TACONIC SHORES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC
53 Lakeshore Drive
Copake, New York 12516
Tel: 518-621-2341 / Fax: 518-801-1684
Office@TaconicShores.org

Established 1957

March 23, 2023

Dear Members,

Here's an interim update from the Board on our exploration of a permanent location for a harvesting operation docking site for the Association's mechanical weed harvesters.

First, the headlines:
• The Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received and is reviewing our application to store and operate our harvesters from a site behind the Island. Attached to this message is a copy of the DEC Notice of Complete Application;
• As we stated in our message of January, no further action — including a community-wide discussion of this issue — will be taken until we hear from the DEC.
• While it's unclear how long DEC's review will take, the DEC will accept any comments any member wishes to offer until March 29, 2023;
• In the meantime, the Department has instructed us to plan to temporarily store and operate the harvesters from the Boat Launch 3 (old Beach 2) site, which we have used, previously. We should note that in the event DEC rejects our proposal for the new site — or if our proposal is approved, but the Board decides against the proposed location — Boat Lunch 3 may continue as the temporary home of the machines.

Please note that the Board has ***not*** made any firm, binding decision about a location or finalized a plan to establish one. Here's what the Board ***has*** done so far:

1) Learned that, due to the requirements of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), we must increase and maintain greater safety for the harvester operators.
2) To address these requirements, began consideration of Boat Launch 2 as a possible permanent site for the harvesters.
3) Received numerous complaints from members whose properties are close to Boat Launch 2 and Boat Launch 3, the temporary locations we have used.
4) At our September 2022 Board meeting, created an *ad hoc* committee of staff to research potential environmentally-sound permanent locations that would address both the complaints and OSHA requirements;
5) Heard from the committee that there are very few locations in the Shores that will a) not disturb a significant number of residents, b) permit the installation of a harvesting operation site that meets OSHA regulations, c) minimize ecological damage; and d) have a decent chance of receiving approval from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC);
6) Discussed the *ad hoc* committee's finding that one — perhaps, the *only* — site that may meet the criteria in 4) is in a cove behind the north side of the Island. An existing road can provide access to this site, and a relatively minor number of trees would have to be removed during construction;

7) Announced at the October 2022 Membership Meeting our preliminary plan, including the location of the proposed site;

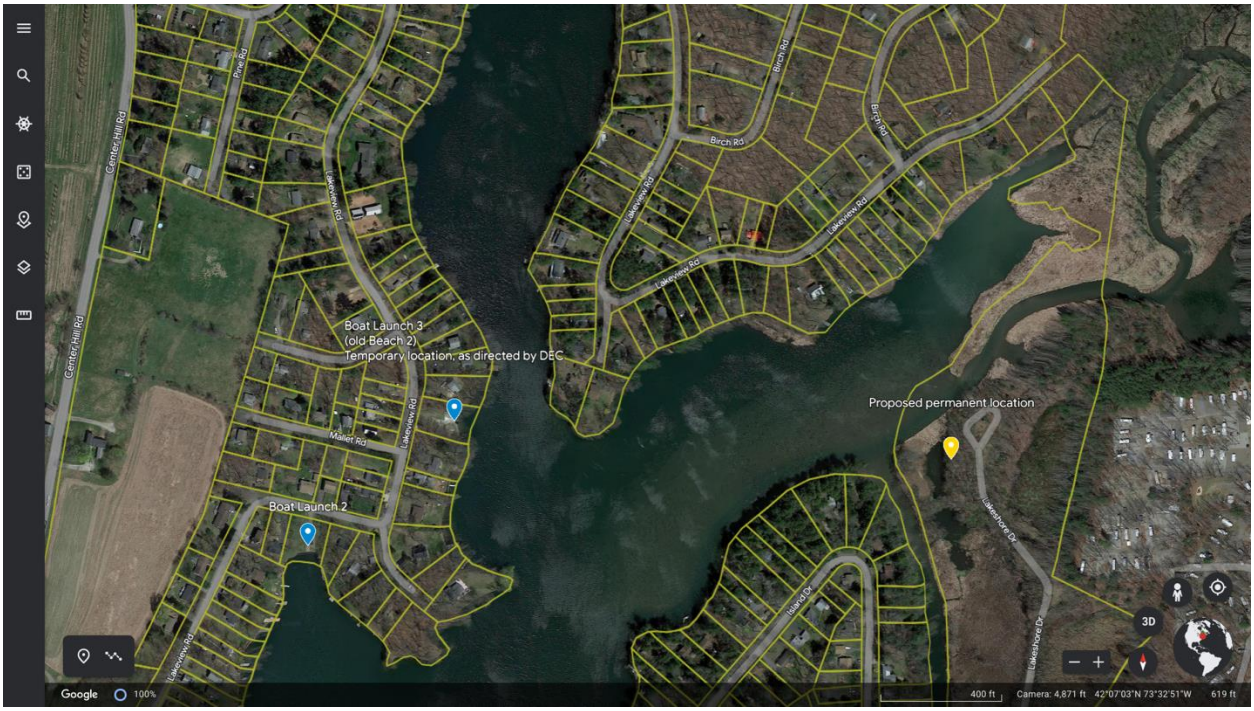
8) Heard from some members, who have expressed their concerns about the contemplated location.

Keeping in mind all of the above and committed to addressing the situation as promptly as possible, the Board decided the best, first step was to apply to the DEC for a permit to build a permanent harvesting operation site at the specified location. By doing so, we'll learn if the cove is even a *permissible* location. What's more, as a matter of course, a good number of the serious concerns members have relayed will be considered by the DEC.

Finally, we want to assure you that the Board is focused on a practical, environmentally-sound solution that will work best for the entire community *and* on keeping you informed. We encourage your input.

Sincerely,
TSPOA Board of Directors

** Comments to DEC may be sent to:
ANGELIKA R STEWART
NYSDEC
65561 St Rte. 10
Stamford, NY 12167-9503 (607) 652-7741



THIS IS NOT A PERMIT

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Notice of Complete Application

Date: 03/06/2023

Applicant: TACONIC SHORES PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOC INC
53 LAKE SHORE DR
COPAKE, NY 12516-0025

Facility: TACONIC SHORES - ROBINSON POND
CO RTE 7A (LAKE VIEW RD)
COPAKE, NY 12516

Application ID: 4-1032-00003/00061

Permits(s) Applied for: 1 - Article 24 Freshwater Wetlands

Project is located: in COPAKE in COLUMBIA COUNTY

Project Description:
The applicant proposes to remove a 40' by 66' (2,640SF) section of deep growth cattails via hydrorake within Robinson Pond (Freshwater Wetland CO-3 (FWW CO-3), Class 1 wetland) to allow for a proposed permanent offloading location for aquatic weed harvesting operations. A 40' by 70' (2,800SF) driveway is proposed within the regulated Adjacent Area of FWW CO-3, along with the placement of 36 yards of washed gravel, and the removal of 25 trees.

Availability of Application Documents:
Filed application documents, and Department draft permits where applicable, are available for inspection during normal business hours at the address of the contact person. To ensure timely service at the time of inspection, it is recommended that an appointment be made with the contact person.

State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) Determination
Project is not subject to SEQR because it is a Type II action.

SEQR Lead Agency None Designated

State Historic Preservation Act (SHPA) Determination
Cultural resource lists and maps have been checked. The proposed activity is not in an area of identified archaeological sensitivity and no known registered, eligible or inventoried archaeological sites or historic structures were identified or documented for the project location. No further review in accordance with SHPA is required.

DEC Commissioner Policy 29, Environmental Justice and Permitting (CP-29)
It has been determined that the proposed action is not subject to CP-29.

Availability For Public Comment

Comments on this project must be submitted in writing to the Contact Person no later than 03/23/2023 or 15 days after the publication date of this notice, whichever is later.

Contact Person

ANGELIKA R STEWART
NYSDEC
65561 St Rte 10
Stamford, NY 12167-9503
(607) 652-7741

CC List for Complete Notice

Chief Executive Officer
Will Buetow, BEH
Rachel Bakerian, Wildlife
ENB