



March 25, 2021

Ref: 14751.00

Jason Grimshaw, Chair
Town of Leicester Planning Board
3 Washburn Square
Leicester, MA 01524

Attn: Michelle Buck, AICP

Re: Leicester Fire & EMS Headquarters - Stormwater Improvements
Amendment to Site Plan Approval

Mr. Grimshaw and Board Members,

On behalf of the Town of Leicester, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. is pleased to submit an amendment to an existing Site Plan Approval for the Town of Leicester Fire and EMS Headquarters Stormwater Improvements Project. The submission includes the following:

- Completed Site Plan Application form
 - Completed to provide description of work and contact information for current designer
- Site Plans
- Stormwater Memorandum

Since the completion of construction in 2017, the two on-site infiltration basins and sediment forebays have been unable to dewater through infiltration, resulting in permanent pools of water in the basins. As a result, less storage is available during storm events and stormwater overtops the basin in the northwest corner of the site, discharging onto adjacent properties. Owners of the adjacent properties to the west of the site also report an increase in water on these properties since the completion of construction. To minimize discharge onto the adjacent properties and to maximize storage available during storm events, Fire & EMS staff have used submersible pumps to dewater the basins, pumping the water into catch basins located in Paxton Street and Main Street.

In 2020, the Town hired VHB to perform extensive testing and review of the existing stormwater system, which determined that the above issues result from high groundwater and impermeable soils below the basins. VHB has been contracted by the Town to redesign the existing on-site stormwater system to eliminate the standing water. The design concept, which the Select Board and area residents in the area have expressed their support for, includes the following:



1. Raising the bottom of the on-site stormwater basins to bring them above seasonal high groundwater
2. Lateral expansion of on-site stormwater basins to make up for the storage lost in item 1 above
3. Designing the basins as detention basins (to slow the water leaving the site), including a new pipe discharging from the site through an easement on #22 Warren Ave (property owner has verbally agreed to easement and easement plans are being prepared)
4. Installation of a drainage trunkline on Warren Ave and Gleason Way, discharging through easements on #5 Gleason Way and #14 Harberton Dr (property owners have verbally agreed to easement and easement plans are being prepared)
5. Discharge will be over 100' from the wetland(s) in the area and will include a riprap apron and level spreader to dissipate energy and prevent erosion

The proposed work does not involve any permanent modifications to the existing building or parking areas.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me 617-607-6272 or lboucher@vhb.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luke Boucher".

Luke Boucher, PE

Water Resources Project Manager
lboucher@vhb.com

CC: David Genereux, Town Administrator