

June 3, 2026

Shannon Palmer
Conservation Officer
Hingham Town Hall
210 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

**RE: Response to Review Comments
Proposed Sports Court and Retaining Wall
14 Seal Cove Road
Hingham, MA 02043**

Dear Shannon:

The purpose of this correspondence is to respond to outstanding review comments related to the project at 14 Seal Cove Road.

The following responses in **bold** follow each comment for your review and consideration:

Comments by Shannon Palmer, Conservation Agent, dated 6/2/26

1. As Coastal Bank and Salt Marsh have been properly delineated and shown on the Site Plan, the buffer zone is not approximate. Please correct.

Response: The Site Plan has been corrected to no longer show the buffer zones as approximate.

2. The Planting sketch should include: a date, all species common and scientific names, and a specification for seed mix if planting bed will be seeded in accordance with the Buffer Zone Mitigation Policy. If an alternative to seeding is proposed (consistent with existing planting bed) staff recommends the herbaceous layer be significantly denser. Also, please replace the big leaf hydrangea with a native shrub.

Response: The planting sketch has been corrected to include these details and the big leaf hydrangea has been replaced with a native shrub.

3. Please add notes to planting plan or site plan for preparation and installation of the mitigation planting area (including removal of turf, planting, mulching, seeding, installation of sediment controls, watering, etc. as applicable).

Response: The Site Plan now includes a detail for planting the native shrubs.

4. If stockpiling is needed during construction, please show on site plan.

Response: A stockpiling area is now shown above the putting green outside the resource areas and buffer zones. The putting green will be installed after sports court construction is complete.



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5. The narrative includes a performance standard analysis for LSCSF but incorrectly references Section 19.1 of the HWR (which is Land Subject to Flooding). Please correct to document compliance with section 20.1 (LSCSF). Please note- new retaining walls are prohibited in Zone AE under Section 20.1(d)(5)a. Please address by removing wall from flood zone or request a waiver from this provision with appropriate justification for the Commission to consider.

Response: The performance analysis has been corrected in the revised narrative, and a waiver is requested for the proposed retaining wall. Both documents are included in this response.

We appreciate the thoughtful review and comments and look forward to presenting the revised materials to you and the Board at our hearing scheduled on 6/08/26.

Merrill Engineers and Land Surveyors



Brendan Sullivan
Project Manager

Enclosures

cc: L. Monfredo
File 24-215.1