

# ***PGB ENGINEERING, LLC***

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January 9, 2026

Hingham Planning Board  
210 Central Street  
Hingham, MA 02043

**Subject: Hingham Center for Active Living, Bare Cove Park Drive, Site Plan**

Dear Planning Board Members:

This is to advise that we have reviewed the following documents pertaining to the proposed Center for Active Living facility off Bare Cove Park Drive:

- Site Plan (21 sheets), dated December 9, 2025, prepared by SLR International Corporation (SLR)
- Stormwater Management Plan, dated December 9, 2025, prepared by SLR
- Postconstruction Stormwater Management Operation and Maintenance Plan, dated December 9, 2025, prepared by SLR
- Application for Major Site Plan Approval, with attachments, dated December 10, 2025, prepared by SLR

The purpose of our review has been to evaluate conformance with Hingham Zoning By-Laws (ZBL), MassDEP Stormwater Management Standards (SMS) and good engineering practice. Our review is focused on the adequacy of the proposed stormwater management system and erosion controls.

## **Background**

The site proposed for development is a ±5.39-acre portion of the ±472-acre Bare Cove Park, which is within the Official and Open Space zoning District. There is an existing 9,100 square foot (s.f.) warehouse building with a gravel access drive located in the northeast portion of the development site. The remainder of the development site is undeveloped woodland. The site is off the north side of the end of Bare Cove Park Drive. The Bare Cove Fire Museum is located just east of the development site and woodlands surround the remainder of the site. There are bordering vegetated wetlands off the north side of the site. The project site is located within the Weymouth Back River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC).

The proposal calls for demolition of the existing building and construction of a 26,000 s.f. single-story Center for Active Living facility with associated driveways, parking areas, utilities and stormwater management facilities. The proposed stormwater system would consist of catch basins, manholes, proprietary treatment units, sediment forebays, infiltration basins, gravel interceptor trenches, a rain garden, and a subsurface infiltration system consisting of plastic

chambers surrounded by crushed stone. Erosion controls will consist of a compost filter sock erosion control barrier, silt sack inlet protection and stabilized construction entrances.

### **Comments**

1. The existing and proposed watershed maps are missing from Appendix A of the Stormwater Management Plan. These should be provided so that we can confirm the modeled drainage patterns.
2. As noted in the Stormwater Management Plan, test holes are required at each of the proposed infiltration facilities to confirm soil textural analysis and depth to seasonal high groundwater. We note that the borings in proximity of the proposed rain garden and infiltration basin IB-2 indicate bedrock at depths close to the bottom elevations of these facilities. Test holes would verify the feasibility of these facilities.
3. The drawdown calculations utilize different infiltration rates than those used in the HydroCAD model for the infiltration facilities. These should be consistent and test holes would confirm the appropriate infiltration rates to be used.
4. We recommend that the open-air infiltration basins have four inches of topsoil (loam) to enhance infiltration. We also recommend that the sediment forebays have 8- to 12-inches of topsoil to limit infiltration.
5. Additional coordination is required between the Utilities Plan (Sheet UT) and the details. Sheet UT specifies the bottom elevation of the proposed gravel infiltration trenches and refers the reader to Sheet SD-5 for additional information related to the trenches (i.e. the widths). The Gravel Infiltration Trench Detail on Sheet SD-5 shows a varying width of the trenches and refers the reader to Sheet UT for the individual trench widths. A table of trench widths and depths on Sheet SD-5 would be helpful.
6. We recommend that the filter fabric around the gravel infiltration trenches (including the trenches in the bottoms of the infiltration basins and rain garden) wrap over the top of the 3/4-inch crushed stone layer to keep sediment out of the crushed stone. This will make maintenance easier as only the top twelve inches of 'clean broken stone' will need to be removed and cleaned/replaced when filled with sediment.
7. We assume that the Riprap Spillway detail on Sheet SD-5 is the spillway for infiltration basin IB-1, however, it is not labeled. This detail, as well as the Forebay Overflow Weir Section Detail (also on Sheet SD-5), should show a concrete cut-off wall (curb or similar) with the top elevation at the design weir elevation so that water does not flow through the stone of the spillways before reaching the design elevation.
8. The Nyoplast Drain Basin With Dome Grate detail on Sheet SD-5 should specify a sump in the basins (yard drains). We recommend a minimum two-foot sump but deeper sumps would perform better.

9. The drain manhole at the end of the isolator row of the subsurface infiltration system should have outlet inverts specified, with the invert into the isolator row lower than the invert to the manifold leading the other rows of chambers.
10. The proposed inspection ports on the subsurface infiltration system should be a minimum of six-inch diameter to allow for easier inspection and maintenance. Locations of the inspection ports should be shown in plan and there should be one on each end chamber in each row to allow for cleaning.
11. Sheet SD-6 includes details for reinforced concrete (RC) and high-density polyethylene (HDPE) flared end sections. For durability we recommend that all flared end sections be reinforced concrete.
12. The Storm Water Maintenance Program on Sheet UT should be consistent with the Schedule for Inspection and Maintenance (Schedule) included in the Postconstruction Stormwater Management Operation and Maintenance Plan (gravel trenches and yard drains should be included on Sheet UT). The inspection frequencies specified in the Schedule should be utilized with the following recommended changes:
  - a. Yard Drains should be inspected and cleaned four times per year, consistent with catch basins.
  - b. Basins and forebays should be mowed regularly with other grass areas to prevent growth of woody vegetation.
13. The Construction Entrance (CE) detail on Sheet SE-2 should specify the minimum length of the construction entrance to be fifty feet.
14. The Erosion Checks described in the Sediment & Erosion Control Specifications on Sheet SE-2 are straw bales, yet the erosion checks specified in plan on Sheet SE-1 and detailed on Sheet SE-2 are compost filter tubes.

Please give us a call should you have any questions.



Very truly yours,

PGB Engineering, LLC

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick G. Brennan".

Patrick G. Brennan, P.E.