



- Land Use Planning
- Civil Engineering
- Construction Permitting

August 25, 2020

Ms. Heather Lis
Assistant Conservation Officer
Hingham Conservation Commission
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

RE: **Second Response to Agent Comments**
185 South Pleasant St. - Hingham, MA 02043
Notice of Intent Application

Dear Heather:

The purpose of this letter is to address your additional comments received via email on 8/25/20. Below is a summary of the comments followed by our responses in *italics*, as well as a revised Landscape Plan dated 8/25/20:

Agent Comments – email

1. The *Hydrangea quercifolia* is native to the southeastern U.S. and the Commission looks for mitigation plantings to be native to Massachusetts or at least to New England. Hydrangea is a tricky one since I know they are popular and wide-spread, and sometimes in coastal settings the Commission has allowed the big-leaf *Hydrangea macrophylla* since they are tolerant of salt and planting choices are more limited in this setting. Here, however where there are other shade-tolerant more beneficial native species that would work well, an alternative should be considered.

The hydrangea quercifolia have been replaced with highbush blueberry plants in the 394 s.f. mitigation planting area east of the proposed pool, as indicated in the revised Landscape Plan dated 8/25/20.

2. The Commission typically requires that mitigation areas not be mown/maintained and remain as naturally vegetated in the future, and I wanted to confirm that the applicant would be willing to do this as this makes a significant difference to the benefit over time. You/they could also consider a Conservation Wildlife Seed mix with both grasses and forbs, but if they strongly prefer the grass mix I think it would be acceptable given that mitigation is in part for a patio area as opposed to a structure.

The seed mix proposed in the 510 s.f. mitigation planting area has been changed to the 'Showy Wildflower Mix' from New England Wetland Plants, as indicated in the revised Landscape Plan dated 8/25/20. It is a native wildflower and grass mix. The meadow will be mowed two times per year to prevent the growth of woody material.

Cavanaro Consulting, Inc.
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We appreciate your additional comments and look forward to presenting the project to you and the Commission at our hearing scheduled on 8/31/20. Please feel free to contact us with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Cavanaro Consulting, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Cavanaro". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John C. Cavanaro, P.E.
Managing Principal

Enclosures

Revised Landscape Plan, 8/25/20

cc: K. Gosselin *Via Email*
T. Van Buskirk *Via Email*
L. Fournier *Via Email*
File 20088