

JERRY'S POND



Jerry's Pond and the surrounding urban wild area in north Cambridge are part of a privately owned parcel of land that has been fenced off from the neighborhood and community for decades.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Current landowners (IQHQ) have proposed a project that provides improvements to Jerry's Pond with minimal disturbance to soils, trees, and shoreline. Conceptual improvements have also been prepared by the Friends of Jerry's Pond (FoJP). This document summarizes the review of the two plans completed by the City's consultants - Kleinfelder and Hatch - to understand project benefits, risks, and opportunities.

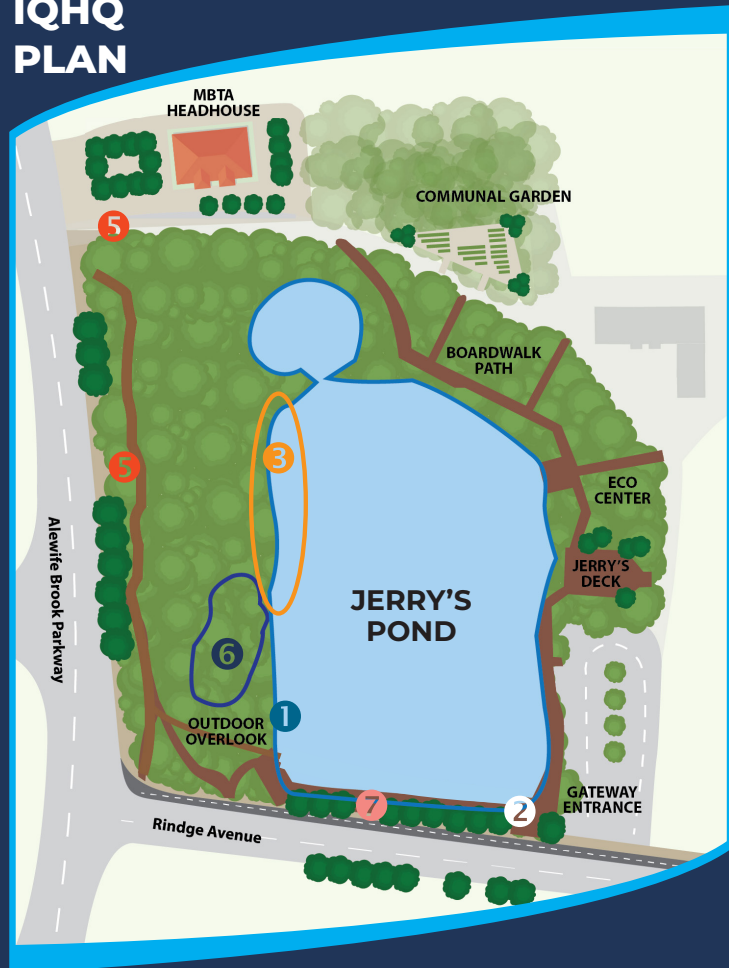
PEER REVIEW FINDINGS:

Considerations when reviewing the plans include restrictions and obligations of Activity and Use Limitation (AUL) associated with historic contaminant release site, **how many established trees would be removed**, the amount of **disruption from potentially contaminated urban fill soils**, and the **effect of unstable urban hydrology on restoring the shoreline and aquatic habitat**.

Work elements illustrated in the Friends of Jerry's Pond plan would require removal of 72 large trees, significant soil disruption, and an inability to effectively restore shoreline/aquatic habitat due to highly variable urban hydrology.

The review by the City's consultants also identified additional benefits that could be achieved by incorporating relatively easy changes to IQHQ's plan.

IQHQ PLAN



FRIENDS OF JERRY'S POND PLAN



PLAN KEY

- 1 = Existing Waterline
- 2 = Entry Outdoor Overlook
- 3 = Existing Heron Nesting Area
- 4 = Jerry's Pond Expansion & Compensatory Flood Storage
- 5 = Improvement of Existing Sidewalks & New Asphalt Path
- 6 = Compensatory Flood Storage
- 7 = Multi-Use Path and Pedestrian Boardwalk along Rindge Avenue
- 8 = Multi-Use & Pedestrian Pathways Along Rindge Avenue
- 9 = Expanded Shoreline

PROPOSED IQHQ PLAN

The IQHQ Plan takes a **low-impact approach**. It includes above-ground **boardwalks and overlooks** along the existing Rindge Avenue corridor. The Plan **limits ecological and environmental disturbance** and costs, while providing enhancements to the local ecology and environment. **New trees** would be planted, and **existing heron nesting areas** would be protected during construction.

POSSIBLE PROJECT ENHANCEMENTS

The City's consultants suggest the following enhancements to IQHQ's Plan to create even more benefits for users of Jerry's Pond:

- Remove asphalt paving and install planting soil, native seeds, trees and shrubs to help restore ecological processes.
- Construct floating island(s) within Jerry's Pond to create habitat, filter contaminants, and reduce harmful algal blooms.
- Conduct survey of invasive species; provide recommendations for invasive species monitoring and removal.
- Preserve existing trees along Rindge Avenue.
- Evaluate potential to restore degraded wetland on former LeHigh property.
- Provide additional directional and environmental signage along new paths at Alewife Brook Parkway.

	IQHQ PLAN	FoJP PLAN
Large Trees Removed (>6" caliper)	20	72
Total Caliper Inches of Large Trees Removed	284	909
Proposed Trees	12	up to 175
Constructed Wetlands*	Not proposed	Approx. +6,000 sf
Bank Restoration*	Not proposed	Approx. 9,400 sf
Impacts to Heron Nesting Sites	Minimal	Significant
Dump Trucks (Excavation and Fill Volume)	90 Truckloads	2,220 Truckloads
Disturbance of Potentially Contaminated Soils	Minimal	Significant
Construction: Start Duration Completion	summer 2024 12 months summer 2025	summer 2025 or 2026 24 months summer 2027 or 2028
Cost to the City	\$0	\$20-23 Million
Uses Consistent with Activity and Use Limitation (AUL)	✓	X
Supported by Property Owner	✓	X

*May not be feasible due to unstable urban hydrology.



The IQHQ Plan has been refined by multiple rounds of feedback from the public, local stakeholders, and the City.

DRAFT