



City of Cambridge Conservation Commission

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Public Meeting – Monday, April 23, 2018 at 7:00PM 147 Hampshire Street, Main Conference Room MEETING MINUTES

The following meeting minutes were taken by Tracy Dwyer and are respectfully submitted.

Present Commission Members: Purvi Patel (Chair), Elysse Magnotto-Cleary Michael McDonough, Ted Pickering, and Jennifer Letourneau (Director)

Absent Commission Members: Dorothy Altman, Kaki Martin, Lauren McPherson-Siegrist

Attendees: Tracy Dwyer (DPW), Jerry Friedman (DPW), Rich Larochelle (HDR), Amy Ball (Horsley-Witten Group), Richard Clayton (Horsley-Witten Group), Cynthia Smith (Halvorson Design Partnership), Jim Wilcox (DPW)

Purvi Patel opened the hearing.

7:00 pm - Notice of Intent: Horsley Witten Group Willard Street Stormwater Outfall City of Cambridge, Department of Public Works DEP File# 123-284

This informational presentation was for the Willard Street stormwater outfall project. Jerry Friedman gave a brief overview of the project stating that they would be restoring the outfall, reducing the stormwater flooding during large rainfall events.

Rich from Horsley-Witten Group explained as the pipe stands now it does not drain to outfall, there are two separate pipes one sewer and one stormwater until it gets to Mt Auburn St and then they combine to one. After further investigation they found out that the pipe in Mt Auburn St usually full on a dry day. Their investigation lead to the conclusion that a 1-year storm would cause flooding. The brick pipe circa 1890 and frequently had issues since the 1970s and always required maintenance and cleaning. They will be adding an infiltration system near the Skating Club and this will reduce flows from .42 million gallons to .37 million gallons per year, which is a 12% reduction.

Other stormwater controls that will be added along with the infiltration will be stormwater tree trenches. These controls will assist with 80% soils removal from the area.

Rich from Horsley-Witten Group reviewed the specifications of the pipe and outfall. Jennifer asked what their pedestrian/cyclist traffic management plan was. Rich said that they would take a lane on Memorial Drive and erect jersey barriers to accommodate pedestrians and cyclists. Jennifer said that there will be a special condition to submit a TMP.

Rich went over the restoration plans of the work zone and explained that they would replant what was there, along with several new trees which will replace inch for inch what will be removed. Jennifer stated when they restore the laydown area the terms “in kind” need to be more of a narrative, they need to state the seed type they are using and the species of plantings that will be planted. Rich explained they were going with two designs of restoration; the first would be to replace what it is there and restore it back to the original river bank. The second option would be to enhance the area with a lookout area and add in some boulders and more trees. Purvi asked if the commission was to vote on the option tonight. Jennifer explained this is going to DCR for approval and since it is DCR land, they should let them decide on the restoration options. Amy from Horsley-Witten Group further explained the restoration of the river bank and the enhancements to the area and the water quality treatment. The 80% TSS removal would come from the blue and pick areas which were depicted on the map.

Lastly, the Commission went through the balance of the outstanding questions. Jennifer asked where figure 6 from attachment A was, but that was an error on the cover page there was no figure 6. They have retrieved the information needed from the Registry of Deeds. They will submit the Notice to Marine Fisheries, and will wait for a response from them on any work restrictions. Jennifer asked that they delete the reference of the 2018 master plan since there was not a need to reference it. They are referencing the 2002 plant list from the master plan. Erosion and Sediment control will consist of a continuous filter tube and they will get the detail for the overlap. They will also need to address the restoration of pavement for Memorial Drive. The consultants confirmed that tree protection will be protection to the drip line, need a revised detail.

Jennifer asked that they submit a document to her with all of the remaining items. Purvi asked if the commission had any questions. Ted asked if there was room for the tree trenches. Rich showed and explained the tree trench detail.

There was no public comment.

The Commission unanimously agreed to approve with special conditions.

7:39 pm – Administrative Topics

Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2018: Unanimously approved.

7:41 pm – Meeting Adjourned