

To: Donna Chapman, Chair Windham Town Council
Tony Plante, Town Manager
From : Rosie Hartzler, President Highland Lake Association and Chair of
Watershed Protection Grant Committee
Date: September 23, 2018

The Highland Lake Association(HLA) has been overseeing the appropriation of the \$10,000 Watershed Protection Grant generously appropriated to the HLA to be utilized for mitigating road or right of way sites that had been identified in the Watershed Survey (May, 2018) as negatively impacting the water quality in Highland Lake.

To date several sites were designated as the “worst of the worst” in terms of that impact on the lake. Two sites were determined to be designated for utilization of these funds:

Swan Road ROW

Highland Shore Road – a portion, known as “The Hill”

Active steps are under way to mitigate the Swan Road ROW. The North Highland Lake Association (NHLA) has demonstrated its commitment to participating with the HLA in implementing the most effective strategy for mitigating erosion issues at the ROW. The process of developing these strategies has been a collaborative effort that included Fred Gallant from DEP, John MacKinnon (engineer from HLA), Gretchen Anderson (Environmental & Sustainability Coordinator, Department of Public Works, Town of Windham), members of the WPG committee, and representatives from the NHLA.

The estimated cost of remediating the Swan Road ROW is between \$ 8,000 and \$10,000. At this writing there are too contractors who have presented quotes to the NHLA for implementing the mitigation strategy.

(See attached quotes and the engineered diagram for mitigating this site)

In regards to the second identified site, “The Hill” on Highland Shore Road, after inspections of this site by DEP, members of the WPG committee, John MacKinnon, representatives from Highland Shore Road, and two contractors, the estimated cost of remediating this site is approximately \$20,000. (quotes are still in process)

Note that in a meeting of residents living on Highland Shore Road, it was determined after extensive deliberation, that while paving “the hill” was more expensive in the short term, that this mitigation strategy was better for the lake in the long run.

(See attached copy of the proposed design and the two quotes presented for remediation of this site.)

The WPG has communicated to road associations, that in order to participate in this grant, the association needs to attempt to meet the goal of providing a 100% cash match to the amount provided from the grant.

There are numerous examples of inkind donations that have been made toward the implementation of this grant. To date, John MacKinnon, has volunteered 26 hours engineering plans for the Swan Road ROW and “the hill” at Highland Shore Road.

The NHLA (the association where the Swan Road ROW is located) participated in a work day August 12, 2018 where in a group of 15 residents donated an estimated 85 person hours in completing upgrades to Swan Road such as clearing berms, cleaning ditches, remediating two very over grown settling basins. These upgrades were a prerequisite to the remediation at the Swan Road ROW, because of the implicit connection between how the drainage issues on Swan Road were impacting the ROW. Unless the work was done on Swan Road, the remediation strategies at the ROW would not be effective.

In addition numerous HLA members, road association members, and residents living on Highland Shore Road have donated significant number of hours in the organizing and coordinating effort to implement this grant.

Now we are at the point where we have the quotes for both sites. The dilemma that the HLA faces is that the two “worst of the worst” sites exceed the amount of money that the WPG allotted for remediation.

Here’s the breakdown of the budget:

Site	<u>Cost of</u> remediating	\$ from WPG	\$ from Residents	\$ from SCF *	Unmet need
SR ROW	\$8,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	-0-	-0-
The Hill	\$22,000	\$6,000	\$7,000	\$6,000	\$3,000

*SCF – Stormwater Compensation Funds – funds held at CCSWCD that had been paid by contractors as a fee for unmitigated phosphorus on a development. These funds are administered by DEP. There is \$7500 in the this fund at present, and it is estimated that some of this fund will be needed by CCSWCD for administering these funds.

I am requesting that the Town of Windham allocate \$3,000 from the \$30,000 that has been set aside for Watershed Protection to allow the Highland Lake Association to move ahead with the remediation of the two sites: Swan Road ROW and “The Hill” at Highland Shore Road. I am requesting that this allocation be done by October 12, 2018, as the goal is to complete construction/ remediation before November 15, 2018.

It is my understanding that the Windham Town Council will consider this request, and that action will be taken regarding this funding request.

Finally I want to thank the Town of Windham and specifically the Windham Town Council for their ongoing support and their commitment to preserve and protect Highland Lake.