



PLANNING BOARD

TOWN OF TISBURY

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TOWN HALL ANNEX

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Tisbury Town Administrator & Tisbury Select Board
P.O. Box 1239
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May 25, 2022

RE: Use of public lands

Select Board Members and Town Administrator,

The Tisbury Planning Board and the Tisbury Open Space and Recreation Committee held a duly noticed joint public meeting on May 18th to discuss the use of public lands near and around the town capped landfill, power-line easement corridor and the Department of Public Works (DPW) facilities. Both the Board and the Committee voted unanimously to send this following letter.

Board and Committee members voiced serious frustration at the seeming lack of protection, or oversight for the lands in question. Individual or group site visits by members of the board and committee revealed extensive industrialization of public lands, the disrupting of connecting walking trails, extensive reduction of pervious vegetated areas, all in close proximity to the Sanborn Well.

Issues specifically raised were:

- Extensive road surfacing under the power line easement area and throughout the surrounding area
- Use of private property for purposes not meeting the requirements of the land transaction
- Disregard for Town advanced Land Bank purchases and Town open space protection goals for the continued use of historic public access ways
- Disregard for the well head protection areas
- Expansion of industrial waste and storage areas
- Extensive clearing and pushing back of vegetation

It is critical that the Town has oversight and management plans for these public lands. If these plans exist, please provide the board and the committee with these management plans.

We also kindly request a better understanding of how the Town currently manages the varying interests in this area. We suggest a joint working session with the newly constituted Select Board for further discussions, and as this dovetails with the upcoming master plan discussions, a meeting at your earliest convenience would be warranted.

Thank you for the considerations,

Ben Robinson
Planning Board Chair

cc: Board Of Health