

INLAND WETLANDS
COMMISSION
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TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

MEMORANDUM

TO: Inland Wetlands Commission

FROM: Michael Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs

DATE: September 1, 2021

RE: **WET#2724 (S) – CONNECTICUT HUMANE SOCIETY**
863-865 Danbury Road, Wilton, CT (Assessor's Map 11, Lot 47)

I have reviewed the above-cited application and conducted a site visit. The application to redevelop the site and construct a regional center for the Connecticut Humane Society seems well planned. I offer the following comments on this proposal:

- After reviewing the alternatives presented in the application the project has evolved to keep most of the development activities to the east of the watercourse that bisects the site.
- The project will eliminate the current site uses such as the contractor's storage yard. This current use seems to have the potential to cause a degradation to the wetlands and watercourse on the site. The proposed use seems to be much more controlled and planned to protect those resources once the construction is complete.
- The daylighting of the culverted stream is an overall benefit to the watercourse. Eliminating the contractor's yard area and establishing a planted watercourse buffer will aid to improve water quality over time. Additionally, the work along the southern watercourse banks to remove the invasive species and establish a native planting buffer will enhance the overall ecology of the site.
- The proposed use of Low Impact Design (LID) measures, specifically the use of pervious pavement in the parking areas, will help storm water infiltrate into the ground on the site minimizing any direct discharges to the wetlands or watercourse.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this application.