

April 29, 2022

Petersburg Pilot

Petersburg Borough Assembly

Dear Editor and Honorable Assembly Members:

Just finished looking over the proposed Papke's Landing Conceptual Design and had a couple of thoughts.

We all know that when a project proposed to be funded by government has a cost estimate attached, the actual price is going to be double. \$6.5 million will become \$13 million. Too much! I think we could make major improvements for much less.

What is really needed out there can be boiled down to two things, replace the existing dock with an upgraded version and improve the parking.

The parking can be improved by expanding the existing area and removing abandoned and derelict vehicles. Some grading, some fill and removal of junked vehicles could probably be done for 1/10 of the actual budget of the proposed project, or \$1.3 million. No expert here, just talked to a few fellow users and that seems to be a reasonable cost.

Replacing the dock will probably take almost as much as we are sure there are upgrades that will be required by ordinance or regulation. Adding some lights would be nice.

We don't need the Taj Mahal of boat launch facilities, just a bit of improvement over the one we have been making work for the past 39 years that I have been using it.

One thing we certainly don't need is an outhouse built just outside the picture window of a house that has been there for decades. If one is added, it could be placed where it won't be the focal point of an otherwise beautiful view.

A little common sense. A reasonable improvement at a reasonable cost. That is the ticket.

George Cole
PO Box 2107
Petersburg