

WHAT'S NEXT FOR MIRROR LAKE?

UPDATE: February 16, 2022

At the March 10 Highlands Town Retreat Pat Gleeson, of the Mirror Lake will do a presentation on the current status of the Mirror Lake project.

Mirror Lake has never been dredged in its 70+ year history and significant silt has accumulated over the years.

There are no clear-cut answers as to what happens next for Mirror Lake. Approximately five years ago the Mirror Lake Homeowner's association lowered the lake and did extensive testing. It was discovered that the lake might have to be excavated instead of dredged and at a much higher cost. While the current dredging cost estimate is multimillion dollar effort. It is clear the effort will require extensive environmental permitting. Significant Federal funds will likely be necessary for any solution.

I have discussed funding with the president of the Mirror Lake Homeowners Association and offered that if federal funds became available the town would certainly be willing to partner in securing a grant for dredging. The homeowner association was also encouraged to to use any influence they could muster in identifying funding sources.

The Mirror Lake community is a private development that was created around 1949 by damming the Cullasaja River. The town of Highlands does not own the lake and has no substantial property access to the lake. Presently, the lake is being overseen by the Mirror Lake Homeowners Association.

