

To Tim Pearson and the Littleton Conservation Commission:

We are the owners of 35 Lake Shore Drive. We moved here in 2014 and feel so lucky we came before the big boom that this town has had. Quite quickly, we were welcomed into the neighborhood and have been happy to welcome others as well. We were fortunate to have inherited one of the best views of the water, the sunrises and all the activity the that Long Lake has to offer. As our family has grown by 2 dogs and a daughter since moving here, we continue to love this home and are thankful for this lake life.

As mentioned, our view of the water was inherited. In keeping with what was done by the owners prior to us, we have continued to maintain the view and the property across from our home so that others can continue to view the shoreline and water as they always could. This has included mowing the grass, removing ground up asphalt and debris from the lawn after the snow plows are done for the season, picking up dog waste left behind and maintaining the area at the shoreline that allows for easy access to the water. We have never considered it to be our private property, but we certainly have taken responsibility for it. Without maintenance of the parcel across from our home, it would have easily and quickly become overgrown with invasive plants, as they are an established problem in the lake area, which would further limit access to the water.

Much of the discussion in the last public meeting regarding the Lake Shore parcel seemed to be focused on the unfairness of access to the water and the apparent unfriendliness of the homeowners across from the accessible areas. Having been here for 11 years, we can confidently say we always have welcomed and encouraged countless people to use the area across from our home. We have had little ones looking for fish, big kids fishing off the dock, scenic pictures being taken or dogs taking a detour down the hill to get some better sniffs. Sometimes we see the big kids bikes strewn across the grass and the parking area before we see them quietly baiting their hooks. Being good kids. It's the best. We've had canoes launch off our shoreline and paddle boards come back in. We've watched wildlife feel comfortable enough to sleep on the dock and the blue heron stretch his legs quietly across our shoreline. There are visitors to the neighborhood that park across the street. They get out of the car, stretch their legs, and you can just tell they needed that breath of fresh air.

The harm in taking away the docks, the parking area, the maintained grassy areas...we would lose all of the above. This neighborhood was built as a sanctuary for city people to come to the country and relax. To enjoy the lake and get back to nature. We assure you there is nothing private about the parcel across from us. We care about it as though it's our own, but we sure do appreciate the countless people who take the time to enjoy it themselves.

Specifically for the parcel across from us, it was mentioned that there is an artificial beach. The water level has been low this season which has exposed the shoreline more than usual. This can also be seen at the distal end of Lake Shore Drive, beyond our home. Assuming it is a beach feels accusatory and unnecessary. Our dock has been replaced once since moving here as the old

dock was ruined by the ice melt a few years back. When the conversation of dock removal came up, we discovered that there was, in fact, a permit pulled on the dock back in 2001. The specs then were much longer than the dock that currently exists. Additionally, the current dock can be removed entirely and it is removed every year in mid fall. Finally, the parking area that is across from our and our neighbor's home has been in existence for decades, including when Lake Shore Drive was a private dirt road. When the town took the road by eminent domain, it's our understanding that no intervention or consideration for removal took place. Surely the removal of the space and disruption to the area would be more of an interference to the water than just leaving it be.

As we continue to move forward in these discussions, we ask that we continue to be allowed to maintain the parcel as we always have been and has been done for decades before us. We feel strongly in upholding the tradition of the Long Lake neighborhood while continuing to support the wildlife we share space with and providing access for those who are seeking it.

Thank you for your time

Ethan and Sarah Corey