From: cmleich@comcast.net
To: David Morgan; Chuck Tirone
Cc: Nathaniel Stevens; scotthorsley208@gmail.com; Michael Mobile; Susan Chapnick
Subject: RE: Thorndike Place -- October 4, 2024 BSC letter
Date: Thursday, October 24, 2024 10:27:55 AM

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Thanks, David. I appreciate that the hearing can only be continued with the consent of the applicant, and I'm glad to be reassured that the Commission will continue on its current course. Obviously, in the absence of the applicant's consent, there will not be an adequate opportunity for public comment on the proposed re-design.
Chris

> On 10/24/2024 9:25 AM EDT David Morgan <dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us> wrote:
>
> Hi Chris,
>
> I apologize for the oversight and have posted the materials to the agenda and website as of this morning. The Commissioners were in receipt of the materials as soon as they arrived and will be knowledgeable about the contents of the letter, as well as the revised calculations that followed and the review of the same by GZA. Whether there will be time for further review and public comment is largely at the discretion of the applicant, who can bring the hearing to a close at any point by request. It would be reasonable to expect that they may make such a request at this stage. All the same, I've spoken with Chuck about the public comment period and he plans to continue in the same manner as before, and that the Commission will be equally diligent in reviewing materials that are part of the Thorndike Place proceedings.
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
>
> David Morgan | Environmental Planner + Conservation Agent | Department of Planning and Community Development | 781.316.3012
>
> *Arlington values equity, diversity, and inclusion. We are committed to building a community where everyone is heard, respected, and protected.*
>
> ---
>
> **From:** cmleich@comcast.net <cmleich@comcast.net>
> **Sent:** Wednesday, October 23, 2024 10:40 PM
> **To:** Chuck Tirone <ctirone@ci.reading.ma.us>

Cc: Nathaniel Stevens <NStevens@mcgregorlaw.com>; scotthorsley208@gmail.com; Michael Mobile <mikemobile@mcdonaldmorrissey.com>; David Morgan <dmorgan@town.arlington.ma.us>; ConComm <ConComm@town.arlington.ma.us>
Subject: Thorndike Place -- October 4, 2024 BSC letter

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Dear Chairman Tirone,

I understand that on October 4, 2024, BSC provided an 88-page document to the Con Comm entitled "2024-10-4 Response to GZA Peer Review Comments-Thorndike Place". This document proposes a substantial re-design on the Thorndike Place stormwater system, in response to criticisms first raised by Scott Horsley and Michael Mobile and subsequently endorsed by GZA as peer reviewer,

I only learned of the existence of the document by chance this morning, when I saw it referenced in a letter from GZA dated yesterday that was posted to the Conservation Commission website as part of the agenda for tomorrow's meeting. After I inquired, Nathaniel Stevens provided me with a copy of the BSC document this afternoon. To my knowledge, the document still has not been posted to the Conservation Commission website.

I forwarded the BSC document to Scott Horsley and Michael Mobile as soon as I received it. They have not had time to review it in detail, and it is unlikely that they will be able to do so before tomorrow's meeting. However, their preliminary assessment is that the proposed re-design of the stormwater system raises a number of significant questions and does not lay to rest all of the issues identified in the earlier design.

In light of the tight timing and the importance and complexity of the issues at stake, I respectfully request that the Conservation Commission seek the consent of the applicant to a continuance of the Thorndike Place hearing, in order to give the public, including Scott Horsley and Michael Mobile, a chance to review and comment in detail on the BSC report.

To date, the Conservation Commission has done an admirable job of providing opportunities for public comment on this complex project. Ample time has always been afforded for review of all documents submitted to the Commission. The public comment process has been useful in identifying significant flaws in previous plans by BSC, including plans that were initially endorsed by prior peer reviewers. I trust that the Commission will not now abandon this good policy and permit the project to move forward without careful examination.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Leich

President, Arlington Land Trust, Inc.