GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS, NO NEWS AT ALL?

BY
LAURIE HORRIDGE
DIRECTOR OF EXECUTIVE AFFAIRS
NARRAGANSETT BAY COMMISSION
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND
Typical taking dilemma...

- You find the perfect property for your project !!!
- Based on the condition of the property you assume that the owner will be more than happy to take the money and run...
Until owner realizes that the FMV of the property will never be enough to relocate....
Win, Win

Project touted in the media as a great example of what two sister agencies can accomplish.

DOT maintenance building dedicated in Warwick

“It will provide more space than the outdated maintenance headquarters in Providence”

“Facility was completed on time and under budget.”

“The new site will be cleaner, more professional and definitely be a staff morale booster.”
Narragansett Bay Commission
-Property Outline-
Narragansett Bay Commission
-Old Dog Pound Site-
Narragansett Bay Commission
-New Dog Pound Site-
Old Dog Pound
New Dog Pound
Repeat performance, right!!

NOT
"The location would be too stressful an environment for the animals"

"You couldn’t find a worse site than what is being proposed. It’s just no place to have an animal shelter.”

Council panel to review Providence Animal Control Center
“Woof – Woof – Woof!”
(Bad News Continues)

http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/change-the-proposed-location-for-the-providence-animal-control-center
Responded to Press

- Site 3X larger
- Better access for public
- State of the art facility
- Smell decreased
- No increased rail or truck traffic
Riding high on the CSO wave!
“It’s been a long time coming, but we’re really looking forward to it – it will have a huge impact.”

“I’m glad the water is getting cleaner”

“Our expectation is that we will be able to keep the upper Narragansett Bay Shellfishing water open under more rain event than we have previously.”

“Rain christen opening of sewage overflow tunnel

“I am happy with what RI is doing with the tunnel – It’s by light years the biggest thing. That [CSO’s] was the major source of pollution in Narragansett Bay.”

“Upper bay now cleaner for shellfishing

Project to solve much of Providence’s combined sewer overflow is complete
...and then

NOTHING
Eureka.....
Hi:

I spoke with Peter Lord at length about tunnel performance for a story in the ProJo.

He actually said, “Don’t you have ANYTHING but good news to tell me? What am I going to say to my editor?”

JS

Jamie R. Samons
Public Affairs Manager
Narragansett Bay Commission
One Service Road
Providence, RI 02905
tel (401) 461-8848 x377
fax (401) 784-3528
Hello All:

This email is to alert you of a potential story in the Providence Journal. I spoke at length today with Peter Lord, the Journal’s environmental reporter, about flows into the CSO tunnel since its commissioning, and especially throughout the very wet month of June and the early days of July. We anticipate that the story will be a positive one, as the tunnel has performed admirably, capturing over 740 million gallons since last November, over 65 million gallons in June alone, and saw its highest volume inflow during the surge this morning. If you have any questions about the story, please feel free to contact me.

Best (dry) wishes for the holiday weekend,

Jamie R. Samons
Public Affairs Manager
Narragansett Bay Commission
One Service Road
Providence, RI 02905
tel (401) 461-8848 x377
fax (401) 784-3528
Heavy rains exceed even overflow tunnel’s capacity
“...at some point in the morning, the gates were closed and the system was allowed to overflow.”

“the state’s massive, $359-million combined sewer overflow tunnel finally filled to capacity and allowed untreated sewage to spill into the city’s rivers.”

Heavy rains exceed even overflow tunnel’s capacity
Lessons learned ??

1. MAN BITES DOG IS THE STORY THE MEDIA WANTS
2. NO ONE LIKES THE DENTIST
3. NO NEWS IS BETTER THAN BAD NEWS