

February 7, 2023

Pamela Sawyer  
First Selectperson  
Town of Bolton  
222 Bolton Center Rd.  
Bolton, CT 06043

Dear Ms. Sawyer:

The Bolton Conservation Commission will continue to oversee the development, supervision, regulation, and conservation of natural resources, including water resources, in the Town; and as prescribed by Section 7-131a of the General Statutes shall conduct research into the utilization and possible utilization of land areas.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on and fulfill our obligations regarding the location of the parking area that would provide access to the Nathan Hale Greenway (NHG). We strongly believe that safe, maintainable, and accessible parking for the trailhead to the NHG network is a high priority. Unfortunately, we were never apprised of the current grant application for that purpose in a timely manner.

The Conservation Commission has held Vernal Pools Day and Trails Day Hikes on the NHG and has utilized the existing parking area next to Bolton Collision Repair and obtained permission from Munson's to use their parking lot for years.

Dave Wilson, President of Bolton Collision Repair recently suggested keeping the access to the NHG next to his business instead of moving it up the hill. He suggested an engineer calculate the number of yards of fill it would take to create a new access road apron between him and Munson's. This access point would have a better site line than the existing one. Compared to the proposed site line uphill from Munson's parking lot, it would have less grade, utilize an area that's already been cleared and have access to both directions on Rt 6. A map showing this option is attached.

The Commission is very much in support of improved access to the Nath Hale Greenway. However, a more significant study is needed for the placement of this parking area and access point.

Sincerely,

Rod Parlee, Chair  
Bolton Conservation Commission

