

**Friend's Rebuttal to the pathetic defense of Suntex Marinas by its vice-president in the Jersey Journal December 2 article. The people will never sacrifice the southside of LSP.**

- **regarding 1979 long abandoned master plan**, a small southside public marina was suggested but that was over 15 years before the northside marina was built for 500 boats and related facilities
- There already is an existing **sailing school** at LSP's southside in the summer - NY Harbor Sailing Foundation <https://nyharborsailing.com/> the program is called Operation Optimist. LSP already accommodates them on the southside and has a positive relationship with them, they get an annual special use permit. Liberty Landing Marina has a current sailing school called Offshore Sailing. So Marina may bring them over and push out the NY Harbor Sailing Foundation which is only for children.
- **" a fishing pier"** The existing 3 jetties already serve as fishing access points on the south side, and also the boardwalk by the public boat launch parking lot. The jetties needs some restoring since LSP's 1976 opening (it's on capital improvements list) but two still have a lot of grass and some people even like the eroded jetty with nature's interesting aspects)
- the jetties are loved and used by many people (and money can be found to renovate them from a couple of pots of funds in Gov Murphy's administration)
- **a rehabilitation of "what has become a neglected section of the park"** – except for jetties needing some restoration, the rest of the southside looks great.. The Overlook Lawn, original picnic area, renovated boat launch boardwalk.
- a replacement of the boat launch - the public boat launch is fine. The park has a popular kayak program which launches from tiny beach area by the easternmost jetty and that area would be gone.
- a boat club (doesn't help people without boats) and "other amenities" that Suntex spokesperson said would be available to the public. (BS)
- Suntext vice president stated, **"This marina will in no way hinder the views from the southern portion of the park** and in fact, we believe once completed, the project will beautify the area -- offering visitors several new ways to enjoy the park." *This is total nonsense as people love, need and deserve the sweeping, views and as someone said, the open space is interconnected with the open vistas.* It's impossible that the southsides panoramic harbor views wouldn't be obstructed by hundreds of yachts/boats.

He added that, as part of the proposed agreement with the state DEP, the company will assume maintenance and repair of the northern bulkhead. (that could have been funded in last 8 years by the DEP but they didn't, and certain funds can be found as the Baykeepe's Greg Remaud has asserted. \$43 million is a ludicrous figure for bulkhead repairs (Friends heard an estimate of \$10 million a couple of years ago) and marina would get free rent of \$25 million at southside.

People will not care at all about this "throwing a bone" nonsense or bulkhead deal in return for the ruination of the noncommercial peaceful side of LSP with its priceless public land and priceless open harbor vistas.