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Reserve Center

## Lawmakers Urge Army Corps To Avoid Boardman Lane Site

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October 4, 2008

MIDDLETOWN —

U.S. Sens. Christopher Dodd and Joseph Lieberman and Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro are "strongly urging" Army Secretary Pete Geren to remove a 125-acre site along Boardman Lane from a list of possible locations for a new Armed Forces Reserve Center.

"Both Middletown residents and the city's elected leaders have made it particularly clear that the Boardman Lane property is not acceptable to the community as a site for the center," they wrote in an Oct. 1 letter to Geren.

The letter urged the Army Corps of Engineers to continue investigating the three remaining sites: the 35-acre Bysiewicz Industrial Park on Middle Street; Louis F. Cucia Park, a 4-acre park with a pond and 36 surrounding acres at Smith and Industrial roads; and the 25-acre federally owned site of the former Middletown Reserve Center on Mile Lane.

Corps officials reiterated this week at a final public hearing that no site would be dropped from the list until an exhaustive environmental review compliant with the National Environmental Policy Act is completed by early next spring.

By the end of the month, the Corps is expected to return with a list ranking the four sites as it heads into that environmental review process. State Attorney General Richard Blumenthal has promised to watch that process closely.

