

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022**

A meeting of the Fox Point Village Board was held by a combination of in-person and virtual attendance via telephonic and video conferencing on Tuesday, April 12, 2022 in Schwemer Hall, 7200 N. Santa Monica Boulevard. President Frazer called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. and asked the Village Clerk Treasurer to take roll call. Roll Call of the Village Board present included:

Village President Douglas H. Frazer
Trustee Eric Fonstad
Trustee Christine Symchych
Trustee Liz Sumner
Trustee Bill Kravit
Trustee Greg Ollman
Trustee Catie Anderson Knight

President Frazer noted the Village Board has a quorum.

Also, present were Village Attorney Eric Larson, Village Manager Scott Botcher, Public Works Director Scott Brandmeier, Assistant Village Manager Kevin Ausman and Village Clerk Treasurer Kelly Meyer.

Notice of the meeting was provided to the North Shore Now and to all others as required by State open meetings laws and posted on the official bulletin board at 7200 N Santa Monica Boulevard, as well as the village website at www.villageoffoxpoint.com, as per 2015 Wisconsin Act 79 and as described in Village Ordinance Chapter 116-2, 116-2(C).

Village Manager Scott Botcher noted audio and camera difficulties regarding the Village Board meeting, and the adjustments and accommodations the staff had made.

Consideration of Request from Cobalt Partners which Seeks Village Board Approval to Allow Them to Submit a PUD Rezoning Petition Concerning Village-Owned Land (6c)

Without objection and by unanimous consent, President Frazer suspended the rules to take up agenda item 6c, regarding the Cobalt matter, for the limited purpose of allowing Village Attorney Eric Larson to explain the issue before the Village Board.

Village Attorney Eric Larson gave a brief synopsis of what the Board would not be hearing tonight, what the Board would be hearing tonight, and the steps in the process connected to the Cobalt proposal.

Persons desiring to be heard

President Frazer opened Persons desiring to be heard. President Frazer noted the procedures for public comment.

Rebecca Grassl, 7338 N Navajo Rd is in support of maintaining a municipal pool; she noted it is an asset to the Village of Fox Point community.

Steve Kravit, 6928 N Barnett Ln is a firm supporter of the Cobalt concept and vision, noting the necessity for adequate village facilities.

Ken Friedman, 8001 N Links Way, Regarding the reconstruction project on Bradley Road, Mr. Friedman is opposed to Plan B2 and B3 and in favor of plan C1. [Submittal of Exhibit A].

VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022

Moshe Katz, 7718 N Beach Dr., supports the Cobalt concept submission.

Laura Sider, 308 W Bradley Rd., agrees with Mr. Friedman and is also opposed to Plan B in regard to the Bradley Road project. [Submittal of Exhibit B]

Blair Williams, 7041 N Lombardy Road, supports the Cobalt concept submission.

Louise Petering, 7229 N Santa Monica Blvd., is opposed to the Cobalt concept submission. [Submittal of Exhibit C]

Craig Zetley, 6868 N Barnett Ln., is in favor of the submission of the Cobalt concept.

Brad Fedderly, 7901 N Mohawk Rd., asked the Village Board to be transparent and open to the community in regard to Cobalt, and suggested that the Board permit the application to proceed.

Kevin Summ, 6929 N Yates, is in favor of the submission of Cobalt concept.

Scott Seider, 308 E Bradley Rd., opposes Bradley Road Plan B [Exhibit D submittal for record].

Robert Worth, 8048 N Santa Monica Blvd, is opposed to the Cobalt proposal submittal.

David Miller, 7401 N Crossway Rd., inquired on public property matters.

Kate Junk, 7945 N Mohawk Rd., in connection with the Cobalt proposal questioned the Plan Commission's ability to remain unbiased.

Therese Gripentrog, 8145 N Navajo Rd., is opposed to the submittal of the Cobalt proposal.

Judy Tolken, 7329 N Santa Monica Blvd., is opposed to the use of public land and the submittal of the Cobalt proposal.

Mary Beth Mills, 1811 E Dean Rd., does not support the submittal of the Cobalt proposal.

Mary LaCharite, 8049 N Santa Monica Blvd., with regard to the Cobalt project, Ms. LaCharite asked that the Village Board to consider other proposals.

Drew Elmer, 101 E Bradley Rd., supports the Bradley Road reconstruction project Plan B.

Linda Gale Sampson, 7000 N Barnett Ln., is opposed to the Cobalt plan.

Without objection and hearing no further comments, President Frazer closed the public comment period.

President Frazer called for a brief recess at 8:04 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:06 p.m.

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022**

Committee Reports

1. Plan Commission Report

Trustee Fonstad gave a report on the Plan Commission meeting of Monday, April 4, 2022. Plan Commission recommended Village Board approval of Ms. Mary's Learning Center, LLC, 8050 N Port Washington Rd. for an infant and preschool aged childcare Conditional Use Application and Order. Plan Commission recommended the Board's approval of Shirts, Skirts, Shoes & Stuff, Inc., 333 W Brown Deer Rd, Suite H, in the Audubon court area. The Plan Commission was satisfied with the village attorney's revisions and recommended Board adoption of the Ordinance to Repeal and Recreate Sections 745-7 C. (1) and 745-6 A. concerning garages, accessory buildings, and certain structures other than buildings of the Village of Fox Point Zoning Code.

2. Special Pilot Community Enhancement Grants Committee Report

Chairperson Karen Schapiro summarized the activity of the Special Pilot Community Enhancement Grants Committee, as set forth on pages 127-130 of the Village Board packet.

Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit Application for Ms. Mary's Learning Center LLC, 8050 N Port Washington Rd., Fox Point.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Ollman, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to open the public hearing for the Conditional Use Order for Ms. Mary's Learning Center LLC, 8050 N Port Washington Rd., Fox Point, WI. at 8:19 p.m.

There was no public comment.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Fonstad, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to close the public hearing at 8:19 p.m. for the Conditional Use Order for Ms. Mary's Learning Center LLC, 8050 N Port Washington Rd., Fox Point, WI.

Public Hearing for Conditional Use Permit Application for Shirts, Skirts, Shoes & Stuff, Inc., 333 W Brown Deer Rd, Suite H, Fox Point.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Fonstad, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to open the public hearing for the Conditional Use Order for Shirts, Skirts, Shoes & Stuff, Inc., 333 W Brown Deer Rd., Suite H, Fox Point at 8:20 p.m.

There was no public comment.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Fonstad, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to close the public hearing at 8:21 p.m., regarding the Conditional Use Order for Shirts, Skirts, Shoes & Stuff, Inc., 333 W Brown Deer Rd., Suite H, Fox Point.

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022**

Public Hearing for Ordinance to Repeal and Re-Create Section 745-7 C. (1) and 745-6 A. of the Village of Fox Point Zoning Code Concerning Garages, Accessory Buildings and Certain Structures Other Than Buildings.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Fonstad, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to open the public hearing at 8:22 p.m. for Ordinance to Repeal and Re-Create Section 745-7 C. (1) and 745-6 A. of the Village of Fox Point Zoning Code Concerning Garages, Accessory Buildings and Certain Structures Other Than Buildings at 8:22 p.m.

There was no public comment.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Fonstad, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to close the public hearing at 8:22 p.m. for Ordinance to Repeal and Re-Create Section 745-7 C. (1) and 745-6 A. of the Village of Fox Point Zoning Code Concerning Garages, Accessory Buildings and Certain Structures Other Than Buildings.

Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of the March 8, 2022 Village Board meeting.
- b. Approve the 2021 Annual NR216 (MS4) Stormwater Report and submittal of the same to the Department of Natural Resources.
- c. Accept Amendment No.1 from Baxter & Woodman in the amount of \$10,596.51 for additional design engineering services associated with the 2022 Road and Utility Reconstruction Project and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the amendment per the Director of Public Works' memorandum dated April 5, 2022.
- d. Accept the bid of Redina Construction Company in the amount of \$113,173 for the lining of sanitary sewer manholes in the Village and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the contract per the Director of Public Works' memorandum dated April 4, 2022.
- e. Accept the proposal of Kapur & Associates in the amount of \$23,334 for construction inspection activities associated with the sanitary sewer lining project and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the contract per the Director of Public Works' memorandum dated April 4, 2022.
- f. Accept the bid of American Sewer Services, Inc. in the amount of \$1,010,852.20 for the 2022 road and utility project along Wye Lane and Port Washington Road and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the contract per the Director of Public Works' memorandum dated April 5, 2022.
- g. Accept the proposal of Baxter & Woodman in the amount of \$74,650 for construction inspection activities associated with the 2022 road and utility project along Wye Lane and Port Washington Road and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the contract per the Director of Public Works' memorandum dated April 6, 2022.

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022**

- h. Accept the bid of Visu-Sewer Inc. in the amount of \$238,830 for the 2022 storm and sanitary sewer rehabilitation project and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the contract per the Director of Public Works' memorandum dated April 6, 2022.
- i. Accept the quote of Kapur & Associates in the amount of \$25,804 for construction inspection activities associated with the 2022 storm and sanitary sewer rehabilitation project and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the contract per the Director of Public Works' memorandum dated April 6, 2022.
- j. Accept the proposal of Crawford Tree & Landscape in an amount not to exceed \$36,000 for the 2022 Emerald Ash Borer Treatment Project and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk/Treasurer to sign the contract per the Village Forester's memorandum dated April 7, 2022.
- k. Accept the quote of LDV Custom Specialty Vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$258,483 for the purchase of the water utility van and authorize the Village Manager to sign the purchase order per the Lead Mechanic/Facility Lead's memorandum dated March 31, 2022.
- l. Accept the quote of LF George, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$52,350 for the purchase of a chipper and authorize the Village Manager to sign the purchase order per the Lead Mechanic/Facility Lead's memorandum dated March 31, 2022.
- m. Accept the quote of R.N.O.W., Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$192,886 for the purchase of a garbage packer including cab, chassis and body and authorize the Village Manager to sign the purchase order per the Lead Mechanic/Facility Lead's memorandum dated April 5, 2022.
- n. Accept the quote of Milwaukee Tractor & Equipment Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$51,886 for the purchase of a skid steer and authorize the Village Manager to sign the purchase order per the Lead Mechanic/Facility Lead's memorandum dated March 31, 2022.
- o. Accept the quote of Partners Leaf Collection in an amount not to exceed \$55,000 for the purchase of two tow-behind leaf loaders and authorize the Village Manager to sign the purchase order per the Lead Mechanic/Facility Lead's memorandum dated April 4, 2022.
- p. Accept the quote of EJ Equipment in an amount not to exceed \$67,338 for the purchase of two more GO-4 Interceptors Refuse Haulers (garbage scooters) and authorize the Village Manager to sign the purchase order per the Lead Mechanic/Facility Lead's memorandum dated April 4, 2022.
- q. Grant a Conditional Use Permit to applicant Ms. Mary's Learning Center, LLC, 8050 N Port Washington Road, Fox Point, and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk Treasurer to sign the Conditional Use Order.
- r. Grant a Conditional Use Permit to applicant Shirts, Skirts, Shoes & Stuff, Inc., 333 W Brown Deer Road, Suite H, Fox Point, and authorize the Village President and Village Clerk Treasurer to sign the Conditional Use Order.
- s. Confirm President Frazer's list of appointments to various Boards, Committees, and Commissions.

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022**

- t. Adopt proclamation establishing April 17 through April 23, 2022 as Municipal Treasurers' Appreciation Week in the Village of Fox Point.
- u. Adopt proclamation establishing May 1 through May 7, 2022 as the Professional Municipal Clerks' Week in the Village of Fox Point.
- v. Approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$766,301.10 for the period March 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022 per the report submitted by the Village Manager.

Trustee Fonstad asked to withdraw consent agenda item 5k.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Fonstad, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to approve the consent agenda, absent consent agenda item 5k.

Quote of LDV Custom Specialty Vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$258,483 for the purchase of the water utility van (Consent Agenda Item 5k)

Motion by Trustee Fonstad, seconded by Trustee Knight, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to accept the quote of LDV Custom Specialty Vehicles in an amount not to exceed \$258,483 for the purchase of the water utility van and authorize the Village Manager to sign the purchase order per the Lead Mechanic/Facility Lead's memorandum dated March 31, 2022.

Consideration of Ordinance to Repeal and Re-Crete Section 745-7 C. (1) and 745-6 A. of the Village of Fox Point Zoning Code Concerning Garages, Accessory Buildings and Certain Structures other than Buildings

Liz Aelion, 210 W Bergen Court, asked that the Board take into consideration the various lot sizes in the districts.

Eric Davidson, 7424 N Santa Monica Blvd., noted the ordinance would allow some leeway with the deep and narrow lots.

Motion by Trustee Fonstad, seconded by President Frazer, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to adopt Ordinance to Repeal and Re-Crete Section 745-7 C. (1) and 745-6 A. of the Village of Fox Point Zoning Code Concerning Garages, Accessory Buildings and Certain Structures other than Buildings, as presented on pages 97 to 100 of the agenda packet.

Consideration of Request from New Barons Brewing Cooperative for a Temporary Beer Garden Near the Fox Point Pool on Specified Dates Throughout the Summer

A brief presentation was given by John Degroote and Heidi Dalibor of the New Barons Brewing Cooperative.

Motion by Trustee Fonstad, seconded by Trustee Knight, and carried by roll call vote (7-0), to receive and recommend referral to a joint meeting of the Plan Commission and Building Board regarding New Barons Brewing for a Temporary Beer Garden near the Fox Point Pool on Specified Dates throughout the summer, as presented on pages 101 to 120 of the agenda packet.

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

APRIL 12, 2022

Consideration of Request from Cobalt Partners which Seeks Village Board Approval to Submit a PUD Rezoning Petition Concerning Village-Owned Land

Cobalt Partners Scott Yauck gave a presentation.

Dave Petering, 7229 N Santa Monica Blvd., does not support the submittal of a Cobalt Partners PUD Rezoning Petition submittal.

Jim LaCharite, 8049 N Santa Monica Blvd., is opposed to a submittal from Cobalt Partners.

Luke Junk, 7945 N Mohawk Road, is opposed to the Cobalt proposal being submitted.

David Miller, 7401 N Crossway Rd. is supportive of a Cobalt submittal; however, Miller believes the process should be open to any party who wants to submit a proposal regarding public land.

Sandy Hurley, 7334 N Longacre Rd., has concerns that the village has not considered any other ideas or considered a bid process.

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Fonstad, to approve the request of Cobalt Partners, to allow Cobalt Partners to prepare and submit a PUD (Planned Unit Development) Rezoning Petition Affecting Village-owned land including Village Hall, as set forth on pages 122 through 126 of the agenda packet.

Discussion ensued. President Frazer called the question.

Carried by roll call vote, 6-1 (Opposed-Ollman)

President Frazer called for a short recess at 9:40 p.m. Frazer called the meeting back to order at 9:45 p.m.

Consideration of Special Pilot Community Enhancement Grants Committee recommendations for Community Enhancement Grants

Motion by President Frazer, seconded by Trustee Ollman, and carried by roll call vote (6-1) (Opposed-Symchych), to approve the special pilot committee's grant application and related procedures as put forward by chairperson Schapiro and presented in the agenda packet on pages 127 to 130.

Consideration of an Ordinance to Repeal and Re-Create Section 681-3 B. of the Village of Fox Point Village Code Concerning Pollinator-Friendly Habitat

Peter Grzechowiak, 220 E Bradley Rd., is not supportive of the Ordinance; he believes there are other ways to attract bees.

Jon Knopp, 8203 N Regent Rd., is supportive of the No Mow May and commented on a Lawrence University research study. [Submittal of Exhibit E]

Kathe Lake, 7471 N Beach Ct., is in favor of "No Mow May".

Motion by Trustee Fonstad, seconded by Trustee Knight, to adopt Ordinance to Repeal and Re-Create Section 681-3 B. of the Village of Fox Point Village Code Concerning Pollinator-Friendly Habitat, with the following change in section 1, line 6,

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

APRIL 12, 2022

after the words pollinator emergence, insert a period and delete the balance of it the sentence.

President Frazer withheld the question in order to hear other citizen comment.

Elizabeth Aelion, 210 W Bergen Ct., stated it only works if people have weeds, because the weeds then provide sustenance.

President Frazer called the question.

Motion carried by roll call vote, 6-1 (Opposed-President Frazer).

Future Agenda Items – None

Announcements

Village President Frazer welcomed Elizabeth Aelion as a newly elected member of the Village Board. President Frazer stated he was sad Trustee Kravit was leaving the Board. He thanked Trustee Kravit for his years of service sparked by his love for the Village of Fox Point.

President Frazer announced an award given to Fox Point Police Sergeant Kyle Arndt. Sergeant Arndt attended a ten-week course at Northwestern University's School of Police Staff and Command. Sergeant Arndt was voted by the other attendees the prestigious Franklin M. Kreml Leadership Award, named after the program's founder, and given to the one person in the class, selected by the class, who best displays the dedication, devotion, ethics, and sense of justice and other professional values that exemplify the kind of leadership needed in today's law enforcement. President Frazer offered congratulations to Sergeant Arndt and the Fox Point Police Department.

Trustee Fonstad

None

Trustee Symchych

None

Trustee Sumner

None

Trustee Kravit announced that tonight was his last meeting on the Village Board. He expressed gratefulness for the relationships being on the Village Board had offered him. He commented on the enjoyment he had derived serving on the Board. Trustee Kravit wished Ms. Liz Aelion, his successor, and his remaining Board colleagues, success in the future.

Trustee Ollman

None

Trustee Anderson Knight announced North Shore Library's newly hired Library Director, Rhonda Gould. She is re-locating from Walla Walla, Washington.

Village Manager Scott Botcher

None

Adjourn

**VILLAGE OF FOX POINT
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022**

Motion made by Trustee Kravit, seconded by Trustee Ollman, and carried by roll call vote (5-2) (Opposed-Kravit and Ollman), to adjourn the Village Board meeting at 10:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly A. Meyer, *CMC/WCMC/CMTW*
Village Clerk Treasurer

[EXHIBIT A]

I am Ken Friedman, living at 8001 North links Way

Ken Friedman April 12, 2022

I have two issues to comment on.

First, related to the Bradley Road Reconstruction project. I understand that the board approved options B2 and B3 at the Meeting of March 8, and I am hoping that there is still room for reconsideration of the plan. I admit that I was unprepared for the speed at which decisions happen as only 29 days were allowed between mailing the Invitation to the Public Information Meeting on February 9th and the Board decision of March 8th. Scott Brandmeier nicely tabulated that community feedback, stating that 61 homes border on Bradley Road, that 19 homes provided responses, and that not all of whom border on Bradley Road. I was one of the 5 respondents indicating favoring plan C1, for not widening the footprint of this thorough. Why, because I don't see the safety issues on this road as any different from the roads that connect to it, and that I am concerned that widening the road will change the ambiance of the village and potentially encourage faster driving speeds.

Because the timeline allowed for comment was short, and feedback from under one third of homeowners was presented at the March 8th meeting, I went around to homes near mine on Bradley Road to see what my neighbors felt. 9 people answered the doorbell, and of those 9, 3 denied getting the PIM announcement letter, indicating a problem in the public notice process. 7 of 9 homes, a clear majority, indicated a preference for proposal C1 of not widening of the road footprint and signed my petition form, but 2 of the 9 indicated differently. That is indeed different data than what was presented at the Village meeting. Scott and Laura Seider went to other home and collected 6 signatures. I have those signatures here and emailed those signatures to each board member.

I am concerned that the Village Board made a decision without sufficient feedback from the residents of Bradley Road. I prefer plan C1 for the reasons I've told you, as do a majority of my immediate neighbors on Bradley Road. I hope the planned project can be reconsidered. However, if Plan B1 is built out, I wonder if the width of expansion could be adjusted downward to a 2-3 foot buffer rather than 6 feet, and a 5 foot walkway rather than 6. I think that is a fair compromise.

Second, related to the Cobalt proposal, I have many questions and e-mailed that them to the Board members. I only ask that no changes to zoning of public lands occur until the questions are answered with public feedback.

Petition to Village of Fox Point Board

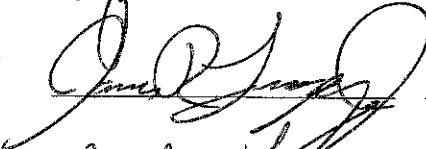
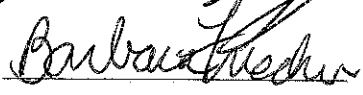
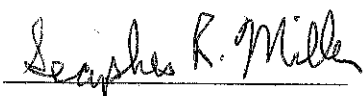
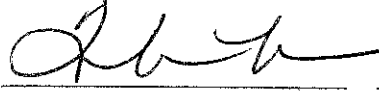
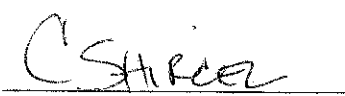
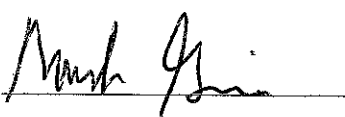
To be presented at the April 12th meeting

RE: 2022 Bradley Road Reconstruction

We the undersigned residents of Fox Point with properties bordering on Bradley Road, indicate here our preference for Road Reconstruction and Utility project
Option C1: 10 foot lanes, 1 foot shoulders.

Pedestrians safely walk in our neighborhood. There is not a high frequency of collisions, as indicated by police activity. Widening the Bradley Road corridor will decrease the suburban/rural feeling of our community and encourage faster automobile speeds. For these reasons, we would rather see the Bradley Road corridor left as it currently stands (Option C1)

Respectfully submitted by:

Signature	Printed name	Address
	Elizabeth Parker	808 E. Bradley Rd -
	James R Livezey Jr	808 E. Bradley Rd.
	Barbara Friedman	8001 N. Links Way 7P
	STEPHEN R. MILLER	8008 N. Poplar Dr
	Felicia Miller	8008 N. Poplar Dr
	CATRINA SHREEVE	610 E Bradley rd
	Mark Grimm	905 E. Bradley

Petition to Village of Fox Point Board

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Respectfully submitted by:

Signature	Printed name	Address
<u>Scott Seider</u>	<u>SCOTT SEIDER</u>	<u>308 E. Bradley Rd</u>
<u>Jenni Tilley</u>	<u>JENNI TILLEY</u>	<u>211 W. BRADLEY RD</u>
<u>Ziqin Han</u>	<u>ZIQIN HAN</u>	<u>201 W. Bradley Rd</u>
<u>Dennis Rohner</u>	<u>DENNIS ROHNER</u>	<u>304 E BRADLEY RD</u>
<u>Sue Rohner</u>	<u>SUE ROHNER</u>	<u>304 E. Bradley Rd</u>
<u>Tim Melchert</u>	<u>TIM MELCHERT</u>	<u>401 E. BRADLEY RD.</u>
<u>Nauka Sehnal</u>	<u>NAUKA SEHNAL</u>	<u>308 E. Bradley Rd</u>

Petition to Village of Fox Point Board

To be presented at the April 12th meeting

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Respectfully submitted by:

Signature

Printed name

Address



Tim Williams

910 E Bradley



MIRCEA DOBZE

8001 N Lake

[EXHIBIT B]

To: The Fox Point Village Board

April 12, 2022

Douglas Frazer, Eric Fonstad, Christine Symchych, Liz Sumner, Greg Ollman,
Bill Kravit, Cathie Anderson Knight

My name is Laura Seider, I have lived at 308 E Bradley Rd for over twenty-five years and while I do believe Bradley road would benefit from being repaved, I do not want to see any changes to it. We chose Fox Point because it did not have street lights or sidewalks. Again, I do not want to see any changes to Bradley Road, and I prefer Option C1 for the reconstruction. I want to keep the look and feel of Fox Point as it is. I don't believe the changes to Green Tree or Calumet are in keeping with the area and are far from being representative of the essence of Fox Point.

The Village made the decision to move forward on the B Options based on the feedback of several residents at the February 17th PIM. I am surprised that was sufficient feedback to push the B Options to the forefront. It was intended to be an Informational Meeting and most had not seen or had time to review the options being presented.

After reviewing the B Options in detail and discussions with Village personnel, I learned the B2 Option involved moving the center line of the road. Additionally, the total footprint of the reconstruction would impact the north side of the road at least 3 times more than the south. The edge of the path, and the traffic on it, would be at least 9 feet closer to the homeowner's front door compared to where the edge of the road is currently. I was also made aware of the possibility the entire 12 foot expansion could potentially be placed entirely on one side of the road.

I felt this was something every resident should know regardless of their selection so I began knocking on my neighbors' doors on Bradley Rd from Mohawk to Lake Drive. Some residents were not aware of the Bradley reconstruction at all, some were not aware it had moved forward so quickly. None of the 19 neighbors I spoke with were aware the center line of the road would be moved with the B Options, and, not one individual knew a B Option would disproportionately impact one side of Bradley Road more than the other.

I'm concerned two weeks was not sufficient time for residents to research the reconstruction and respond. I certainly do not believe enough specific information was shared or clarification given. In addition to the center line being moved and the inequity of the impact, other details were unclear: Would it be a 2 foot or a 6 foot buffer or could it be 4 feet? Was it a 6 foot or 10 foot path or could it be a sidewalk? Was the swale outside the shoulder or is the swale under the path even though it's shown outside the path on the design? Was it a 5 foot swale or does the swale vary?

According to a report in the Comprehensive Plan, Bradley Road has less than a fourth of the traffic on Green Tree, and has less traffic than Calumet. I also looked at the 2019 article Pedestrian Safety, by Douglas Frazer. In the article Mr. Frazer wrote "Fortunately, the data indicates that Fox Point currently does not have an overriding hazardous pedestrian or traffic safety issue". (Mr Frazer's article was written during the time the Comprehensive Plan was being compiled.)

Comments to the Village came from only nineteen households, less than a third of all the households on Bradley. This decision should be based on an accounting of the residents and

when that decision is determined it should have an equal impact on all the residents on Bradley Rd. If it's decided the majority prefer a path or sidewalk, then it should not bring the edge of that path/sidewalk, and the traffic on it, closer to the front door of one side of the Bradley while the other side of Bradley has minimal impact, if any. That is not truly representative of all the residents.

I support Option C1. Some residents made other choices. As I stated in an email to the Village Trustees on March 23rd, I believe there are enough residents who are in support of options other than the B Options to suggest further discussion and clarification is warranted.

There must be an equitable solution and there were other options that presented an equal distribution of the impact to the residents on both sides of Bradley Road. I believe we need to find the best option for everyone.

I was told as of March 18th a final decision had not been made and the Village was waiting for the consultant's final report which would include the specific details of the impact to residents. Until that report is received we do not truly know what the B Options for the reconstruction of Bradley Road will look like.

When the final designs for Bradley Road are received I hope the board will review it's decision. I ask that at the very least, it be brought before the board for final approval before any bids may be accepted.

Respectfully submitted,



Laura Seider

[EXHIBIT C]

TO: Fox Point Village Board

FROM: Louise Petering, 7229 N. Santa Monica Blvd.

RE: Cobalt proposal and DPW/Village Hall Building

DATE: April 12, 2022

As a Planned Community, Fox Point provides its residents with assurance that investment in a home here is intrinsically guaranteed to remain such, an investment. The Plan, the Fox Point Comprehensive Plan and the Village Code assure retention of the character our community and home values.

Residents who invest here, need to have their investment respected by the Village Board. That means the original plans and the updates to those plans (as expressed in the 2019 Comprehensive Plan) remain firm guidelines for all development. Neither the original concept nor the Comprehensive Plan is to be modified for the convenience of anyone.

Having recently spoken to several neighbors along Santa Monica about the Cobalt proposal, it is clear that the residents in the area oppose it or any similar proposal. They are quite anxious that the Village Board is not listening. Residents pay taxes and their thoughts must be respectfully and seriously considered. They have invested here and expect their investment to be valued by the Board.

The Cobalt proposal threatens the ambience of the Village along Santa Monica. It is proposed for the Institutional District and non-compliant with Zoning Code minimum setback and average minimum lot width in the C district on the West side of Santa Monica. * Looking at the proposal from a tax base perspective, if the future tax base of the Village is to remain fair and consistent with its current distribution, every Zoning district in the Village must be maintained. Nonenforcement of code in one area will shift taxes to the areas of the Village where standards are enforced. I submit that the Cobalt proposal threatens not only Santa Monica neighborhood, but renders Zoning requirements everywhere malleable. The Village Board must maintain Zoning requirements - like lot open space and required setbacks. Doing so will assure the future viability of the Village as a desirable place to invest, live and recreate.

As the Village Board considers the Cobalt proposal, it must quickly address issues at the DPW/Village Hall. A few years ago, the Village Board wisely authorized a study of the DPW/Village Hall building by Barrientos. We cannot wait. Maintenance issues in the past several years were brought home in March with the failure of the building's boilers. Now is the time to act on the Barrientos recommendation that the facility remain at its current location. Everyone in the Village depends on the services of our competent DPW and Village staff. The cost of doing nothing is mounting. Materials costs and interest rates are rising.

[EXHIBIT D]

TO: Douglas H. Frazer
Eric Fonstad
Christine Symchych
Liz Sumner
Greg Ollman
Bill Kravit
Cathie Anderson Knight

FROM: Scott Seider
308 E. Bradley Rd.

DATE: April 12, 2022

Within the last several weeks, I spent time canvassing neighbors along Bradley Rd. with my wife and others to alert residents to possible changes and to the options available. For full disclosure, I did want residents who wanted the C1 Option to sign a petition to that effect and I made them aware of my position.

It became apparent when canvassing that it sometimes became difficult to explain options when the location of the centerline of the roadbed is not known as in Option B for example. Leading up to the canvassing, we had a reasonable idea of Option B's impact due to exchanges with the Village. As we understood, the roadbed might be moved 3 feet north or south which would result in an impact of 9 feet opposite. Later, we were to learn that if the roadbed were not shifted, it would result in an impact of 12 feet to the chosen side of the path. Then we learned that the path was likely to be on the north side as the south option was untenable due to an intersection of water main and storm sewer that would need DNR approval to do. This is by way of saying that the Village Board meeting vote of March 8, 2022, when the B options were approved for further review, did not take into account that these options were not well understood if at all. Further, it appears that the north B option was actually the only one being considered by Village personnel.

As a result of the apparent confusion, I was careful to say to residents that they might be impacted to a greater extent based on the option chosen. While some people preferred a path and some no change, I believe that regardless of their position many did not understand the impact the changes might bring.

In the end, I oppose any change to the present roadway for the following reasons:

1. When we moved to Fox Point over 25 years ago among the primary reasons for doing so were no sidewalks and no streetlights. This is not a small thing.

2. Any proposed path on one side or the other by its nature impacts one side to a greater degree than the other. This unnecessarily put a greater burden on the residents of one side of Bradley Road versus the other. Not good public policy I should think.

3. Any asymmetrical plan for a road like Bradley Road is just plain unsightly in my estimation. Green Tree Road is an example. The buffer zone there has a rutted appearance. I understand that if the B option were used for Bradley Road that the buffer zone would be wider, and the argument goes, would be more likely to support a grassy area. I don't believe so. One roll-in from the FedEx, UPS, Postal Service or a landscaper truck and trailer would end that in an instant. The buffer zone also would be the repository for mailboxes now lined up like soldiers in a row from Port Washington Road to lake Drive.

4. One could argue that a pedestrian pathway might not increase safety at all. This is cited in the Wisconsin DOT's "Wisconsin Guide to Pedestrian Best Practices" in its chapter on Designing Pedestrian Facilities.

"Motorist access across a sidewalk not only degrades the quality of the pedestrian environment, it also increases the potential for motorist-motorist and motorist-pedestrian conflicts. When providing access to adjacent property, the number of motorist access points across the pedestrian path should be minimized."

"...sidewalks on only one side of a street weaken overall system connectivity, threaten pedestrian safety, reduce mobility and impair accessibility. Where sidewalks are installed on only one side of the street, pedestrians are required to unnecessarily cross the street to meet their travel needs, particularly along transit and school bus routes."

Douglas Frazer in his article on Pedestrian Safety in the November 2019 Fox Point files noted that Fox Point does not have an overriding hazardous pedestrian or traffic safety issue based on reported data.

5. A recent annual average daily traffic report by the DOT is as follows: Green Tree Road 3500, Calumet Road 2300, Dean Road 880 and Bradley Road 840. On their face, these numbers do not support a need for a path in my estimation.

6. In the same article by Mr. Frazer cited above, it says that "...the village periodically evaluates what an extensive sidewalk or trail project would entail. A rough estimate of costs suggests that that this type of project would be cost prohibitive...". I understand that the ultimate cost of a path would not be as extensive as this suggests due to the fact that the roadway is being done as part of a planned redo. However, I cannot believe that there are not additional costs that would be borne by the village and hence taxpayers. Further, the maintenance and snow removal on the path would be part of a continuing burden to taxpayers.

To sum up, I believe that the Village has not shown that safety will be improved by the addition of a path or even widening of the road. In addition, I believe that budgetary considerations were not given weight in decision making, if at all. Further canvassing has shown that there is not a clear majority for a path versus no path. And last, it is troubling that the movement of the roadbed one way or the other is being considered given what must be significant cost.

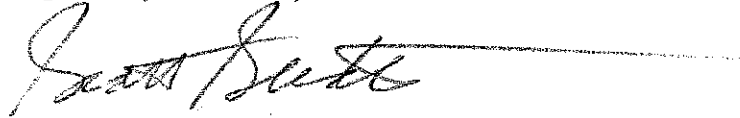
Based on what I believe was a poor understanding by residents and the Board of the variability of Option B and based on additional canvassing, I believe that C1 is the more appropriate option.

As an Addendum:

Even though I support no change, I must comment on the B options as they ultimately may be used. It appears Village personnel prefer the north option. If safety is an overriding factor, the south option is the only option. Bradley Road has through roads crossing at Mohawk, Regent and Santa Monica where a path would cross in either a north or south direction. However, in a north option, additional crossings, and the attendant interaction with vehicles, would occur at Navajo, Seneca, Whitney, Poplar and Links Way. Logic would argue against this. A south option would offer a more continuous and uninterrupted path. Additionally, in a south option, there are two long stretches where residents are not impacted, one at the Town Club and another at east end of Bradley Road at Lake Drive at the sculpture. If the Village is motivated by safety and logic, then the south option is the only option.

Additionally, I believe that shifting the roadbed is not fiscally responsible.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Seider", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Scott Seider

No Mow May lawns have higher pollinator richness and abundances: An engaged community provides floral resources for pollinators

Israel Del Toro¹, Relena R. Ribbons²

Published September 22, 2020

Abstract

No Mow May is a community science initiative popularized in recent years that encourages property owners to limit their lawn mowing practices during the month of May. The goal of No Mow May is to provide early season foraging resources for pollinators that emerge in the spring, especially in urban landscapes when few floral resources are available. We worked with the city council of Appleton, Wisconsin, USA, to allow No Mow May to take place in May 2020. Four hundred and thirty-five property owners registered for No Mow May in Appleton. We measured floral and bee richness and abundance in the yards of a subset of homes ($N = 20$) located near regularly mowed urban parks ($N = 15$) at the end of the month. We found that homes that participated in No Mow May had more diverse and abundant flora than regularly mowed green spaces throughout the city. No Mow May homes had three times higher bee richness and five times higher bee abundances than frequently mowed greenspaces. Using generalized linear models, we found that the best predictor of bee richness was the size of the designated unmowed area, and the best predictors of bee abundances were the size of the unmowed area as well as floral richness. While our findings cannot conclusively attribute increases in bee abundances and richness to the No Mow May efforts, our data does show that bee pollinators make use of no mow spaces as key floral resources during early spring in the upper midwestern United States. A post-No Mow May survey revealed that the participants were keen to increase native floral resources in their yards, increase native bee nesting habitat, reduce mowing intensities, and limit herbicide, pesticide, and fertilizer applications to their lawns. The No Mow May initiative educated an engaged community on best practices to improve the conservation of urban pollinators in future years.

Main article text

Introduction

As landscapes become increasingly urbanized, biodiversity is threatened by land use modifications, a changing climate, and poor management practices (Elmqvist, Zipperer & Güneralp, 2016). A notable component of the urban landscape in the United States is a monoculture lawn that is heavily manicured with frequent mowing, and chemically managed. In Wisconsin many lawns are typically seeded with fine fescue or Kentucky bluegrass and in the United States managed lawns account for a land surface area greater than any cultivated crop (Milesi et al., 2005). In order to protect as much biodiversity as possible, urban landscapes must be a careful balance of natural habitats, managed urban greenspaces (often consisting of large lawn areas), and functional urban spaces (i.e., spaces that can provide recreational services while maintaining healthy ecosystems) that can accommodate many species (Chen et al., 2019). These urban spaces can also be essential for

* Insects play a large role in a variety of critical ecosystem services that shape and maintain natural and urban landscapes (IPBES, 2016), and there is increasing recognition that their conservation is vital in light of trends of global insect declines. These ecosystem services include provisioning, cultural, supporting, and regulating services ranging from nutrient cycling to pollination (Prather et al., 2013; Noriega et al., 2018). One functional group of interest for protection are native pollinators which are integral to sustaining agricultural food systems (IPBES, 2016) and may play important functional roles in urban settings (Hall et al., 2017). Urban and suburban landscapes have the potential to protect and enhance wild bee diversity and abundances (Pardee & Philpott, 2014; Baldock et al., 2015; Baldock et al., 2019; Lowenstein, Matteson & Minor, 2015; Wilson & Jamieson, 2019; Wenzel et al., 2020) via careful policy development (Hall & Steiner, 2019) and promotion of pollinator friendly behaviors among the urban public (Hall et al., 2017; Zattara & Aizen, 2019; Cardoso et al., 2020).

2
The state of Wisconsin lists nearly 500 species of native bees (Wolf & Ascher, 2008). In the city of Appleton, we have previously documented 89 species of wild bees in urban green spaces and suburban nature reserves (Anderson et al., 2017–2018, unpublished data). Some of these are early emerging species, coming out of winter hibernation between late April and early June, as temperatures go above freezing and daylength increases in Northeast Wisconsin. During this time, there may be limited forage available, especially in fairly homogenous mowed urban lawn environments, where herbaceous vegetation is not given enough time to flower. The flora in these lawn areas may provide abundant forage for urban wild bees (MacIvor, Cabral & Packer, 2014).

The displacement of native wildflower and tree forage by lawns has removed a vital early season nectar and pollen resource for many pollinators, including bees. One initiative that was popularized in the United Kingdom through the organization Plantlife (2020), aimed at allowing flowers to bloom in lawns throughout the month of May to provide the floral nectar needed for pollinators. This initiative has been dubbed “No Mow May” and led researchers to follow up with an “Every Flower Counts” community initiative to document which flowers were common to their blooming lawns. Additionally, previous work has shown that reducing mowing intensity will have positive impacts on urban bee abundance and diversity (Lerman et al., 2018, Wastian et al. 2016) but it remains unclear how generalizable these results are. Other initiatives that promote the creation of bee habitat in urban landscapes include the “Lawns to Legumes” project Minnesota (<https://bwsr.state.mn.us/I2I>) and the Xerces Society’s and National Pollinator Network’s “Million Pollinator Garden Project” (<http://millionpollinatorgardens.org/>). These national efforts are also complemented by more localized efforts with similar pollinator protection project like the “Appleton Pollinator Project” (<http://www.BYOBEEZ.org>).

The goal of No Mow May in Appleton, Wisconsin was to increase the floral forage resources critical for early emerging pollinator species. A second goal of this initiative was the outreach and education regarding the protection of native wild pollinators in urban and suburban settings. Our main objective was to test whether not mowing during the month of May had an effect on bee richness and abundances in the city of Appleton WI, USA. We did this by comparing bee richness and abundances in No Mow May participant’s lawns, relative to regularly mowed parks in the city. We also aimed to document the diversity of floral resources in both the mowed parks and the unmowed lawns as these are likely the resources that bee pollinators are using in urban yards. Our final objective was to document community perspectives after participating in the No Mow May initiative to see how landowners plan to manage lawns in the future and enhance pollinator friendly practices.

Materials & Methods

Materials & Methods

Study area

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No Mow May lawns have higher pollinator richness and abundances: An engaged community provides floral resources for pollinato...

population of 74,098 with upwards of 30,000 households (US Census estimates July 2019). The average low temperature in Appleton for the month of May was 1.4 °C and the average high was 12.1 °C (National Weather Service). We selected 20 homes in five neighborhoods of the city of Appleton (presented as Fig. 1) to sample bee richness and abundance during the final week of No Mow May (May 25 to May 30, 2020), with the help of eight volunteers. Homes were selected based on being unmowed through the entire month, and their proximity (within 1 km) to the focal parks where bee diversity was also evaluated. Whenever possible, homes were separated by at least 100 m to reduce the likelihood of resampling individual bees at multiple homes.

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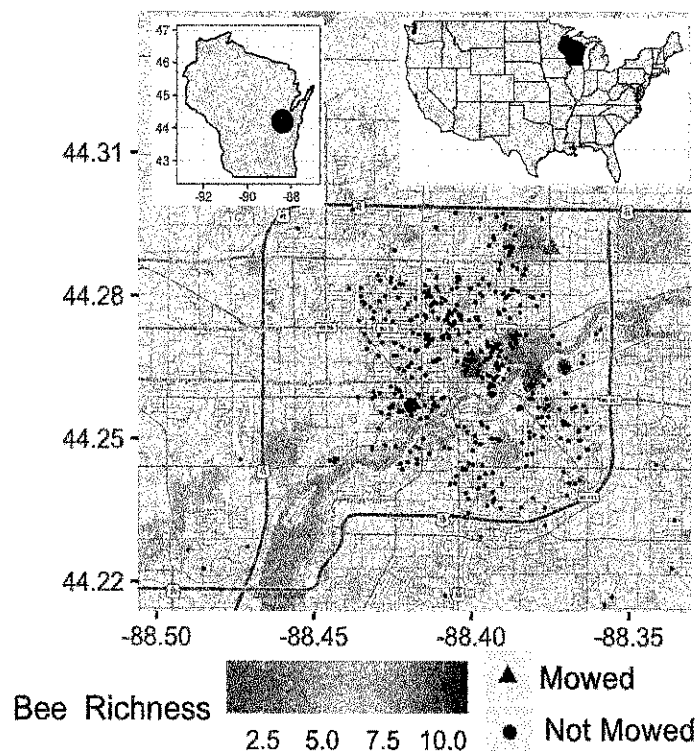


Figure 1: Map of the study area.

Map of the city of Appleton showing participating homes in No Mow May (black points) created in ggmap (Kahle & Wickham, 2013). Color points indicate lawns and colored triangles show green spaces where bee diversity and abundance were recorded. Insets show the location of Appleton in the state of Wisconsin and a national map of states with Wisconsin colored in.

DOI: 10.7717/peerj.10021/fig-1

The No Mow May initiative in the city of Appleton consisted of 435 registered participants (Fig. 1), or ~1.5% of Appleton residences. There was also participation in the city by many unregistered participants, but we were not able to quantify what percentage of the city did not register yet still participated in No Mow May. Of the 435 registered participants, 130 responded to the post-No Mow May survey, a ~30% response rate. At the subset of 20 homes the mean unmowed area was 195 sq. meters, ranging from 91 sq. meters to 446 sq. meters.

The No Mow May efforts in the city of Appleton WI USA (Fig. 1) required the approval and close collaboration with the city government and city residents. The city has strict guidelines on lawn care practices including a residential 20 cm (8 inch) allowed maximum lawn height in residential properties and 31 cm (12 inch) maximum lawn height in commercial properties. Local government officials petitioned the city to waive the ordinance for the month of May 2020. After multiple meetings, discussion with city officials, and a vote in the city common council the resolution was approved in April 2020. Community members of the city of Appleton were asked to register their homes as participants of No Mow May via an online form. A local pollinator advocacy group, The Pollenablers Fox Cities, worked on outreach and education to inform the community of Appleton of the agreed upon rules and regulations of the No Mow May initiative via instructional videos, social media, and printed materials. Many of these materials can be found on the Appleton Pollinator Project website (<http://www.BYOBEES.org>). 

Data collection

We used standardized timed sweep netting as our method of bee collection. At each home we measured the area designated by the resident as a unmowed area and standardized our sampling based on square meters. For each sampling location, we standardized sampling by dedicating one-person hour of sampling per 200 square meters of unmowed area. Sampling was completed only during fair weathered days when air temperatures ranged from 21 °C to 27 °C, mostly sunny and clear skies and low wind speeds <8 kph (there was one day of rain which prohibited sampling). As we netted suspected bee specimens, the bees were moved into storage mason jars. Collected bees were identified in the field using a well-established and verified reference collection for the city of Appleton (obtained from (Anderson et al., 2017-2018, unpublished data)), then released once the sampling period was concluded at each site. Unknown specimens were stored in 70% ETOH, and taken to the laboratory for subsequent identification using various keys and regional lists (Wolf & Ascher, 2008; Williams et al., 2014; Wilson & Carril, 2015; Gibbs et al., 2017).

At each home we compiled a flowering vegetation species list, and measured percent cover in five 1-square meter plots of herbaceous vegetation relative to lawn grasses or bare ground. We selected the vegetation plot locations randomly after gridding the total lawn area and using random number generators to designate percent cover plot locations within that grid. For subsequent analyses we used the mean of these five vegetation assessments as a predictor of bee richness and abundance. Plants were identified to species through personal knowledge and using University of Wisconsin herbarium keys (University of Wisconsin Herbarium, 2020) where necessary. We also sampled 15 mowed areas in the city of Appleton, intended to serve as a standardized mowed plot comparison for lawns. The city of Appleton manages these parks by mowing every 5 to 7 days, applying vinegar-based solution as an herbicide and unspecified fertilizers. Individual lawns that were regularly mowed would be a useful comparison, but given the opt-in nature of this experiment, individuals who did not express interest in the program (regardless of ability to participate) were not numerous enough to serve as a sufficient standardized control. At each park we sampled 150 square meters for a total duration of 45 min to remain consistent with our sampling methods of residential yards. All park plots were a minimum of 100 m apart from each other to help reduce the probability of recapturing bee specimens in multiple plots. We acknowledge that for some of the larger species, foraging ranges exceed 100 m and every effort was made to avoid resampling and recapturing sampled individuals. While park plots and lawns do have distinctive differences in function and use, we used parks due to logistics of acquiring approval for sampling and the consistency of lawn care practices applied to all parks throughout the city.

Post no mow may survey

Did you see pollinators in your yard this year? and (2) Did you see more flowers in your yard this year? We also asked participants how their mowing habits might change as a result of No Mow May and offered a checklist of things they could do in their yards to help local pollinators. The Lawrence University Institutional Review Board (IRB: 5_10Del Toro) approved this questionnaire and all responses were kept fully anonymous and confidential. No identifying or demographic information was collected. Informed consent was obtained from participants and IRB details were shared with participants when they completed the online form.

Data analyses

All analyses and plots were completed using the R statistical software v. 4.0.0, "Arbor Day" (R Development Core Team R, 2014). We compared the medians of observed bee richness (the total number of species present in a given site) and abundance in mowed and unmowed lawns using a Kruskal Wallis comparison of means. We used this non-parametric alternative due to relatively low sample sizes and variation in the normality of the data. We then used floral richness, percent cover of herbaceous flowering vegetation, and size of the sampling area as predictors of bee richness and abundance in a generalized linear model (glm) assuming a Poisson family distribution, which is required for count data. The glm was simplified using step-wise variable selection using the function "stepAIC" in the MASS package (Venables & Ripley, 2002), based on the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC).

Results

Floral and bee diversity

The most common and abundant floral resources in lawns and greenspaces are reported in Table 1, with *Taraxacum officinale*, the common dandelion, present in all home lawns and at 73% of urban park lawns, making it the most abundant plant and floral resource in lawns (Table 1). Floral richness and abundance were higher in unmowed lawns relative to mowed greenspaces (Kruskal-Wallis chi-squared = 14.49, $df = 1$, $p = 0.0001$ for Richness, Kruskal-Wallis chi-squared = 16.82, $df = 1$, $p = 0.000004$ for floral density). Mowed Areas had 36% fewer plant species and 34% lower flower density than not mowed areas (Fig. 2). The complete floral species list can be found in the supplementary material.

Table 1:

List of the most common flowering plants in home and park lawns.

Name	Common Name	Percent of homes present	Percent of parks present
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	Dandelions	100%	73%
<i>Viola papilionacea</i>	Violet	95%	20%
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	80%	60%
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	Creeping Charlie	75%	13%
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's Purse	75%	40%
<i>Plantago major</i>	Plantain	70%	53%
<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	Canada Thistle	30%	7%

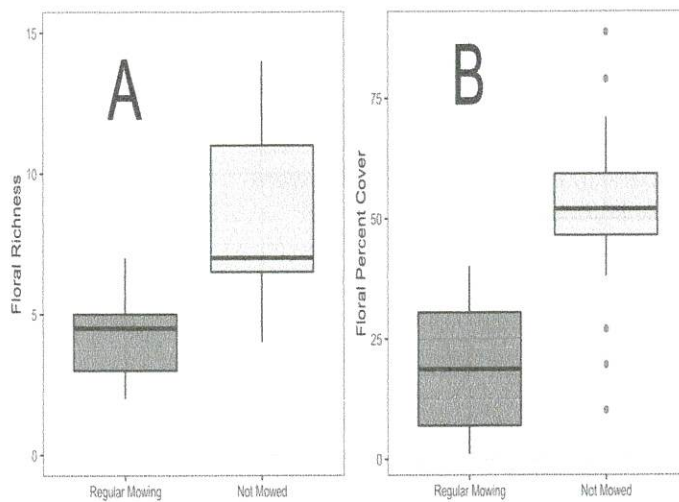


Figure 2: Boxplot of floral richness and percent cover comparisons.

Boxplot showing higher median floral density (A) and richness (B) in No Mow May lawns ($n = 20$) relative to regularly mowed areas ($n = 15$).

DOI: 10.7717/peerj.10021/fig-2

We collected a total of 321 bees, consisting of 33 bee species, during the week of intensive sampling. The five most abundant species were *Lasioglossum cressoni*, *Hoplitis pilosifrons*, *Melissodes bimaculatus*, *Apis mellifera*, and *Bombus impatiens* which accounted for 65% of all observed individuals. Bee abundances and richness were higher in unmowed lawns relative to the regularly mowed green spaces (Kruskal-Wallis chi-squared = 19.72, $df = 1$, $p = 0.00000006$ for bee abundance and Kruskal-Wallis chi-squared = 16.69, $df = 1$, $p = 0.00004$ for bee richness). Median bee abundances were nearly five times higher and bee richness was three times higher in unmowed lawns relative to regularly mowed plots (Fig. 3, Table 2).

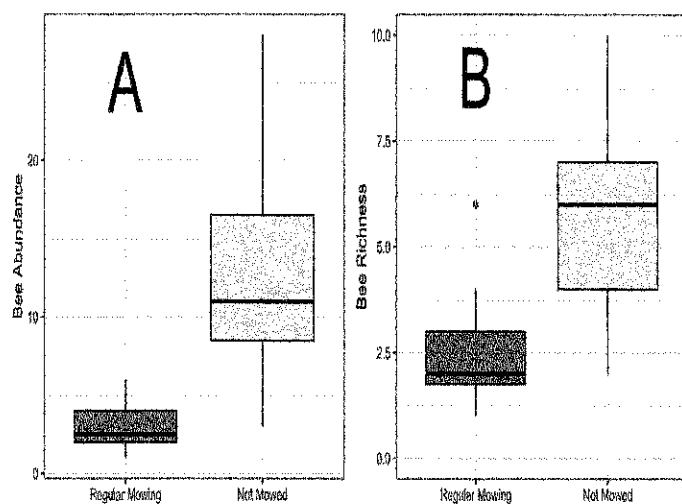


Figure 3: Boxplot of bee abundance and richness.

Boxplot showing higher median bee abundance (A) and richness (B) in No Mow May lawns ($n = 20$) relative to regularly mowed areas ($n = 15$).

DOI: 10.7717/peerj.10021/fig-3

Table 2:

List of bee species and abundances collected in this study.

8

Family	Species	Count in mowed sites	Count in unmowed sites
Andrenidae	<i>Andrena crataegi</i>	4	8
	<i>Andrena cressoni</i>	3	8
	<i>Andrena miranda</i>	0	6
	<i>Andrena wilkella</i>	0	1
Apidae	<i>Apis mellifera</i>	1	17
	<i>Bombus impatiens</i>	2	15
	<i>Bombus rufocinctus</i>	0	1
	<i>Bombus vagans</i>	1	6
	<i>Ceratina calcarata</i>	0	4
	<i>Melissodes bimaculatus</i>	3	16
	<i>Melissodes denticulatus</i>	2	0
	<i>Melissodes desponsus</i>	0	1
	<i>Melissodes druinellus</i>	2	1
	<i>Melissodes rustica</i>	1	1
	<i>Nomada cressoni</i>	0	7
Halictidae	<i>Agapostemon virescens</i>	3	7
	<i>Augochlorella aurata</i>	0	3
	<i>Augochlorella pura</i>	2	5
	<i>Halictus ligatus</i>	0	6
	<i>Halictus rubicundus</i>	0	1
	<i>Hoplitis pilosifrons</i>	12	22
	<i>Hylaeus modestus</i>	0	2
	<i>Hylaeus mesillae</i>	0	3
	<i>Lasioglossum coriaceum</i>	1	4
	<i>Lasioglossum cressonii</i>	22	98
	<i>Lasioglossum laevissimum</i>	1	5
	<i>Lasioglossum pilosum</i>	0	1
	<i>Lasioglossum zephyrum</i>	1	2
	<i>Sphecodes cressoni</i>	1	1
	<i>Sphecodes dichrous</i>	0	1
Megachilidae	<i>Anthidium manicatum</i>	0	1
	<i>Megachile campanulae</i>	1	0
	<i>Osmia pumila</i>	0	4

DOI: 10.7717/peerj.10021/table-2

Generalized linear model results show that bee abundance is best predicted by the additive effects of total area that remained unmowed and the floral richness at each lawn (AIC of reduced model = 199.51, Null Deviance = 170 on 31 Degrees of Freedom). However, bee richness was only best predicted by the effect of the total area that was not mowed (AIC of the reduced model = 144.69, Null Deviance = 56.48 on 32 Degrees of Freedom). The full stepwise model summary is available in the supplementary material. Floral density, while significantly higher in unmowed lawns, did not have a significant effect on bee abundance or richness.

Based on the two perception questions that we asked participants (1) Did you see pollinators in your yard this year? and (2) Did you see more flowers in your yard this year? About 60% of respondents noticed a few more or a lot more pollinators and flowers in their lawns this year, and about 20% noticed no change or fewer pollinators and flowers than normal in their yards during the month of May.

We also asked participants how they might modify their lawn management practices. 77% of respondents pledged to reduce or eliminate the use of chemical herbicides or pesticides in their lawns, 62% pledged to reduce or eliminate the use of chemical fertilizers in their lawns, 57% planned to increase native pollinator habitat in their yards and lawns, and 48% planned to plant native floral resources as forage for pollinators. Eighty seven percent of participants said they would participate in No Mow May again in future years.

Discussion

Urban environments can provide opportunities for promoting floral resources for pollinator conservation, which are especially important for early emerging bee species during a time of year when food resources may be scarce. Our findings are consistent with Lerman & Milam (2016) who documented bee abundance in suburban landscapes in Western Massachusetts and suggested that spontaneous lawn flowers offer supplemental floral resources that can support pollinators. Lawns can provide important food sources that promote healthy pollinator populations in urban ecosystems, if managed intentionally. The data we provide here adds to the growing body of literature that urbanized landscapes can provide sufficient forage for wild bees and enhance bee diversity and abundances (Fetridge, Ascher & Langellotto, 2008; Pardee & Philpott, 2014; Lowenstein, Matteson & Minor, 2015; Hall et al., 2017; Baldock et al., 2019). We suspect that as more floral resources become available towards the end of spring and into summer, wild urban bees will transition to using additional foraging resources which may not be common species in traditional lawn or grassy areas, however this pattern remains to be documented.

No Mow May lawns have a fivefold higher bee abundance and threefold higher bee species richness compared with regularly mowed areas. This is the first study, to our knowledge, to document the specific observed effects of No Mow May practices on bee abundances and richness. Previous studies have detailed that different mowing practices will impact the diversity and abundances of insects (AndreasUnterweger, Rieger & Betz, 2017) including bees (Lerman & Milam, 2016; Lerman et al., 2018). Generally, higher mowing intensity is negatively associated with decreased abundances and diversity. Our rapid assessment offers support for the same effect of mowing practices during early spring in the Upper Midwestern USA on urban bee diversity and abundance. We found that the area of lawn that was not mowed was a key predictor in both bee abundance and richness while plant species richness only helped to explain bee species richness (glm results). The positive relationships between increased area corresponding to increased species abundance and richness, (i.e., "Species Area Relationship"), are well documented in the ecological literature (Dengler, 2009) and seem to apply to the patterns detected in urban ecosystems as well (Matthies et al., 2017). The pattern of increased plant richness correlating with increased bee richness is consistent with the ecological patterns of "diversity begets diversity" where increased richness in one taxonomic group promotes richness in a closely associated group (e.g., when habitable or usable space is limited Maynard et al., 2017). From an applied perspective, if clusters of neighbors were to participate in No Mow May initiatives then bee species richness and abundance should consequently increase in these yards as a result of having a larger undisturbed contiguous area. The positive effect of plant species richness on bee species richness is consistent with the more heterogenous and diverse landscapes tending to provide increased niche

Bees are amongst the key insect groups that provide essential ecosystem services (IPBES, 2016; Noriega et al., 2018). While the agricultural value of bee's providing pollination ecosystem services has been thoroughly explored (Hanley et al., 2015), their roles in providing these services in urban ecosystems remains poorly understood. It likely that bees also provide a valuable pollination ecosystem service in urban landscapes (Normandin et al., 2017). Previous work has shown that if the conservation goal is protection of species (and consequently the ecosystem services they provide), then cities are likely to play essential roles as they can be home to as many if not more species than "natural" habitats (Baldock et al., 2015).

The No Mow May initiative in the city of Appleton went beyond the reduction of mowing practices in the community. This initiative also started a community-wide discussion on best practices for pollinator conservation. Even though not all community members were participants in No Mow May, this city-wide initiative offered educational opportunities through social media platforms (<http://www.facebook.com/pollenablers>), traditional media interviews (television, radio and newspaper) and by word of mouth on the benefits of transforming lawns into pockets of urban habitat that can support and harbor native biodiversity. We aim to more accurately quantify how these educational efforts are being received by the city of Appleton in future years. We promoted best practices that have positive effects on our pollinator communities like the planting of native wildflowers (Pardee & Philpott, 2014), increasing wild bee nesting habitat (Harmon-Threatt, 2020) and reducing herbicide and pesticide use (Muratet & Fontaine, 2015; Aronson et al., 2017). As this initiative grows in the city, we aim to expand our education and outreach efforts so that a broader audience is reached and hopefully motivated to participate. Although we did not evaluate how widespread these practices are in Appleton, some of the city has now been exposed to educational opportunities needed to promote a more sustainable and pollinator friendly community. In general, communities tend to be aware of the importance of bees in urban ecosystems but lack education on how to better protect them (Wilson, Forister & Carril, 2017), or ways to participate in community initiatives (Bloom and Crowder, 2020).

In a "snapshot" study of this nature, the role of community involvement and buy-in was essential. From a study design perspective, we had the capacity to choose our sampling locations from over 400 sites around the city, allowing for a robust, standardized, and systematic sampling design. Due to logistical constraints, and the necessity for rapid inventory, we subsampled from five neighborhoods around the city. Our study enhanced awareness of key ecological and conservation issues, improved the general public's understanding of urban ecosystems, provided community members the opportunity to participate in data collection all of which are common individual and programmatic outcomes of any community science project. We hope that our efforts have also enhanced trust and communication between the general public and the local scientific community which is can be a desirable community-level outcome of a project like No Mow May (Jordan, Ballard & Phillips, 2012). We anticipate that, with the resulting data, community involvement in development of pollinator protection policy at the city and regional level is a likely future direction, which is also a valuable outcome of community science (Adler, Green & Şekercioğlu, 2020). As an example, alderpersons are currently drafting city ordinance proposals to enhance pollinator habitat along community trails, new housing developments, electric line corridors and water management retention ponds. As many community science projects can attest, communities are interested in education and participation in the scientific process. No Mow May is an initiative that exemplifies the adaptability and interest of landowners in moving towards conservation practices that promote healthier and more resilient ecosystems.

Lawns are easily accessed urban spaces that can serve to protect native biodiversity. We suspect that for a city the size of Appleton (65 square kilometers) at least 100 acres (40 hectares) of lawn area can be managed to provide early season forage for native pollinators by engaging in initiatives like No Mow May. The notable higher abundance and richness in unmowed areas suggests that the very least, the

April in warmer parts of the country. We also recognize that this rapid biodiversity assessment is a snapshot of what occurs seasonally in urban ecosystems. Describing the diversity patterns of bees in urban settings is a complex ecological story. While the effect of not mowing during the month of May is documented here, there are additional drivers (e.g., regional floral diversity, access to water and proper nesting substrate, lawn mowing frequency and intensity) and correlates of bee richness and abundances that should be carefully explored in future studies. Ongoing work seeks to investigate the longitudinal patterns of urban bee diversity in this region of the United States as well as a more detailed understanding of environmental attributes of urban greenspaces that can enhance pollinator activity and diversity (Anderson et al., 2017–2018, unpublished data). We aim to continue our sampling and outreach and education efforts by expanding this effort to the entire Fox Cities Region in 2021 and promote a state-wide No Mow May effort in subsequent years.

Conclusions

The effect of our No Mow May effort documented increases in both urban bee and floral abundances and diversity. We found that the area that remains not mowed was the strongest predictor of bee abundance and diversity, while floral species richness also contributed to explaining bee species diversity in mowed and unmowed areas in the city of Appleton. Based on our survey results, we found strong community enthusiasm regarding this initiative with the majority willing to continue this and other pollinator friendly practices in their homes and neighborhoods. In order to ensure that lawns can maximize pollinator biodiversity protection, and valuable cultural ecosystem services then we have to think critically about new norms for lawn maintenance which are more effective when implemented at the neighborhood and community levels (Nassauer, Wang & Dayrell, 2009). In our case, Appleton city residents' perceptions are often that well-manicured and low "weed" diversity lawns are preferable. However, from a conservation and ecological perspective these types of lawns may not be in line with the community biodiversity conservation values. One way to overcome this issue is by increasing community outreach and awareness about the importance of protecting urban bees and providing important foraging resources for them. Additionally, future research directions should aim to explore the city's aesthetic perceptions of mowed lawns relative to unmowed lawn alternatives, because this information can help shift public opinion, reinforce existing positive perceptions of flowering lawns and address the city's concerns about pollinator protection initiatives (Ramer et al., 2019).

Supplemental Information

Additional Information and Declarations

Competing Interests

The authors declare there are no competing interests.

Author Contributions

Israel Del Toro conceived and designed the experiments, performed the experiments, analyzed the data, prepared figures and/or tables, authored or reviewed drafts of the paper, and approved the final draft.

Relena R. Ribbons conceived and designed the experiments, performed the experiments, authored or reviewed drafts of the paper, and approved the final draft.

The Lawrence University Institutional Review Board granted ethical approval to carry out the citizen surveys (IRB: 5_10_20_deltoro).

Data Availability

The following information was supplied regarding data availability:

The data are available in the Supplementary Files.

Funding

The authors received no funding for this work.

We would like to thank the city of Appleton for allowing the No Mow May initiative, especially Alderpersons Schultz, Metzler, Martin, and Fenton for their support in writing the ordinance that allowed the community of Appleton to grow out their lawns. We also thank the following volunteers that contributed by helping sample neighbor's lawns and urban green spaces, Joan Ribbons, Beth Johnstone, Kim Grummer, Mario Seaman, Reiko Ramos, and 3 anonymous volunteers. We thank all Appletonians who participated in No Mow May, their efforts and interest has generated an informed community with a keen focus on pollinator protection. We appreciate the thorough input of Douglas Martin on previous drafts of this work. We also acknowledge that the city of Appleton is registered with the Xerces Society as a member of the Bee City USA program.

Kelly Meyer

From: Scott Botcher
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:57 AM
To: Kelly Meyer
Subject: FW: Cobalt Proposal

Your copy. 

From: Christine Symchych <csymchych@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 6:09 PM
To: Scott Botcher <sbotcher@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Subject: Fw: Cobalt Proposal

Please distribute

thx

From: Jack Douthitt <jack.douthitt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 8:22 AM
To: Christine Symchych <csymchych@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Subject: Cobalt Proposal

To Christine Symchych
Trustee
Fox Point Village Board:

As a resident of Fox Point for almost thirty years, I am seriously opposed to the proposal from Cobalt to relocate the Village facilities and build housing on the property now housing the Village facilities.

My Reasons:

1. Building housing on the current Village property on Santa Monica is a very bad idea. It is right next to the railroad tracks which are heavily used. I live on Lake Drive just across from the Village facility. When the 6:10 am train comes through and blows its whistle it jars everybody awake. And I live probably 100 yards from the track. I can't imagine how anyone would want to live immediately adjacent to the track when that happens. No one will want to live in a \$500,000 house with a train running through their backyard multiple times a day. Their kids won't even be able to play in the backyard without a big impervious fence to protect them! It is a location that is not conducive to housing because of the trains.

The people who originally laid out the village were very smart in locating the Village facilities where they did. They knew that putting housing immediately next to the railroad track was not conducive to the type of community they were developing. We must be as smart as they were and keep the Village facilities in their current location.

2.The Cobalt proposal would take the messy, and noisy, areas associated with the Public Works Department away from the railroad tracks (where it is not a nuisance to anyone) and move it to a location that is right across the street from a developed residential area. Not a good move.

3. Cobalt's proposal would also divide the Village departments into several physical locations that are remote from each other. Locating the Village administrative departments in separate locations will create long term problems that cannot be easily remedied.

4. According to the information I have seen, the population of Fox Point is predicted to decline by almost 5% in the next decade. That doesn't show a need for more housing in the Village. If Cobalt thinks more housing is needed let them build apartments on the properties they currently own/control on Port Washington Road.

5. The Cobalt proposal would require the Village to borrow money to hire an Architect and finance the new construction, while still owning the property on Santa Monica. That is a lot to have to pay for when any tax benefits would be far down the road. And, Cobalt's estimates of the future tax benefits may or may not be accurate.

Even if Cobalt's estimates of future tax benefits are accurate, all those new residents of Fox Point will require additional community services. Such as water, sewer, roads, schools, and fire and police protection. There is a cost associated with all of those services. Much of the additional tax base will be needed to provide community services, and is not all "extra" money to pay off the bonds required to make this move.

6. The Cobalt proposal would put the current Village property on the tax roll but it would take the property that the Village facilities would be moved to OFF the tax roll. So, there is no advantage to the Village there.

7. Cobalt's documents show the potential value of the property currently occupied by the Village facilities as 20MM while the same documents show the potential value of where they want to relocate the Village facilities as 1-3MM. First of all, I would question their estimate of 20MM after the property has houses built upon it. In my opinion, that is an unrealistic number. However, if it is even closely accurate, then their proposed trade of properties does not give the Village fair value for its current property.

8. It seems to me that Cobalt's goal is to get rid of property they own/control on Port Washington Road that they cannot sell. But that is their problem. Not the community's problem.

I realize that the Village needs to upgrade its current facility and I am willing to support that, but the proposal from Cobalt is not the way to do it. Their proposal degrades the environment that the Village has created over the years and, maybe even worse, creates long-term problems that the Village would eventually have to resolve in the future.

Sincerely,

Jack Douthitt
7026 North Lake Drive
Fox Point, WI 53217
Telephone 414.248.6913

Kelly Meyer

From: Scott Botcher
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:58 AM
To: Kelly Meyer
Subject: FW: Redevelopment of municipal property

Your copy.

Scott A. Botcher
Village Manager
Village of Fox Point
414-247-6620



From: csymchych@wi.rr.com <csymchych@wi.rr.com>
Sent: Monday, April 11, 2022 6:14 PM
To: Scott Botcher <sbotcher@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Subject: FW: Redevelopment of municipal property

Please distribute
Thank you!

From: Ted Durant <teddurant@mac.com>
Sent: Friday, April 8, 2022 11:15 AM
To: Christine Symchych <csymchych@wi.rr.com>
Cc: Beth Durant <BethDurant@sbcglobal.net>
Subject: Redevelopment of municipal property

Hi Christine -

For what it's worth, if the village is going to relocate its buildings, I would prefer to see the pool and municipal properties converted to commercial space, rather than residential. In my opinion the village would benefit from having more shopping and dining in that area, which is walking distance for a large percentage of the Village. Along with that, it would be helpful to have a controlled pedestrian crossing at Green Tree and Lake.

Ted Durant

Kelly Meyer

From: Scott Botcher
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:57 AM
To: Bill Kravit; Catie Anderson Knight; Christine Symchych; Douglas Frazer; Elizabeth Sumner; Eric Fonstad; Greg Ollman
Cc: Kevin Ausman; Kelly Meyer
Subject: FW: Village of Fox Point -- Cobalt Proposal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Good morning,

As requested.

Scott A. Botcher
Village Manager
Village of Fox Point
414-247-6620



From: Douglas Frazer <dhfrazer@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:55 AM
To: Scott Botcher <sbotcher@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Subject: Village of Fox Point -- Cobalt Proposal

Please share with VB.

From: Nathan Bernstein <nbernstein@josephpropertydevelopment.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:24 AM
To: Douglas Frazer <dhfrazer@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Cc: 'Scott Yauck' <syauck@cobaltmke.com>
Subject: RE: Village of Fox Point -- Cobalt Proposal

Good Morning Doug:

Although we do not know each other, I am a constituent of yours and I know both you and your wife by reputation. Professionally I manage Robert Josephs' commercial RE portfolio and my wife Shannon, daughter Talia, and I live in the village. As a resident (7425 N. Lombardy, across the street from the ice rink), and former board president of

MJDS, I am vested in Fox Point and specifically in the outcome of this particular development opportunity as it is directly across the street from my home.

Because our company does business with Cobalt, I have witnessed Scott's success throughout the metro area in weaving seemingly disparate pieces together to form valuable and community changing assets that are higher and better uses of space. Although the outcome of this endeavor is unknown at this time, I support the village board moving the process forward so as to determine if and how this can be a transformative (and positive) project for our community, and an attribute and welcome addition for my little neighborhood.

I am available upon request to discuss any of this at any time. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful Passover.

Nathan

Nathan Bernstein
Director of Commercial Real Estate
Joseph Property Development, LLC
117 N. Jefferson St. – Suite 200
Milwaukee, WI 53202
414-988-7883 Direct
414-277-7770 Fax
www.josephpropertydevelopment.com

From: Scott Yauck <syauck@cobaltmke.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 9:09 AM
To: Nathan Bernstein <nbernstein@josephpropertydevelopment.com>
Cc: Douglas Frazer <dhfrazer@villageoffoxpoint.com>
Subject: Village of Fox Point -- Cobalt Proposal

Nathan,

Douglas Frazer is cc'd for your reference. Thanks!

SCOTT YAUCK
President/CEO



400 North Broadway, Suite 100
[Milwaukee, WI 53202](http://Milwaukee.WI.53202)
(O) [414.271.5000](tel:414.271.5000) (C) [414.406.6558](tel:414.406.6558)

April 12, 2022

Message to Fox Point Village Board from village resident Sharon Madnek.

After consideration of the project details and discussion with knowledgeable parties to clarify certain particulars, I would not categorically oppose the Cobalt proposal with certain modifications related to the density of the development along Santa Monica Blvd. Limiting the study of comparable lot sizes to Santa Monica provides a very narrow context, while homes immediately across from the proposed development would provide a more reasonable comparable. And at that point, why not include all single family homes west of Lake Drive? Making significant increases in available single family housing in such a small area of Fox Point can negatively impact overall existing home values west of lake drive, as well as the perceived prestige/attractiveness of Fox Point as a village compared to other nearby communities. That this proposal is perceived by some as the only plausible proposal on the table should not make residents feel backed into a corner to accept terms that may have negative collateral consequences for decades to come. As a compromise, and mindful of the developer's willingness to work with the village to clean up the blighted areas along Port Washington Rd, I suggest that Cobalt consider the feasibility of limiting density to a maximum of 25 homes.