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London Thames Gateway
Final Paper

Popular criticism of the Thames Gateway Initiative

Environmental Issues

Part of the Thames Gateway project includes the removing sections of North Kent Marshes, which is recognized as one of the twenty-two Environmentally Sensitive Area by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. The North Kent has been a marshland even before 55 B.C. and it is regulated by numerous international protection laws.

This wetland that was made famous by Charles Dickens, is a wildlife sanctuary for over 200,000 migrant birds. However what is even more important is that these marshes also serve as a natural flood protection for the London area.

Discussion for the threat for North Kent will begin April of 2007. One proposal is developing this area as a rail freight depot. Although there are merits in the proposals as an alternative method to alleviate traffic congestion, local city officials are still considering if the benefits outweighs the cost.

Bridge

On behalf of the Mayor of London's request, the Transport for London is building a bridge connecting Gallions Reach in Newham to Thamesmead in Greenwich.



http://www.skyscrapernews.com/imagesall.php?ref=47&idi=Thames+Gateway+Bridges+Planning+Process&self=nse&no=1&selfidi=47ThamesGatewayBridgesPlanningProcess_pic1.jpg

The bridge that will connect the north and south banks of the Thames Gateway project is also being criticized for being poor quality and unstable. Residents around the bridge are also concerned that there will be an increase in traffic congestions that will lead to noise and smog pollution. The biggest criticism is that the bridge is not pretty enough.

However supporters say the bridges looks very similar to the DLR which received little criticism for its appearance. Also some residence believes the bridge will make the area more attractive for business and people to live in.

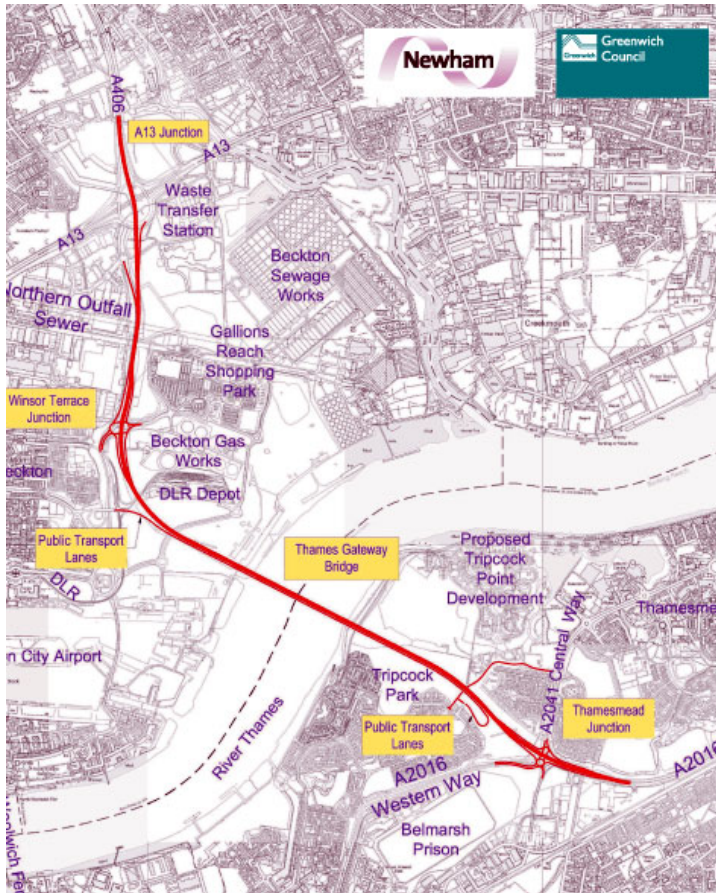


<http://images.search.yahoo.com>

Neighborhood

Historically, the area of the project was used as industrial and affordable housing. In the recent years, many industrial plants have abandon their factories there and the affordable housing have deteriorated.

This area has a very bad stigmatism in the minds of the London residents and many people will not want to move there.



<http://www.lcacc.org/access/access30.jpg>

Water Supply

There is also an efficiency issue for the water supply and why it took the government to bring up the issue. However communication with stakeholders have improved the situation and the Thames Water has offered to work with the housing association to help them update their stock.

Olympic Games

A main part of the Thames Gateway project was the design to host the Olympic Games of 2012. United Kingdom has lost the bid three consecutive time and they knew London was the only city that had the potential of winning the bid, However the day after the winning bid was announce, London was attacked by terrorist. Some believes there was a link to winning the bid and the attack. Many more believes too much money is spent on this part of the project just for the Olympic Games.



2012 ILLUSTRATIVE OLYMPIC MASTERPLAN



http://miragestudio7.com/blog/images/london_olympic_2012.jpg

Website

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thames_Gateway#Criticism

http://www.ltgf.co.uk/content/en/campaign_details.aspx?guid=A87CC789-B977-46B8-8794-20A1A10AAEAA

<http://www.housing.org.uk/library/viewfile.asp?fid=5695>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/London_2012_Olympic_bid#Criticism