

Date: Mon, 26 Jun 2023 at 08:37

Subject: Comments on Leeds Pond and the Proposed Fill at 1362 Plandome Rd

Mayor Barber Donno, Village of Plandome Manor, and members of the Board of Zoning Appeals,

We, NYenvironcom, are a nonprofit organization based in NY with a mission to help create, strengthen, and build thoughtful water and land-use policies and practices that encompass environmental, community, and economic values. NYenvironcom believes that it is important for all segments of communities to have a practical understanding of local ecology, and sufficient data to make informed water and land-use decisions.

Our view on land use is one that strongly discourages suburbanization in all its forms. We advocate for efficient urban development, and the preservation of rural resources and natural capital.

Looking at the history with the properties of concern in Plandome Manor, we clearly see the encroaching suburbanization that has led to the issues being faced by the community at present.

The vast increase in the size of housing (from what was there in 2004 and has been torn down and rebuilt by 2022) on the lots adjoining the lake is not smart development. That additional fill is even being considered to be permitted is not smart development. The lake is a public good and asset. To allow an individual/s to take and annex parts of it and degrade the ecosystem for their personal use is unadvised, at best, and certainly selfish and self-sighted on their part.

We strongly support the request by the community and members of Save Leeds Pond to:

- 1) Reject the developer's proposal by removing ALL landfill now and restore Leeds Pond to its natural condition
- 2) Keep public comment open until after next meeting on July 20 2023
- 3) Protect and save Leeds Pond now for the future

Thank you for your consideration,

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