

# Know the Facts

## A Yes Vote Now Will Save Millions Later

### They Say

This is not the last option. If we defeat the August 28th resolution, another resolution will appear on the November ballot for Lot 47. We can then put the barn there without waiting 2 or 3 years.

### The Facts Are

David Long, Council President, stated in last weeks Press "Recent ads claiming the lot 47 location as a foregone conclusion is simple not true and irresponsible. The permitting process alone for lot 47 could still take years, resulting in additional unforeseeable costs". The landfill remediation must be completed before any building can be considered on lot 47. This process is currently at square one and must go through four design stages (30%, 50% 90% and final stage). The Town must submit proposals to DEM at each of these stages to address Waste Management and more importantly Stormwater Management regulations. In order for the Town to meet Stormwater Management regulations, with a highway garage on Lot 47 or the Landfill, it must dump Stormwater from the landfill onto a neighbor's property. Without the highway garage all Stormwater can be contained on Town property. DEM has indicated the neighbors will have final approval on this issue. They have stated they will not approve Stormwater from the landfill being dumped onto their property and into wetlands. Would You?

### They Say

Taylor Point is the Gateway to Jamestown. By voting against the referendum we can stop our shoreline from being turned into an industrialized zone, and preserve the scenic character of Jamestown

### The Facts

The Referendum is actually for the Bridge Authority Land which is located between the Newport Bridge and the sewerage treatment plant. This site is not visible from Taylor Point, Potters Cove or Rt. 138. It is also not visible from Bay View Drive and far less visible from the bridge than the sewerage treatment plant In-fact only a portion of the shingled roof will be seen from the Newport Bridge. It is important to review the Bill Burgin photos/renderings in the press before making a decision

### They Say

The Bridge Authority Land is too small to accommodate the Highway Barn and the material necessary to run day to day operations.

### The Facts Are

Town Council Vice President Julio Di Giando has stated "By locating the Barn at the Bridge Authority Site we will be able to consolidate all municipal operations at one site. There is room for our sewer treatment plant, the Highway Barn, a modified salt shed and if need be a future expansion of the tank system associated with the sewerage treatment plant".

### They Say

The Bridge Authority will have operating oversight on how the barn is operated which may interfere with the way the Highway Department can do its job.

### The Facts Are

The Bridge Authority has never asked for oversight of operations. They have made two minor requests, the first to have an easement at the rear of the building to access the bridge for maintenance. The second is their preference for a shingle style building. Jamestown will have total control of its property and no interference with its operations.

### They Say

Jamestowners have already rejected the Taylor Point location by a margin of two to one.

### The Facts Are

n Jamestowners voted down a prior design at a completely different location on Taylor Point that had a cost of \$2.4 million. The new proposal is not located on Taylor Point but between the Newport Bridge and The Sewer Treatment Plant. The new facility will cost \$1.5 million; \$900,000 less than the proposal 2 years ago. If we don't build now the price is sure to skyrocket beyond the old \$2.4 million

### They Say

The Highway Department Workers unanimously voted their opposition to the Bridge Authority Location.

### The Facts Are

Bruce Keiser, Town Administrator, stated at the last town council meeting "That a recent vote taken by the union in which three members opposed the Taylor Point facility did not come from Highway Division members. Rather, they came from the Water and Sewer Division workers, whose facility would abut the new highway garage". There has never been a vote by the DPW Highway Division Workers

### They Say

Locating A highway Garage at The Bridge Authority land will result in a split Facility.

### The Facts Are

The opposite is true. Locating a facility on Lot 47 will result in a split facility. DEM has forbidden storage of the salt/sand mixture and fuel on Lot 47 or the landfill. Dem has also forbidden all vehicle washing at Lot 47 and the landfill. Additionally, Lot 47 has severe restrictions on water usage, less than what the average home would use. Showers would have to occur elsewhere and drinking Water will have to come from off site-----There are no restrictions on these functions at the Bridge Authority Site or the Sewerage Treatment Plant

### They Say

The Town is purchasing 6,000 square feet of Bridge Authority land for \$97,500 or \$700,000 per acre.

### The Facts Are

The \$97,500 cost includes over \$50,000 for the environmental study the Bridge Authority conducted because of allegations of dumping on this site. This is a one time charge that Jamestown no longer needs to incur; the true cost of the land is less than \$47,500.

### They Say

Having the Highway Garage in a central Island location has no advantages.

### The Facts Are

While ignoring the obvious economic benefits, the safety benefits alone create a compelling reason for locating the Highway Garage in the center of the Island. Police Chief Tighe and Fred Pease, who are the Director and Assistant Director of Emergency Management, have stated "The Highway Garage needs to be centrally located to insure the fastest response time in emergencies. The DPW shouldn't be tied up for days trying to hack their way into Town". The DPW needs to be located close to the Town's other critical disaster relief departments to insure the fastest response.

David Long, Council President, was recently quoted in the press "Due to Katrina, Federal, State and local authorities have re-examined and re-structured Emergency Management. Centralizing and coordinating all facets of Police, Fire, Rescue and the DPW is considered crucial to effective response, be it Snowstorms, Hurricanes, or any Disaster.

### They Say

Jamestown's home rule process is being tested. The threats of lawsuits changed the majority decision to Taylor Point. Will Jamestown remain a democracy or will it be governed by intimidation.

### The Sad Fact Is

This completely false and irresponsible comment had to come from the oppositions slick PR Firm. Three previous sites selected for the highway barn were on the landfill or on lot 47. All were rejected because they became extremely costly to meet DEM regulatory requirements. This was totally driven by the DEM, not threats of a lawsuit. The Town recently began to address DEM Stormwater Regulations and was advised by their engineers, that in order to build a highway garage on Lot 47 or the Landfill, it would have to dump stormwater onto a neighbor's property, and into wetlands. DEM has indicated the neighbors must give their approval to do this. The neighbors have stated they would not approve Storm water being dumped from a landfill into the wetlands on their property. All Stormwater can be contained on the landfill or Lot 47 without the Highway Garage; that's where it belongs. These neighbors did state they would sue if DEM regulations suddenly became less restrictive than in any other community, or if the Town Council arbitrarily changed the zoning on Lot 47 from residential to Public. What would you do? What would the crafter of this irresponsible statement do?

The Town Council's choice not to build on Lot 47 was one of common sense. The common sense thing for the public to do now is to back their decision and place the highway garage in a central location where it will not result in a split facility, where it is hidden from view, has no impact on the surrounding neighborhood, has no potential environmental issues, can be built now and has zero potential for costs to skyrocket.

## Vote YES On the August 28th Referendum

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