



## Bridge Rail Foundation Newsletter

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### Raise the Rail—Stop the Suicides

#### Welcome new readers

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#2

This last month has seen a significant growth in the number of our subscribers. New members, new contributors and more people dedicated to Raising the Rail on the Golden Gate Bridge and stopping the suicides. Of course we want to spread the word even further—so why not send this on to a friend--

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#### Get Organized

Since our last note, Bridge Rail Foundation members and our volunteer supporters have begun a number of projects. There is always room for more volunteers—so lend a hand if you can. Click [here](#) to send us a note about any of the following:

#### North-Bay Outreach

BRF Board members in conjunction with friends and family of Casey Brooks have begun a focused effort to reach public officials in Marin and Sonoma counties. The idea is to get public officials on record supporting Raising the Rail—initial response has been good. Let us know if you would like to help with this effort.

#### Petitioning

If you enjoy hanging out at the local super market asking people to register their support for Raising the Rail—we have petitions, posters and support materials to back you up. This work is best accomplished with a small group—so plan to bring along 2-3 friends. Let us know if you are interested and we will send along the needed materials. The petitions you collect will be presented to GGB during the public hearings on the EIR this summer or at the appropriate GGB meeting.

#### Looking for Speaking Opportunities

We have a growing cadre of experienced speakers addressing the need to Raise the Rail—why not take a few moments and ask a local civic or church group if they would like to hear from us. In the last month, several BRF board members have been before school groups, mental health organizations, service clubs and a memorial service.

#### Barrier Opponent Creeps Out of Santa Barbara

Several of our supporters were dismayed to learn that a UCSB Political Science Professor recently sent the GG bridge board his unsolicited advice. The professor—Garrett Glasgow—is associated with a small group trying to stop a new railing on a Santa Barbara County suicide site, the Cold Spring Canyon Bridge.



Written in classic academic style, his unpublished paper states, restates and restates again his view that restricting easy access to jump sites is not proven to save lives. To reach this conclusion he discusses the supposed limitations of several published studies, never bothering to look at the body of evidence as a whole. This is the same trick used by deniers of global warming, deniers of the link between cigarettes and lung cancer and deniers of the safety value of seat belts. Small wonder his footnotes include a reference to material gathered from a tabloid newspaper.

There could be enough "truthiness" in all this to secure for Glasgow his moment of fame on the Colbert Report, and it will be necessary for us to refute his many misrepresentations in some detail. Of course, our friends in Santa Barbara have already done so—perhaps that's why he has crept up north.

#### New Brochure in the Works

BRF Volunteer Dayna Whitmer—has completed a draft of a new brochure to support families who have lost a loved one to the bridge, yet have not recovered the body. Motivated by her own family's experience, Dayna has assembled a comprehensive discussion of this situation. With assistance and review from Marin Coroner Ken Holmes and UCSF Psychiatrist Kim Norman MD, the brochure will provide some guidance in an extremely trying time.

#### This is a Critical Time—Your Support is Needed

The Bridge Rail Foundation recently completed a plan of action for the next year and a half. This is a most critical time, as the bridge district board of directors will issue a draft environmental impact report, have public hearings on the proposed new railings, digest the results of those hearings and consider approval of a plan to finally raise the rail. Our efforts to educate the public on the need for Raising the Rail are most important over these next 18 months. Major projects and the funds needed to support them are as follows:

#### Create New Visuals

We need to produce sophisticated photo realistic views of the proposed new safety railing. These are much needed, as drawings included in the Phase 1 report distort the appearance in a negative way and opponents of the railing will insist that it will mar the view. We know that is not the case, but we have to show this. — Sponsor new visuals: \$5,200

#### Publish Monthly Newsletter

You are reading it right now—and it's the first time we have gone monthly since the start of this effort. We believe the newsletter serves a vital function— Sponsor an issue: \$250.

#### Organize for the Hearings

We must be ready, because the opposition will be. Most of this effort will be volunteer as well, but our effort will be most effective if we have an organizer dedicated to the effort for several months. — Sponsor an organizer: \$15,000.

#### Prepare Materials and Signage

We need pamphlets and signs to inform the public about this issue when we appear at public events.— Sponsor Materials and Signage: \$3,000

#### Donate Now!

Go to our home page and click on the Donate Now button.

#### Donate Often!

Why not establish a regular monthly contribution. Many people find this an easy way to support projects they care about.

[Click here to Donate](#)

#### An Event or March in the Works

Last month we reported that mental health advocates, and the Bridge Rail Foundation have begun planning a special event or walk to demonstrate the need to raise the rail on the bridge. This event is still in the early planning stages, but we hope to have a date and venue proposed soon. Several of our readers expressed interest in helping out—we will be in touch once things are firmed up—and thank you!

#### Help Us Fight to Raise the Rail

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**Volunteer**—Click [here](#) to send us a note.

**Request a Speaker**—Click [here](#) to tell us of a venue for a speaker.

**Forward** a copy of this newsletter to a friend— [Click here to forward](#)

**Contribute**—Click below to donate online (deductible for federal tax purposes)

[Donate Online](#)