

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OCTOBER 31, 2022

The Town of Clifton Park is embarking on a public planning process to consider options for small-scale, cost-conscious improvements to improve public access for the town's 41-Acre Riverview Road natural area property that the community acquired in 2011 from a private landowner.

The Town is preparing and planning for a public meeting on **Thursday, November 17 at 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** to be held at the Clifton Park Senior Community Center, at Clifton Common, located off Vischer Ferry Road. All are invited to attend.

The public is also invited to participate in guided walks with town staff and members of the Town's Open Space, Trails & Riverfront Committee, to be held ahead of the public meeting, and review the site's existing conditions in the field, and listen to the public thoughts about the property. If you plan to attend, please contact the Planning Department at (518) 371-6054 to let them know which date to expect you, as parking is limited at the site. The three (3) walks will be conducted:

- Friday, Nov. 4, at 10 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 8, at 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 9, at 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please call to reserve a spot on one of these walks.

The Town's Open Space, Trails & Riverfront Committee has been working with the town's Buildings & Grounds Department over the years to utilize the existing driveway on the town lands, manage the public vehicular access with the installation of a new gate, maintain the pond's culvert, and remove the former owner's RV and abandoned metal shed structure. The town opened the site to the public and has hosted guided nature walks, and visitors have been walking and enjoying the property. However, we have identified challenges with ingress/egress onto Riverview Road regarding the line of sight, the rough condition and steep grade of the existing driveway, and challenges with the existing informal parking. The Open Space, Trails & Riverfront Committee delivered a presentation about the status and needs of the 41 acres property at the May 9th 2022 Town Board meeting. Since then, the Town of Clifton Park has retained a professional design engineering firm, to help evaluate options and alternatives for improved public access.

Please contact the Planning Department at (518) 371-6054 if you have any questions about the public meeting or walks, and to reserve a spot on one of the guided walks. You may also send an email to planning@cliftonpark.org to let the Town know which guided walk you would like to attend.