

September 18, 2024

*Dear City Council President, Bryan Sapienza, and Councilors,
We ask that this letter to the Mayor and Tim Lescarbeau,
and the accompanying questions, be read into the record
during the Correspondences segment of your September 24th
meeting.*

The letter:

Dear Mayor Macksey and Commissioner Lescarbeau,

Please find attached fourteen questions requesting and seeking detailed information on the proposed Forest harvest plan for the Notch Reservoir in our City. We imagine you forwarding this request to your plan author, and retained consultant, Gary Gouldrup, requesting he and his team provide the City, and through the City of North Adams, us the Citizens, this vital and telling information.

This will of course be essential information for the Conservation Commission review as well.

The devil is always in the details, and this information will give our intended professional review an opportunity to either confirm, or possibly set aside, at least some of our fears and concerns about this proposed plan.

Thank you for the prompt response.

We the Friends of Notch Reservoir and Bellows Pipe Trail have a public meeting planned for Friday September 27th and would need the answers well prior to that date.

We are also asking that the acceptance of public input on this proposed plan, be extended for a minimum of thirty days (to October 30th) for the City, the Conservation Commission, and all interested others to effectively assess this complex plan for a nationally recognized fragile and much cherished site. We North Adams citizens cannot afford an irretrievable mistake for a recognized treasure.

We are inviting you, both, personally, and all other Commissioners and City Employees, to attend our planned public meeting Friday September 27th at 7:00 at the All-Saints Episcopal Church, where we will outline a more robust climate forest preservation alternative that has essentially no risk to the City, and an opportunity for substantially greater financial returns, while preserving the forest and its water protection and other functions.

Cordially,

Walter Cudnohufsky

On behalf of the Friends of NR and BPT.