



## Bridge Rail Foundation Newsletter

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Red Herring Enters the Debate.**

February 5, 2010  
Vol 4 #2

**Stop the Suicides at the Golden Gate Bridge**

Spread the word—send this on to a friend.

#### FONSI NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

TO: State Clearinghouse  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA, 95814

Date: 01/27/2010

Areawide Clearinghouse

FROM: California Department of  
Transportation  
District 04  
111 Grand Ave,  
Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of Finding of No Significant Impact  
(Pursuant to: U. S. D. O. T. Order 5610. 1C, Paragraph 5. b)

SCH #: 2007062078

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project proposes a physical suicide deterrent  
system on the Golden Gate Bridge that reduces the number of injuries and  
deaths associated with individuals jumping off the bridge.

This is to advise you that a finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been  
made for this project by the California Department of Transportation as assigned  
by the Federal Highway Administration pursuant to 23 U.S.C. 327. A copy of the  
FONSI and the attached Environmental Assessment can be obtained from the  
California Department of Transportation office located at the above address.

#### EIR Released

Well there it is in black & white--The EIR is complete and CalTrans has found that the Suicide Deterrent Net will have no significant impact on the environment!

Though long delayed, this is a significant step forward.

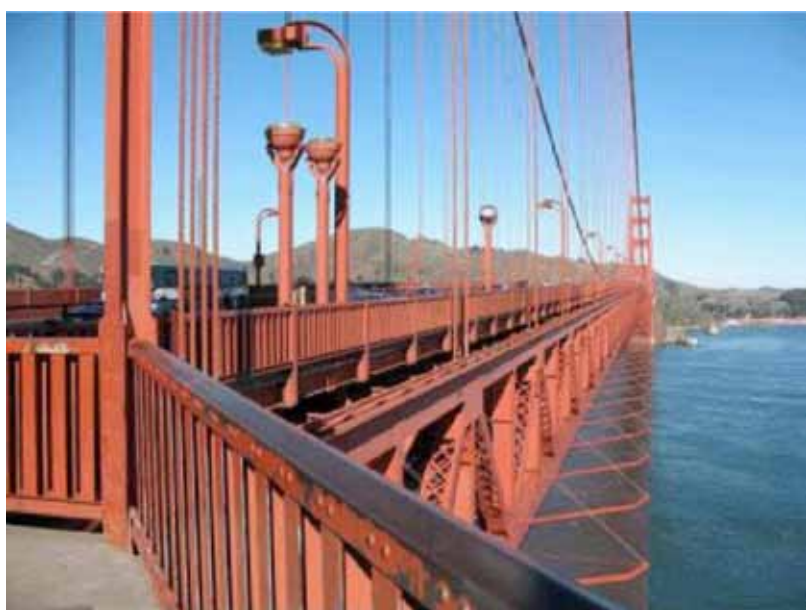
**Next step**--At its regular meeting on February 12, 2010 the GGB Board must certify and approve the project. That meeting is set for 10 AM at the district HQ, just west of the tollbooth at the south end of the bridge.

Once this is done-- we have got to find the funds.

#### How long will all this take?

GGB estimates the design, fabrication and installation process will take three years. It is most important that the design work proceed as soon as possible. Funds for this effort—estimated at ±\$5 million—should be made available before the construction funds are secured.

Meanwhile, efforts to secure funds for the fabrication and installation will proceed as well. Assemblyman Tom Ammiano's office reports that the effort to secure federal funding, through a bill Congress will consider this year, has been well received. His office has been in touch with both legislative and administration officials. Last year the entire Bay Area congressional delegation indicated support for this effort—and their help will most certainly be needed as the legislation is considered this year.



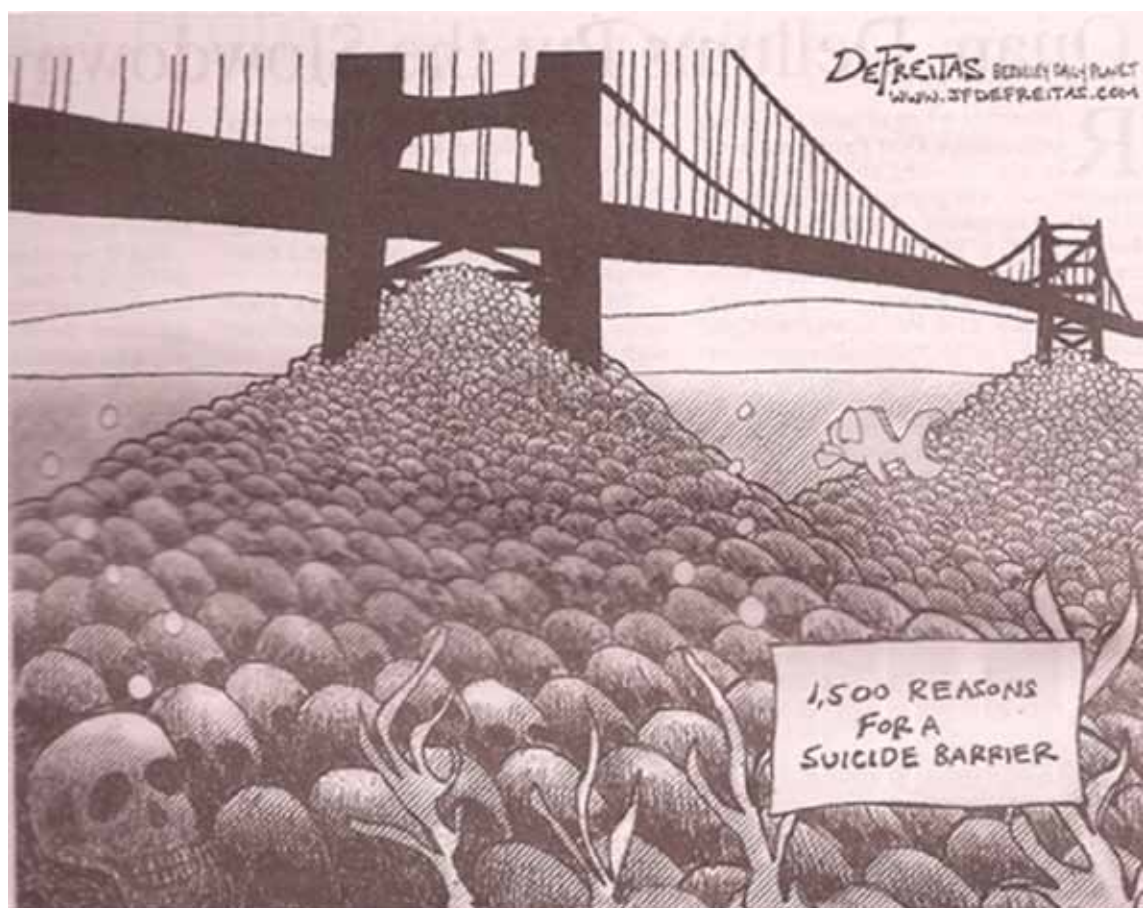
#### Red Herring enters the debate.

Documents published recently by GGB include this statement: "We anticipate that funding may be a combination of federal and private fund raising."



The Golden Gate Bridge district is a public agency, not a charity. The idea that any significant funds can be secured thru private sources--especially when so many true charities are squeezed by increased demand and reduced resources--is absurd. The district knows this, but perhaps shifting advocates attention to the private sector serves as some useful diversion.

Then again, perhaps the "Golden Arches"/hamburger sponsorship idea is still alive. Stay tuned.



Editorial cartoon, Berkeley Daily Planet, V11, #44 2/4/10, artist, Justin DeFreitas

#### Help Us Fight to Install the Net

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