



Proposed Lakeview Amphitheater Project at Onondaga Lake.

derf mil

to:

DavidCoburn@ongov.net

05/12/2014 04:25 PM

Cc:

derf mil

Hide Details

From: derf mil <derfmil@yahoo.com>

To: "DavidCoburn@ongov.net" <DavidCoburn@ongov.net>,

Cc: derf mil <derfmil@yahoo.com>

Please respond to derf mil <derfmil@yahoo.com>

History: This message has been replied to and forwarded.

TO: David Coburn, Director
Onondaga County Office of the Environment

FROM: Nine Mile Creek Conservation Council, Inc. (NMCCC)
Submitted by Fred Miller, President with board approval.

RE: PROPOSED LAKEVIEW AMPHITHEATER PROJECT.

Dear Mr. Coburn:

Herein are the Nine Mile Creek Conservation Council comments regarding the referenced project.

(A) The NMCCC is deeply concerned about the lack of comprehensive public hearing processes allowing for greater public input and discussion. While the public has an opportunity to submit their comments to your office, a wider scope process allowing for enhanced public discussion such as with the inner city Syracuse Interstate 81 project should be instituted. In this manner fair and open public discussion is created. This is important considering the cost of this project and the significant impact on the west shore of Onondaga Lake.

(B) Alternative Project Sites. There needs to be a public hearing discussion of possible alternative project sites, comparative cost structures and environmental impacts associated with each site along with other possible site options offering superior opportunities.

(C) The NMCCC does not support the development or commercialization of the west shore of Onondaga Lake essentially from the area of the proposed amphitheater development project northerly along the west shore to Maple Bay

at Onondaga Lake. Most certainly the area from Nine Mile Creek to Maple Bay is unique due to the variety of wildlife habitats which sustain year round and migratory species.

This west shore area is unique by comparison to other Onondaga Lake shore line areas where park and residential development have impacted the area. The east shore is a high volume use area similar to other suburban parks throughout the state. Comparatively, the described west shore section is quiet, undeveloped, supports a wide variety of documented wildlife and habitats and provides a unique outdoor experience of solitude and lack of development. This provides Onondaga Lake Park users with an opportunity to enjoy a park experience considerably different from the developed east shore and eventually other to be developed shore lines of Onondaga Lake.

(D) The west shore area described is the last undivided and undeveloped substantial forest and wetlands area accessible by the public at Onondaga Lake. It is unique by already having extensive public access and is used extensively by park patrons preferring to escape the hustle bustle of the park east shore.

Onondaga Lake is both an urban and suburban access lake. Conserving the west shore area and avoiding commercialization and development provides county residents and Onondaga Lake Park users with a truly unique lake use experience. By comparison to other New York State locations this single attribute is truly unique to the lake.

The Onondaga Lake west shore offers park users a convenient location to enjoy the west shore area. Beaver Lake is significant distance from the Clay-Salina-Geddes park user base. Conserving the west shore should be a priority objective for the county and supported by a long-term comprehensive conservation plan to protect the area. Currently no such plan exists. It is long overdue.

(E) Lake viewshed. There are two perspectives to viewsheds. One is viewing from land to lake. The other is viewing from on lake to land by recreational users (e.g., canoes, kayaks, fishing boats, etc.). Viewing the west shore forest from the east shore trail is unique considering Onondaga Lake is essentially an urban lake. The west shore forestlands should be conserved and protected against commercialization. It is a unique viewshed for the lake.

(F) The Nine Mile Creek Conservation Council supports the county take a harder look at the amphitheater project and consider the totality of the negative impacts a shore line amphitheater will have upon the lake. This requires more fair and open public hearing input sessions and a step back from the hard push to rush this project forward.

We thank you for your time and interest.

For the NMCCC,
Fred Miller, President
(315)-622-9400.