



WC Freeholder Director Rick Gardner

180 Rockfall Plan – CONDEMNED

By Tara Mezzanotte

WARREN COUNTY - 180 Rockfall Plan – CONDEMNED by retiring longtime WC Freeholder Director Rick Gardner (2003-2020)! His last official Freeholder act. December 30, 2020, sending a letter to NJ state and federal representatives, NJTPA, NJDOT & FHWA. You rock Rick – thank you!!!! Who is Rick Gardner: A Farmer, a Gentleman and a Freeholder | Inside Warren

- I condemn the current plans
- One must also ask why there are no plans by the DOT to realign the S-Curve on I-80 which is a genuine problem and site of many accidents.
- Citizens of Warren County are becoming increasingly upset and in some cases outraged at the very thought of desecration to the beautiful vista of the Delaware Water Gap
- Has the NJ DOT even considered the significance of this natural iconic view shed from the standpoint of the motoring public, county and state residents
- this will cause nightmares for the motoring public.
- grief and financial pains to area communities in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania.
- The only positive I see for this project is that a handful of private contractors are going to make some big money
- why is our state DOT so gung-ho to charge ahead and spend tens of millions of taxpayers' money on this project? Is there not legislative oversight? Does Governor Phil Murphy know how his DOT is operating and does he care about the negative impacts of this scheduled project?

Rick's letter pulls together his previous on record statements:

December 2, 2020 - WRNJ Radio Local Impact with Joyce Estey

"There is more work to be done, I am looking at this rockfall mitigation, I feel here is another issue where our state government is not focused. Our Governor's administration should be keeping his eye on the ball instead of letting his agencies run amuck. Spending \$65 Million, and maybe that cost be elevated from there, on a Rockfall project in our beautiful Delaware Water Gap...and the fact of it is it is not going to alleviate the problems in the S-Curve on Route 80 which is really the cause of all the accidents"

September 15, 2020 – Press Conference - Bi-State Elected Officials United to Preserve the Gap

Really, who wants to see Tammany Mountain blasted into, it is such a special icon...We are all upset about it, those of us that wish to see the natural landscape preserved... it is a treasure of national significance. I have always felt you could cantilever 80 or find ways like they do out west, what, we are not smart to engineer like this in New Jersey? We started out with what, a \$5Million Dollar Project, and what, they have spent like \$8Million on studies. So they will blast into the mountain and put up a fence and cause more problems.... It is high time the public gets the respect it deserves and they

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