

The Red Hook Boat Club Needs Your Support

For nearly 70 years, the Red Hook Boat Club has been a cherished part of our community—a place built, maintained, and protected by generations of dedicated, hard-working members. It has provided not just access to the water, but a sense of belonging, shared history, and deep local pride.

Now, the Club is facing a serious challenge. The Town of Red Hook is attempting to take ownership of the property through eminent domain—a rare and powerful legal action typically reserved for vital public needs. In this case, the Town proposes replacing our well-loved, member-supported club with a so-called “public” version run by the government.

This move disregards the decades of volunteer effort, community spirit, and personal investment that have sustained the Boat Club for generations. It also raises serious questions about fairness, transparency, and respect for private property.

We believe the Club already *is* a public treasure—accessible, welcoming, and deeply rooted in the fabric of Red Hook. We urge the community to learn more, speak up, and help preserve a place that has meant so much to so many.

Here is what you can do to help:

- Call or email the Town Clerk Deanna Cochran [Town Clerk | Red Hook, NY](#), and let her know you want to stay fully informed:

“I would like to be notified when the Town Clerk publishes any agenda(s) for the Town Board that includes discussion, votes, or other action in any way pertaining to the waterfront areas in the Town, including any lands along or adjacent to Dock Road.”

- **Speak Up to Save the Boat Club!**

The Town is trying to use *eminent domain* to take over the Boat Club's property. That's not fair — the Club isn't responsible for the Town's limited waterfront access, and it shouldn't be forced out because someone wants to reimagine the shoreline.

- **This Affects All of Barrytown — Not Just the Boat Club**

What's happening isn't just about one club. If the Town pushes forward with its plan, everyone in Barrytown will feel the impact: more traffic, noise, parking problems, garbage, and disruption — all from a public park placed right in the heart of a quiet neighborhood.

- **Spread the word!**

Talk to your neighbors. Share on social media. Let people know what's at stake.

This is a community issue — and together, we can stand up for Barrytown.

- **Write**, Email, or Call the Town Board: [Town Board | Red Hook, NY](#)
- **Show up** at Town Board meetings and speak out

Let them know: You oppose the use of eminent domain against the Boat Club. Your voice matters — let's protect our community space!