



Inter-Board Memorandum

To: Susan Malan, Chairman, Essex Water Pollution Control Authority

From: Alan Kerr, Chairman, Essex Planning Commission *AK/SPC*

Date: February 15, 2016

Re: Proposed Update to Essex Wastewater Facilities Plan – Planning Involvement

At its meeting of February 11, 2016 the Essex Planning Commission began discussing the implementation of the recently-adopted Plan of Conservation & Development. As you know, this Plan sets forth both a broad vision for Essex's future land use and character and a specific list of activities designed to realize this vision. The Commission sought to identify a few key priority tasks with which to begin implementation.

Two of these tasks are as follows:

- Undertake a new Wastewater Management Facilities study to investigate current capability of land, particularly in the Village areas and development nodes of Essex, to support increased growth and density;
- Investigate the feasibility of continued on-site wastewater management in Essex, including a full cost-benefit analysis of other options for areas of focused growth such as small community systems and extension of sewer service from Deep River.

While both of these implementation items were tasked to the WPCA as a lead entity, the Planning Commission wishes to extend its support and assistance in undertaking them. The Commission understands that WPCA has set aside some funding for this study and will seek to match these with State Clean Water funds, and has hopes to proceed with an RFP for consultants sometime in the next few months. The Commission is pleased to offer support, both in the form of time and resources of Town Planner John Guskowski and in the form of active participation in a potential Study Steering Committee as the WPCA proceeds with this effort. We look forward to an active, critical, and open-minded study with the best hopes for the future of Essex in mind.

Please feel free to contact me or John Guskowski if you have any questions about the Planning Commission's position on this matter.