](#)

About the FBRA:

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Board of Directors

Carolyn Kamlet, President, Bill Perugini, Vice President; Donna Alatakis, Treasurer; David Harris Asst Treasurer; Becky Bunnell, Secretary; , Bryan Cafferelli, Peter Collins, Brian Farnen, Roy Friedman, Steve Gordon, Rick Grauer, , Ilse



Martin, Marc Papini, Patti Zecchi, David Zieff

Visit us at www.fbra.org to renew your membership
or visit us on [Facebook](#)-

PO Box 513, Fairfield Ct 06824

