



Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

Auburn City Council
60 Court St.
Auburn, Me 04210

April 18, 2022

Dear City Council:

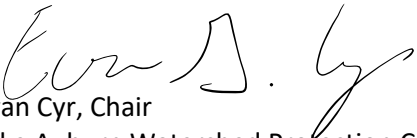
I address this letter to you on behalf of the Commissioner's of the Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission. At LAWPC's regularly scheduled meeting on April 13, 2022 the Commission requested that a letter be submitted to the Auburn City Council regarding its position on any changes that are proposed within the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District that could result in increased development.

In 1993 LAWPC was formed with the principal purpose to maintain safe and healthful environmental conditions within the Lake Auburn Watershed, to prevent and control water pollution and to protect and maintain the present quality and volume of potable water supplied from the Lake Auburn Watershed. The Commission has the authority to take legal action to enforce the laws and ordinances relative to the watershed and drinking water pollution, to such extent as is required to protect the waters of Lake Auburn in order to maintain its purity.

The Commission would like to reiterate its position that any increase in development will impact the high quality of the water and LAWPC's ability to maintain the lake's exemption from the filtration requirements imposed by federal and state laws. The Commission's position is grounded in the principle that new development will have a negative impact on the quality of water in Lake Auburn. The science available to date supports this conclusion and also encourages more restrictions on development within the watershed.

Therefore, the Commission does not support any changes in definitions and/or standards that would increase development of lands located within the physical boundaries of the Lake Auburn Watershed Overlay District. The existing standards and definitions are currently required to prevent water pollution associated with increased development and to prevent irreparable harm to the purity of the public water supply which would threaten the existing filtration waiver.

Respectfully Submitted,


Evan Cyr, Chair
Lake Auburn Watershed Protection Commission

CC. Sid Hazelton, Auburn Water District
Kevin Gagne, Lewiston Water Division