#### WARNER'S POND F.A.Q.s

Friends of Warner's Pond (FOWP) General Information



#### What and where is Warner's Pond?

Warner's Pond is a 59 acre pond with 3 islands located near the center of West Concord Village. It is accessible from three points: the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail at the Gerow Recreation Area, the Commonwealth Avenue boat launch, and the Pond Street primitive boat landing.

#### Where is the Warner's Pond dam?

The dam is at the intersection of Commonwealth Ave and Laws Brook Road. It is visible from Kenny Dunn Square and accessible from a small park that overlooks the dam's spillway. The dam was rehabilitated in 2008.

#### What stopped the dredging project?

Dredging was central to the Warner's Pond Restoration Project, but the project hit a roadblock when the Town received only one bid that was significantly over budget. The NRC then halted the project, hired a consultant to review alternatives, and proposed dam removal as the preferred solution. *This option would permanently remove Warner's Pond*.

#### What is the Warner's Pond Task Force (WPTF)?

In response to a petition launched in October 2023, the NRC formed the Warner's Pond Task Force to reassess the available options for the pond. A group of 16 people (including 11 voting members who are Concord Residents), formed under the guidance of the Natural Resources Committee (NRC). The group has been meeting since February 2024 to recommend a course of action for the pond.

#### Who consulted the WPTF?

- Joseph Gould, MA Division of Ecological Restoration
- Steven Mattocks, MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
- Allen Orsi, Pare Corporation
- Alex Patterson and Amy Hunt, EA Engineering
- Ben Wetherill, OARS

#### Who consulted the WPTF Subcommittees:

- Management of Bare Hill Pond in Harvard, MA
  - Representatives from Charter Engineering, Inc.
- Brad Chase, MA Division of Marine Fisheries
- Additional representatives from EA Engineering
- Bruce Thompson, NMI-Starmet de maximis, Inc.
  Project Manager
- Representatives from the Nipmuc Elders Council
- Representatives from SumCo Eco-Contracting
- Town of Concord staff

#### What is the health of Warner's Pond?

The water quality has been tested and is safe for human use; however, invasive plants introduced into the ecosystem have compromised both the ecological health and recreational opportunities at Warner's Pond. These invasive species thrive on the sediment that has accumulated in the pond over the past 150+ years, and their rapid unmanaged growth depletes the oxygen levels needed for the pond's flora and fauna. Sediment quality tests show that, except for a small area with elevated arsenic levels, all samples are nontoxic. Overall, Warner's Pond remains healthy, but it is being negatively impacted by the presence of invasive plants.

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#### Does the dam increase or decrease risk of flooding?

Current engineering reports conclude that the dam has *no impact* on flooding risk. The Task Force can provide more insight on this complex issue.

#### What are the issues with fish?

The pond currently has many species of fish including: Largemouth bass, Golden shiner, White Sucker, Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Black Crappie, White Perch, Yellow Bullhead, Brown Bullhead, Fallfish, Pickerel and Sunfish. People regularly catch (and release) all of these species in the pond. These fish are not the issue. The issue is with other species of migratory fish that need to travel between the ocean and freshwaters to spawn (anadromous fish), such as American Shad and River Herring. These fish are ecologically and economically important because they feed larger ocean fish. Sadly, the Merrimack River Watershed Council reports that these migratory fish are not making it past the Essex Dam in Lawrence. Until this dam and other downstream dams are modified with effective fish passage mechanisms, or taken down, migratory fish are not making it into the Concord River Watershed to spawn. If those other obstructions are modified or removed, and migratory fish find their way to the Warner's Pond Dam (which is about 2-5 feet high), the spillway could be effectively and inexpensively modified to allow fish passage. Additionally, climate change is raising water temperatures across Concord's waterways, including Warner's Pond, Nashoba Brook, and the Assabet River. Unfortunately, this warming trend makes these waterways unsuitable for trout, which rely on cold-water habitats.

# What relevant issues has the town already voted on at Town Meetings?

- **1961:** Residents vote to purchase the pond as conservation land and to continue its use for recreation, swimming lessons, and scouting.
- **2006:** Residents vote to rehabilitate the dam, which cost \$2,150,000.
- **2018:** Residents vote to acquire seven acres along the northern shore of Warner's Pond for greater public access to the pond (which has become the Gerow Recreation Area), at a cost of \$3,000,000.
- 2018 2022: Residents vote to commit funds from Town Capital Improvement and Community Preservation Act (CPA) towards the Warner's Pond Restoration Project (dredging and improvements to public access points):

#### **Requested \$**

#### Approved \$

- **2018:** \$750,000
- **2019:** \$1,000,000
- **2020:** \$1,500,000
  - 000• \$750,000000• \$1,250,000
- **2022:** \$1,550,000 **2024:** \$550,000

#### Total: \$5,350,000

#### • \$550,000

Total: \$3,125,000

\$75.000

• \$500,000

## How have funds been spent on the Warner's Pond Restoration Project?

### **\$156,472 Spent on Pond Restoration** (Residents voted for Pond Restoration)

• **\$75,430 - 2017:** Preliminary Dredging Design and Feasibility by ESS

- **\$78,021 2022:** Final Dredging Design and Permitting by EA
- \$3,021 2022: Dredge Bid by EA

#### \$399,298 Spent Since Shift to Dam Removal (Pond Removal)

(Residents never voted for dam removal.)

- **\$62,930 2023:** Alternatives Analysis Report by EA
- **\$215,758 2023** Dam Removal Preliminary 30% Design, Sediment Transport Modeling, Other Technical Assistance
- \$106,540 2024: Task Force Facilitation by CBI
- **\$8,000 2024:** Cost Estimate for Conceptual North Field Dredging by Charter
- **\$3,500 2024:** Cost Estimate for Conceptual North Field Dredging by SumCo
- **\$2,500 2024:** Cost Estimate for Preliminary Dam Removal

#### Remaining Total: \$2,569,300.

## Friend's of Warner's Pond Response to:

#### Warner's Pond Task Force, Alternatives Under Consideration

Concord, MA March 2025

FROM THE WARNER'S POND TASK FORCE DRAFT REPORT:

The Task Force has been specifically charged with recommending a course of action for the Pond that reflects community criteria identified in Envision Concord – Bridge to 2030: (i) History + Character, (ii) Livability + Values, (iii) Mobility + Accessibility, (iv) Environmental Sustainability, and (v) Fiscal Sustainability.1

To support decision-making, the Task Force first reviewed the Envision Concord comprehensive long-range plan and articulated how the community criteria in that document might apply to the Warner's Pond system. The Task Force identified five key questions that must be answered in the affirmative with respect to any course of action that the group might recommend:

- 1. Will this alternative support and preserve the historical character and cultural heritage of the area?
- 2. Will this alternative enhance Concord's desirability as a place to live?
- 3. Will this alternative maintain/increase connectivity to Town centers and access to services by vulnerable residents?
- 4. Will this alternative enhance the ecology/biodiversity of the water body and adjacent land?
- 5. Will this alternative support fiscal sustainability?

#### Full Report:

https://concordma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/54307/WPTF-Alternatives-For-Evaluation

#### **FOWP Perspective:**

#### What is Blue Space?

"Blue space" refers to areas with bodies of water—rivers, lakes, ponds, streams, and coastal areas. Just as "green spaces" like trails, parks, and gardens enhance quality of life by providing outdoor retreats, blue spaces such as Warner's Pond foster a connection to aquatic nature and wildlife. A pond like Warner's also promotes mental well-being by offering a peaceful, calming environment where residents can slow down, reflect, and enjoy the serenity of open waters.

#### Why Preserve Warner's Pond?

Warner's Pond is one of West Concord's largest and most cherished blue spaces. Preserving it ensures continued benefits for the environment and enhances the well-being of our community. Two options under consideration by the Task Force would preserve Warner's Pond as a vital Blue Space: **Recurring Pond Management** and **Dredging**. These options help protect the pond for future generations. The third option, dam removal, would lead to the permanent loss of the pond and pose a high risk of transforming it into an unhealthy habitat dominated by invasive species like fragmite and canary grass. This is not the future we want for Warner's Pond—or our community.

# Question 1 – Will this alternative (recurring pond management, dredging, or dam removal) support and preserve the historical character and cultural heritage of the area?

FOWP PERSPECTIVE: History & Culture

Friends of Warner's Pond (FOWP) believes that the first two alternatives—**Recurring Pond Management** and **Dredging**—best honor and preserve the historical and cultural significance of the area. (More detailed history here: https://www.warnerspond.com/history-culture)

Warner's Pond and the dam that creates it hold deep historical and cultural significance for the people of West Concord. The landmark has been an integral part of the landscape since Concord was first settled. In the late 1600s, Edward Wright built a dam to support milling activities for wood, grain, and cloth. While the exact size of the pond behind the original dam is unknown, it is believed that some of the logs used in its construction are still part of the restored structure today. Over time, the dam was raised, expanding the pond, which has since become deeply intertwined with the community through its historical, economic, ecological, recreational, social, cultural, and aesthetic importance. A unique and lasting connection exists between this cherished natural resource and the neighborhoods that developed around it.

Subsequent, lesser-known yet historically significant events have strengthened the connection between Warner's Pond and the Town of Concord. David Loring, the second documented owner of the dam and pond, was a friend of Henry David Thoreau. Thoreau's journals include an entry from December 1850, when he visited the pond and its islands. At that time, the pond was known as 'Loring's Pond,' the larger island was called 'Isle of Pines,' and Thoreau named one of the smaller

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islands 'Myrica Island' after the myrica shrubs (commonly known as bayberry) he found there — a name that endures to this day.

Nine years later, the 'Massachusetts Encampment of 1859' took place on the eastern bank of Warner's Pond, serving as a significant, albeit unwitting, precursor to the American Civil War, which began two years later. Part of this same land later became a state-run reformatory and eventually the medium-security Massachusetts Correctional Institution (MCI). For decades, hundreds of families connected to the prison's operations lived near and enjoyed Warner's Pond. With the recent closure of MCI, future plans for the property include housing for new residents who will also benefit from the large pond nearby. Additional records show that the Boys and Girls Scouts often visited the pond and its islands, swim lessons were taught to local children, and the fire department conducted water rescue drills. The area is rich with stories of historic figures and events, remaining deeply intertwined with the personal and cultural identities of West Concord. Warner's Pond has played a vital role in shaping the sense of place and well-being for many residents.

The **Dam Removal** subgroup supports their alternative by emphasizing the history of Indigenous peoples who once lived in the region, while overlooking a significant portion of European history that is well-documented and connected to this landmark. FOWP honors the Indigenous peoples who inhabited this region for thousands of years and acknowledges the painful history that accompanied European colonization. However, Concord's landscape and culture remain deeply shaped by European influences, as exemplified by this year's ongoing 250th celebration of the America Revolution. A true reconciliation between Concord European Settlers and Indigenous Peoples does not require the removal of the Warner's Pond Dam. "Reconciliation is about the genuine restructuring and transformation of the *RELATIONSHIPS* between Indigenous and settler people." Learn more: https://www.rcaanc-cirnac.gc.ca/eng/1400782178444/1529183710887

# Question 2 – Will this alternative enhance Concord's desirability as a place to live?

#### FOWP PERSPECTIVE: Welcome to Warner's Pond!

Friends of Warner's Pond (FOWP) believes that the first two alternatives—**Recurring Pond Management** and **Dredging**—best enhance Concord's desirability as a place to live. (More about this Town Asset here: https://www.warnerspond.com/)

Warner's Pond, located in the heart of West Concord, has been a cherished community resource for generations. This 77-acre wetland system includes 59-acres of open water, and three islands. The largest island, "Scout Island", spans 6 acres. The public frequents Warner's Pond from three access points: the Gerow Recreation Area on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT), a boat launch off Commonwealth Avenue, and a primitive boat landing at the end of Pond Street.

Gerow Recreation Area at Warner's Pond is the midpoint along the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) and features a pavilion, restrooms, parking, benches, picnic tables, and wheelchair accessible trails. The park offers stunning views of the pond, especially at sunset. When the Town of Concord purchased this 7 acre parcel of land in 2018, the goal was to create a recreational destination both beside and on the pond for everyone to enjoy. As part of the plan, the "Warner's Pond Restoration Project" was launched to improve the pond's ecological health and enhance recreational opportunities. There continues to be strong community interest in bringing this vision to life.

The Warner's Pond boat launch, located off Commonwealth Avenue, features parking and a graded, unpaved surface that slopes down to the water's edge, providing access for smaller watercraft like fishing boats, canoes, and kayaks. When the Pond freezes over, this location becomes a popular meeting point for winter activities such as skating, cross-country skiing, and walking around Scout Island. As part of the "Warner's Pond Restoration Project," plans were made to improve the boat launch with better signage at the entrance, a wider paved driveway, expanded parking, and an upgraded boat ramp. Community members would still like to see these improvements come to fruition.

The primitive boat landing at Pond Street, near Rideout Field, was once a lively access point where people could launch boats and go fishing. Today, the area is overrun with vegetation, and a hard-to-read sign marks its presence. A small trail is occasionally cleared that leads to a muddy overgrown section of the pond. As part of the Warner's Pond Restoration Project, plans were in place to revitalize this access point and restore it as a location from which to enjoy the pond. Concord residents remain hopeful that the project will be realized.

The Warner's Pond Restoration Project also included plans to deepen the waters near all three access points through a process called "dredging." Dredging removes accumulated sediment and unwanted vegetation, creating clear, open water. Based on research and analysis of Warner's Pond, the positive effects of dredging are expected to last at least 100 years. Along with other planned improvements, dredging aims to restore connectivity and recreational opportunities on the pond, once again making Warner's Pond a valuable resource and asset for both residents and visitors of West Concord!

The Town also created a small public park beside the Warner's Pond dam, which was rehabilitated in 2008. It is a little-known park where people can sit, listen to the sound of falling water as it leaves Warner's Pond and returns to Nashoba Brook, and watch it flow under the Pail Factory Bridge on Commonwealth Avenue. This park is located across from Kenny Dunn Square, where West Concord honors its local veterans with a flag-raising ceremony on Memorial Day, and a small band of Revolutionary War soldiers plays music and marches by on Patriot's Day. Though modest in size, these two parks are meaningful spaces where people gather to celebrate some of West Concord's rich history and culture.

### Improved access points and water quality would greatly enhance people's desire to live in Concord, and especially in West Concord, with an asset such as Warner's Pond!

The **Dam Removal** subgroup supports their alternative by convincing people there will be great paddling opportunities if the dam is removed and Nashoba Brook flows freely. This is a misleading idea. The brook will not support boating in the way that local rivers do – the Sudbury, Concord and Assabet Rivers are much larger bodies of water, and are therefore desirable places to paddle.

Comparatively, brooks in the area are rarely if ever destinations for boating and fishing because they are too small and occasionally dry up in summer months. Brooks are often shallow, with fallen trees and beaver dams creating obstacles to passage. Additionally, there is no guarantee regarding the path Nashoba Brook will take through the area currently occupied by Warner's Pond. Historical data and stream statistics suggest that the brook will likely not flow near the existing public access points. Instead, it is expected to meander through areas that are not publicly accessible.

# Question 3 – Will this alternative maintain/increase connectivity to Town centers and access to services by vulnerable residents?

FOWP PERSPECTIVE: Warner's Pond – A Resource for All

Friends of Warner's Pond (FOWP) believes that the first two alternatives—**Recurring Pond Management** and **Dredging**—best maintain/increase connectivity to Town centers and access to services by vulnerable residents (More about this Town Asset here: https://www.warnerspond.com/)

Warner's Pond has long been a cherished resource for the residents of Concord. Historically, during the warmer months, it served as a popular spot for swimming, boating, fishing, and picnicking. Over the years, the pond has featured four different swimming areas, boat rentals, and a playground, making it a lively destination for the community. At times, prisoners from the nearby prison facility were given the opportunity to help maintain the beach areas and enjoy a swim in Warner's Pond, as did German prisoners of war from Fort Devens during WWII. In the colder months, the pond transformed into a hub for ice skating, hockey games, sledding, ice fishing, and bonfire socials. A beloved retreat for many working-class residents of West Concord, the Pond was a source of relaxation and joy, serving as a popular year-round gathering place for families and friends.

In 1944, ownership of the larger island in Warner's Pond was transferred to Boy Scout Troop 33 of West Concord, giving both Boy and Girl Scouts access to the island for activities like camping, nature study, cooking, and sports. Originally called the 'Isle of Pines,' the island was renamed 'Scout Island.' Today, the island is owned by the Concord Scout Sponsors, and scouts from surrounding towns continue to visit each year. Concord scouts also hold their annual 'Crossover Ceremony' or 'Bridge Ceremony' on the island, which marks a Cub Scout's transition into a Boy Scout.

In 1961, Concord residents voted to purchase Warner's Pond to protect this open space and ensure it would remain available for community recreation. Since then, the West Concord community has experienced significant growth. In addition to the many multi-family homes, apartments, and close-knit neighborhoods in the West Concord Village area, numerous high-density housing units have been developed within easy walking distance of both the Village and Warner's Pond, including:

• Brookside Square (74 residential apartments)

- Center Village
- Concord Commons (58 Units)
- Concord Greene Condominiums (220 units)
- Concord Park Senior Living (95 Units)
- Concord Village Condominiums (26 units)
- Elm Court Condominium Complex
- Hawthorne Village
- Millrun (14 residences)
- Minute Man Arc
- River Walk (13 homes)
- Shaw Farm Village (8 single family units)
- Warner Woods (80 Units)
- Wedgewood Commons (69 townhouse apartments)
- Westvale Meadows (16 townhomes)

And high density housing and neighborhoods a short distance away by car include:

- Black Birch Condominiums (41 units)
- Cranberry Lane Condominiums
- Forest Ridge Condominiums (19 units)
- Newbury Court Retirement community
- The Prescott and Nathan Pratt Apartments (392 units)
- Sweet Birch (16 Units)

And plans for a great deal more high density housing in West Concord are well underway:

- Junction Village off of Winthrop Street
- NOVO Riverside Commons on Baker Ave
- Assabet River Bluff off Old Marlboro Rd.
- Units at 166 Commonwealth Avenue
- Units at 13B Commonwealth Avenue
- Units at 1450 Main Street near Highland Street
- Units at 275 Forest Ridge Rd Complex

The historical list of those who have used Warner's Pond is diverse, ranging from prisoners and POWs to local residents and scouting troops. Today, the list of residents near the Pond is equally impressive, including the Minuteman Arc for children and adults with disabilities, Concord Park for senior assisted living, and many of Concord's 40B housing units. With active plans to expand and build more high-density housing in West Concord—many within walking distance of the Village and Warner's Pond—the Pond is becoming an increasingly valuable community asset. Its proximity to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail makes it accessible to many people. Additionally, the town has invested in Gerow Park, which features wheelchair-friendly trails along the edge of the Pond. For individuals with physical limitations, one of several access points around the Pond could be further modified to include features like accessible docks, ramps, and adaptive launch systems.

It's clear that Warner's Pond offers excellent connectivity and serves as a vital community space for residents, including many of Concord's more vulnerable members. With the

## ongoing growth and development in West Concord, now is not the time to consider losing such an important open space that provides recreational opportunities for so many.

Noteworthy is the growing concern over invasive plant species that began to fill Warner's Pond in the 1980s and 90s. Largely unmanaged for decades, invasive plants like fanwort, milfoil, and water chestnut have overtaken large portions of the pond's open water. The combination of unmaintained access points and the unchecked spread of these invasive species has significantly diminished the quality of this otherwise beautiful town resource. In response, the 'Warner's Pond Restoration Project' was conceived in 2018 and approved in 2019. The Recurring Pond Management or Dredging alternative aims to restore Warner's Pond, making it once again a free and accessible space for relaxation, recreation, reflection, and enjoyment—offering immense beauty and joy to all.

Quote from Concord's Current Issues and Initiative's Webpage: <u>https://concordma.gov/1189/Issues-Initiatives</u>

"Described as a "once in a lifetime opportunity", the Town acquired 6+ acres on Warner's Pond in July of 2018. This property lies on the north side of the pond next to the new Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. The site is planned for development into a public recreation area. While there were originally discussions of public swimming, both the challenging topology of the site and the unexpected acquisition by the town of the existing swimming beach at White Pond has removed this from the current plans. Major aspects of the design include walking paths, fishing and boating access and a covered structure for public use and Recreation programming."

# Question 4 – Will this alternative enhance the ecology/biodiversity of the water body and adjacent land?

FOWP PERSPECTIVE: Ecology & Biodiversity

Friends of Warner's Pond (FOWP) believes that the first two alternatives—**Recurring Pond Management** and **Dredging**—best honor and preserve the ecology and biodiversity of the water body and adjacent land.. (More information here: https://www.warnerspond.com/nature-beauty)

Warner's Pond is part of a larger ecosystem that includes open waters, shallow marshes, scrub-shrub/emergent marsh areas, and upland habitats. This entire area serves as a vital natural resource for the Town of Concord, particularly for West Concord. The Pond's open waters are home to a diverse and well-established aquatic system. Though affected by invasive aquatic plants, the ecosystem continues to support a wide variety of healthy, native plant and animal species. The pond teems with life, from birds and fish to reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, aquatic mammals, and native plants. A visit by boat offers an immersive experience filled with vibrant colors, textures, sounds, activity, and the energy of abundant wildlife and lush vegetation.

The Warner's Pond system provides essential habitat for both resident and migratory waterbirds, including the endangered pied-billed grebe. This area plays a crucial role in bird migration corridors, offering a range of critical resources such as nesting, feeding, and resting sites, as well as escape cover, drinking water, and seasonal habitats for breeding, migration, and overwintering wildlife.

And there's more! Native eastern freshwater mussels, aquatic macroinvertebrates (including the terrestrial stages of some species), dragonflies, damselflies, aquatic worms, insects, crustaceans, and snails all play vital roles in the pond's ecosystem. Additionally, various fish species, such as the native Fallfish, thrive in Warner's Pond, contributing to the system's biodiversity.

Concord's more well-known ponds – Walden Pond and White Pond – are beautiful kettle ponds that many love to visit. However, they represent a different type of ecosystem compared to Warner's Pond. Kettle pond ecosystems are generally more fragile due to their lack of inlets or outlets, which limits water exchange with the surrounding environment. This makes them more vulnerable to changes in water quality and other environmental factors. Without an inlet or outlet, any pollutants, nutrients, or changes within a kettle pond tend to accumulate over time. While Walden and White Ponds are carefully managed to protect their delicate ecosystems, which includes limiting recreational activity, Warner's Pond is fed and emptied by Nashoba Brook, with both an inlet and an outlet. Warner's Pond also requires water management, particularly the removal of invasive plants, but it remains a resilient and healthy ecosystem. Its varied water depths – ranging from shallow to deep – differing water flow rates, and extensive scrub-shrub/emergent habitats contribute to a distinct ecological balance. Without a doubt, Warner's Pond is a valuable and diverse wildlife habitat, with well-established ecological assets that deserve protection.

The "Warner's Pond Restoration Project," conceived in 2018 and approved in 2019, aimed to improve water conditions to support the diverse wildlife that inhabits the pond. Research conducted during the project found that the water is free of contaminants, and sediment samples taken throughout the pond showed similar results, except for one small area with high levels of arsenic. Overall, the pond is healthy but faces challenges with accrued sediment and invasive plants that threaten the ecosystem. Much like Walden and White Pond need careful management to maintain their health, so does Warner's Pond.

The **Dam Removal** subgroup argues that their alternative is the ecologically preferred option, but these claims are misleading. They propose removing Warner's Pond, which would result in the loss of a large, well-established open-water ecosystem, replacing it with wetland systems that are already more abundant throughout Concord. In fact, the wetland ecosystems they deem preferable already exist within and adjacent to the Warner's Pond system, including Fort Pond, Nashoba Brook upstream, and the Assabet River downstream. They are misrepresenting Warner's Pond as a negative environmental feature when, in reality, it is far from that. Many of their concerns can be addressed through responsible water management and modifications to the dam to allow fish passage. Warner's Pond has been a vital part of Concord's landscape for generations—both for its human residents and wildlife.

Additionally, the Dam Removal group claims they want to "restore" Nashoba Brook simply by removing the dam and the pond. However, restoration involves much more than just dam removal. Without long-term, consistent management of invasive plants, the area will be overtaken by species like phragmites and reed canary grass, which do not belong in a healthy, "restored" wetland system.

Lastly, the Dam Removal group has mentioned a rare species living in the upstream Fort Pond Brook. However, they have not disclosed the identity of this species or how well it is thriving in that area. There are rumors suggesting it may be a turtle species, with only a few individuals documented. Is this rare species viable in its current habitat? Does it require more space or resources, or is the habitat it currently occupies sufficient? What is the likelihood that this species, with such a small population, will survive in the area long-term, regardless of whether Warner's Pond remains or is removed?

# Question 5 – Will this alternative support fiscal sustainability?

FOWP PERSPECTIVE:

Friends of Warner's Pond plans to write a statement about financial sustainability after hearing more at the Public Forum.