

Downton, Samantha

From: Steve Govoni <sgovoni@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 11, 2024 10:04 AM
To: Downton, Samantha; Schuler, Sylvia
Cc: Conservation
Subject: Re: Abutter 311 Rockland St

Good Morning Sylvia and Samantha,

My wife and I stopped by the office yesterday and we were instructed to send any concerns over for the upcoming hearing on the 15th. We have a few that relate to the site development and the construction of the 311 Rockland St property.

- The proposed driveway will displace significant amounts of sediment, tree growth, and ledge directly impacting Rockland St and the adjacent Weir River ecosystem. There is a wall of ledge approximately 15ft high that must be hammered or broken down to create access onto the property. This natural barrier has stable organic growth on it that currently impedes runoff.
- A straight driveway is proposed, as opposed to a winding entrance, which will lead to the potential for direct runoff into the roadway and Weir River. The driveway has a significant grade, achieving 30ft elevation after about 75ft into the property.
- 311 Rockland St is basically a giant piece of ledge, the same ledge that my property at 299 Rockland St sits on and the same ledge that runs into and under our neighbor at 301 Rockland St. This ledge will have to be extensively hammered out to allow construction of a house and pool. Hammering out significant portions of the ledge will undoubtedly impact this area.
- A bigger concern is the fragile tree cover in this area. My family has lived at our property since 2010 and we have witnessed what happens to trees that grow on ledge. The trees in this area have shallow root systems. We frequently see small trees go down during storms and we have many trees that are killed by termites / ants due to their weak root systems. This tree cover is fragile but is also very important to sediment and erosion control on the ledge.
- Water run off from the ledge behind our property is persistent year round. The proposed site location for the single family dwelling and pool is directly behind our neighbor at 301 and our property. Once this site is built out, how and where water accumulates and then runs off the proposed property is extremely impactful to both of our existing properties. There is a very steep decline of roughly 30' directly into our neighbor's property at 301 that could lead to runoff that impacts the residence and the waterfront.
- By locating the residence directly behind our existing properties, the development directly leads to clearing and exposure of the fragile system that controls erosion behind our property. As an example, the builder will likely desire water views, requiring the removal of trees that impact said view. If those trees are located at the rear of the steep ledge it will lead to a weaker system and increased erosion.
- A logical solution would be locating the buildings in the center or eastern location on the property where there is no chance to impact the existing natural erosion control behind our two properties. This would also allow the builder to achieve any desire for waterviews without the removal of additional tree cover outside of the driveway access and buildout.

We are against this development in its current form and we do believe the current proposal will significantly impact our existing ecosystem. Careful consideration should be given to the overall design to minimize the direct and indirect impacts on all properties that abut the conservation zone.

If you have any questions or would like our concerns in a different format, please let me know. We appreciate your time and look forward to attending the hearing on 7/15.

Thank you,
Stephen Govoni

On Wed, Jul 10, 2024 at 9:46 AM Downton, Samantha <downtons@hingham-ma.gov> wrote:

Good Morning Stephen,

Attached is the Notice of Intent application and site plan requested. This project will be presented to the Commission on Monday July 15th at 7pm via zoom. I can add you to the abutters notification list and will email the agenda to you when it is ready.

Best,



Samantha Downton

Administrative Assistant

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Please note:

Town Hall office hours effective **July 1st**.

Mon/Wed/Thurs 7:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Tuesday: 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM

Friday: Closed

See website for more details.

From: Steve Govoni <sgovoni@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2024 9:32 AM
To: Conservation <Conservation@hingham-ma.gov>
Subject: Abutter 311 Rockland St

Good Morning Conservation,

My family lives at 299 Rockland St in Hingham. We are abutters to the proposed work at 311 Rockland St. There have been several communications sent and I believe a hearing is being held soon.

Could you confirm the date and time of the upcoming hearing? Also, would it be possible to email a copy of the application?

Thank you,

Stephen Govoni

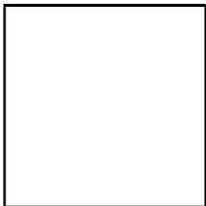
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Stephen Govoni

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