

June 17, 2007

### **Inlet Pipe Safety in the Forebay of the Proposed Storm Water Management Plan**

I met with Craig Simoneau and Lise Soukup June 13, 2007 to follow up on one last detail related to safety of the new project. This has to do with the pipe entering the forebay. The issue is with how to discourage children from entering this pipe. Lise and Craig and the contractor had numerous exchanges about this, and came up with a plan that looks good to me. (1) The pipe entering the forebay will be only 36" as opposed to the previously assumed 54". (2) The end of the pipe will be half in and half out of the water. (3) This is done by extending the pipe into the forebay some feet, but with the end of the pipe still on the safety shelf. (4) There will be thorny bushes on either side of the pipe and the pier over the pipe to hide it and to discourage entry. (5) It was apparent that they thought through the issue from every angle. I think the steps proposed make it extremely unlikely that anyone would enter the pipe, and if they did, there is enough thought in the design that the children (adults, dogs, coyotes or foxes, whatever) would be able to get out. There is nothing mechanical in the pipe structure to get caught on. (6) It is my opinion that the new pond will overall be a lot safer than the existing pond. As we have gone through this process I learned that these facilities are extremely tightly regulated and that many safety features are built into their design.

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