

# Regional Plan Association

... a research and planning agency supported by voluntary membership to promote the coordinated development of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut Metropolitan Region.

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## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attached is Regional Plan Association's reply to a letter you received some time ago from the Builders Institute of Westchester and Putnam about the Rye-Oyster Bay Bridge. Since you covered the original letter, we thought you would be interested in our reply.

Special to: Patent Trader  
Westchester-Rockland Newspapers  
Westchester Business Journal

May 11, 1973

Mr. Gerald D. Lloyd  
Planning and Land Use Committee  
Builders Institute  
Robert Martin Corporation  
101 Executive Boulevard  
Elmsford, New York 10523

Dear Gerry:

The Builders Institute letter about Regional Plan Association's support for the Rye-Oyster Bay Bridge makes three discernible points:

1. That Regional Plan not only supports the idea of metropolitan centers but opposes scattering the facilities that belong in such centers all over the countryside--where they can be reached only by car.
2. That Regional Plan accepts the State's consultant report on the proposed Bridge when it says that the economic and population growth of Long Island will not be much affected by the Bridge. Further, that since Long Island will soon have about four million people--far more than all but a few urban regions in the nation--there are enough opportunities there without violating a splendid water body at great expense to encourage people to drive far more than they do now to get to work. The environmental costs are great, even though only tens of thousands may feel them in a Region of millions. But why not worry about environmental damages when the transportation advantages are small?
3. That Regional Plan believes that just because people will pay to use a bridge when it is built is no demonstration that they want the bridge. (Furthermore, the Builders Institute fails to acknowledge that the State's consultant says the proposed Bridge probably will not pay for itself out of tolls).

To all of these accusations, we are pleased to respond "right on." Regional Plan--and the public--are indeed "tired," to use the Builders Institute description. We're tired of building expressways where the benefits are moderate and the costs great. We're tired of rationalizations for building in the wrong place because it's too much trouble to put things in the right place--to save countryside, save our cities, save public transportation, build real communities--in short, provide a better urban world and retain a more natural rural world.

/over

Mr. Gerald D. Lloyd - 2

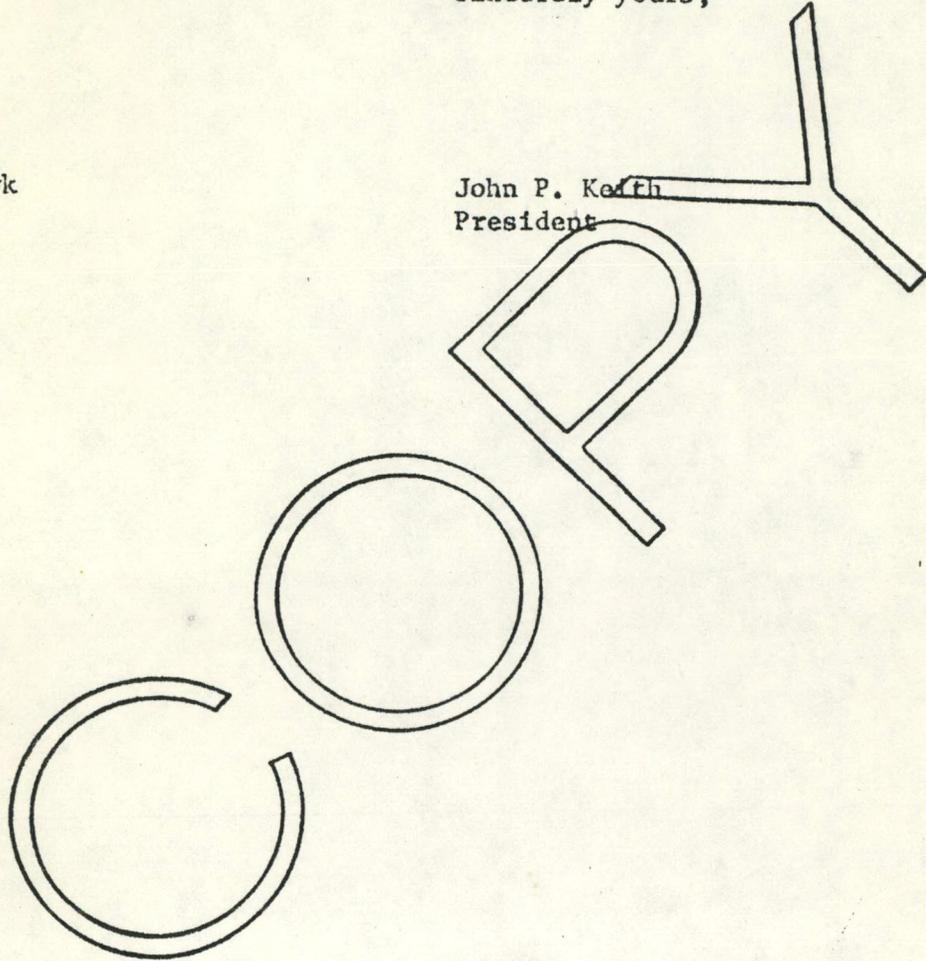
May 11, 1973

Regional Plan Association is not against building what the residents of this Region need and want. The Builders Institute, we are confident, is not against building in the most satisfactory places. We invite the Institute to join us to do both.

Sincerely yours,

JPK/wk

John P. Keith  
President



The image shows a handwritten signature of John P. Keith, which is a stylized, cursive script. Below the signature, the word "COPY" is written in large, bold, outline letters, arranged diagonally across the page.