



Notice of Intent – Additional Information
Arlington Reservoir Phase 2 Implementation

30 December 2020

This memo is to address three topics addressing the landscape during the December 17th Conservation Commission hearing:

1. Stabilized crushed granite path system requested by the Lexington Conservation Commission & representative examples in the area

It was mentioned on the site walk held on Friday, September 4, 2020 with members of both the Arlington & Lexington Conservation Commission that the Lexington Conservation Commission does not consider a stabilized stonedust material to be a porous pavement system. The Commission prefers a stabilized crushed granite pavement surface. The difference between the two is in the specifying of a stonedust product which could be comprised of a 3/8" minus crushed quartz-based stone versus a 3/8" minus crushed granite. Both are blended with a water-activated binder.

Read Custom Soils is a local purveyor (Wareham, MA) of engineered and blended soils who specializes in providing this type of soils, including Organic-Lock (or approved equal). Organic-Lock, is a stabilized product which meets the Lexington requirements. Organic-Lock as provided by Read Custom Soils comes in 5 different colors each sourced from a different quarry. The "natural gray" color is sourced from a West Roxbury granite quarry, and therefore meeting the Lexington Commission's request for stabilized crushed granite.

It is worth noting that this stabilized pathway system is used in limited area within the Arlington portion of the Res recreation area. The vast majority of the trail encircling the Res is proposed to be comprised of a crushed stone surface with no stabilizer. The grades for most of the pathways are flat enough that the stabilized is not necessary. The only places within Arlington where the stabilized crushed granite system is proposed are:

- a. The sloped walkway connecting Drake Village to the perimeter trail. We have proposed the stabilizer here as the trail connection is just under 5% and we do not want the fine material to move with stormwater.
- b. The pathway connecting the concrete beach walkway along the south embankment of the swimming area. We have proposed the stabilizer in this location as the pathway has water on both sides and we want to be sure the fine material does not wash into either the swimming area or the Res.
- c. The trail which parallels the main parking lot between the lot and the Res. In this location we want to ensure that the 3/8-inch material does not migrate into the porous pavement system. We have also separated the two pavements with a 12-inch flush concrete curb to help separate the systems.

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The most local example of the stabilized crushed granite is at the New Visitor Center at Walden Pond in Concord. The pathways adjacent to the parking lot and around the reconstruction cabin are comprised of stabilized crush granite.

https://www.organic-lock.com/portfolio_page/walden-pond/

Additional information on the stabilized pathway system can be found at:

<http://readcustomsoils.com/stabilized-soil/>

<https://www.organic-lock.com/decomposed-granite-stabilizer/>

2. Tree replacements for trees proposed to be removed

Section 24 (Vegetation Removal & Replacement) of the Town's Wetland Protection Regulations requires that trees removed within the Conservation Commission's jurisdiction (resource areas) shall be replaced based on the schedule established on page 35 of the Regulations. We have reflected that schedule on Sheet L1.1 of our plans submitted to the Commission. This schedule shows that there are a total of 25 trees being removed, which requires a replacement of 44 trees based on caliper inch of removal.

Trees are only being removed if they are in a hazard condition or if they will be impacted by the proposed improvements to the extent that they will not survive. Per the project's planting plan (sheets series L4.1-L4.5), tree plantings are being located in the following locations:

- To add shade to the landscape around the beach area
- To complement the row of trees between the main parking and Lowell Street
- To accent and provide shade in the playground
- To accent the entry and screen the filtration building from the main parking
- To revegetate the areas around the perimeter targeted for invasive species management.

The vast majority of tree species proposed for planting (plant schedules are located on sheets L4.2A and L4.4) are species native to Massachusetts.

3. The main parking lot's history being used as a snow storage area by the Arlington Department of Public Works.

After the Conservation Commission hearing, Joe Connelly, Arlington Recreation Director, spoke to Michael Rademacher, Arlington DPW Director. Rademacher has committed to not using the new parking lot for snow storage in the future.

End of memo

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