

STAFF REPORT

**APPLICATION: AGENDA ITEMS I.1 and II.1
MAY 30, 2024 MEETING**

To: Conservation Commission/Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency

Date: May 23, 2024

**Re: IWWA Application and CC Recommendation: 769 Hebron Ave
Streambank stabilization**

Review Documents:

IWWA Application and Site Plan

Engineering Department Review, Dated May 22, 2024

Proposal

The applicant seeks approval from the IWWA to stabilize the eroding south bank of Salmon Brook at 769 Hebron Avenue, bordering the employee parking lot at Gemma Power Systems LLC. The area is located within the flood zone, the applicant is also seeking a flood zone recommendation from the Conservation Commission.

The application was received on May 17, 2024 and in accordance with state statute will be eligible for action by the IWWA no sooner than the June 13, 2024 meeting.

Review

Site Description

The property is approximately 1.72 acres within the Planned Employment Zone. The property is not encumbered by a conservation easement. The plan locates Salmon Brook on the north side of the property, flowing from east to west. The erosion is affecting the south bank of the brook. The eroded streambank/lawn area has exposed tubing, presumably to siphon water from the brook to water the lawn.

State-Listed Species

The property is identified as an area of interest in the December 2023 edition of the Natural Diversity Database. The CT DEEP NDDB review is submitted as part of the application. The best management practice for species protection includes prohibiting land disturbance during November 1-March 31 and requiring exclusionary fencing April 1 – October 31.

Soils and Erosion Control

The plan includes a Construction Sequence (Sheet 4) that identifies a cofferdam is to be installed and the work area dewatered. The plan lacks details on the size and location of the proposed cofferdam to manage the constant flow of the brook. The project is projected to take 2-3 days to complete.

Water Quality and Drainage

The engineering department has reviewed this plan and provided comments, which have been shared with the applicant. Additional information is requested to be incorporated on the plan, including a flood zone certification statement.

Location Map: North side of Hebron Avenue at Eastern Boulevard



Photo 1: Looking west, lawn and stone eroding into the south bank of the brook. Irrigation tubing in the foreground.



Photo 2: Irrigation tubing, valve and control box.



Photo 3: Undermining of established lawn, section breaking towards the brook



Photo 4: Sections of lawn in the brook

