

CITY OF ITHACA

108 East Green Street, Ithaca, New York 14850-6590

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS Michael J. Thorne, P.E., Superintendent

Telephone: 607/274-6531

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TO: Board of Public Works

FROM: Michael J. Thorne, P.E.

Superintendent of Public Works

DATE: September 14, 2015

RE: Temporary Boat Storage on Inlet Island Parking Area

Dear Board Members,

With the closure of Johnson's Boat Yard, there is an immediate need for boat storage space this winter. Finger Lakes Boating Center (FLBC) is working towards providing boat storage needs for Johnson's former customers, and has expressed a need for limited short-term storage, which can be provided by using a portion of the City-owned parking area on Inlet Island. Because of the economic value that the boating industry brings to Ithaca, and the immediacy of this request, I have authorized the Parking Director to work out a temporary monthly parking pass arrangement with FLBC until a longer term agreement is reached.

There are two options moving forward: 1) create a short-term license agreement for the portions of the parking area to be used for boat storage, or 2) continue with the monthly parking pass arrangement. Staff recommends the second option because it offers flexibility for a relatively short-term period. The revenue to the City under either option is approximately the same.



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August 14, 2015

Michael Thorne Dept. of Public Works Ithaca, NY 14850

Re: use of parking lot for parking boats

Dear Michael:

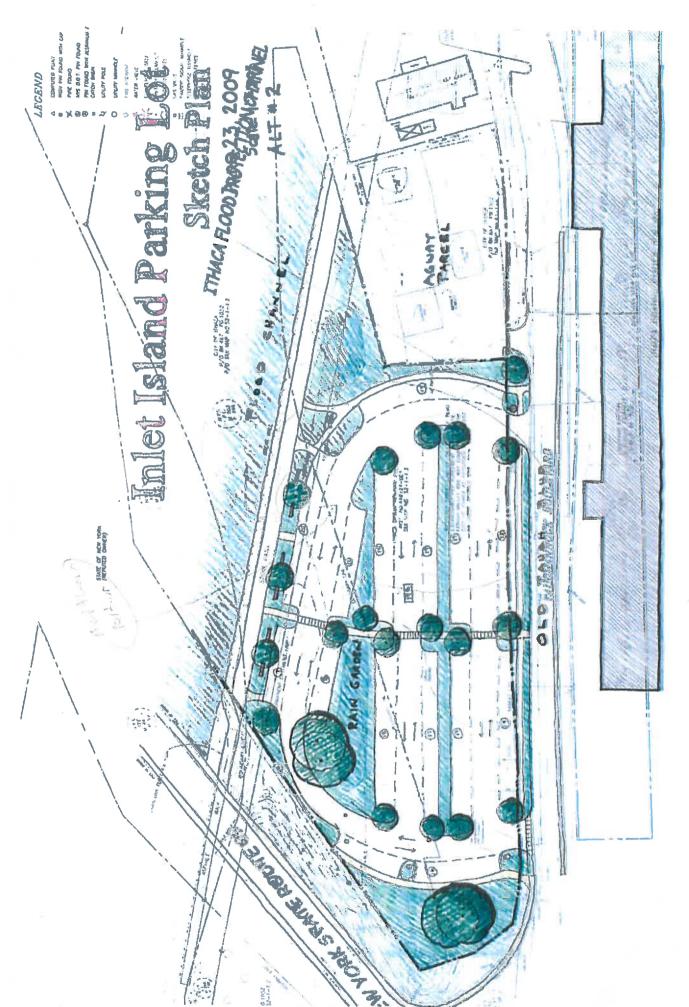
Thank you for taking the time to meet. In a nutshell, we seek permission to park boats on the northern (unpaved) half of the large parking lot. I've attached a sketch of the parking lot. I don't think it constitutes an "as built" drawing but it pretty closely represents what is there now.

As we discussed, though we had secured and had utilized storage space in Town of Ithaca, we have now been advised that the Town zoning as now interpreted does not permit outside storage of boats. This, combined with the uncertainty of the timing for the State Park's RFP process for utilization of the Treman Marina back parking lots, has left us with a potential temporary shortage of space to store boats. We would like to know if use of the northern unpaved portion this fall and winter for temporary boat storage is an option. At this point we don't know how many boats or for how long. The very maximum would be perhaps 100 boats/cradles for several months ending no later than 1 week before Memorial Day 2016. I think it is far more likely that we would need perhaps space for twenty five boats and/or boat cradles for a few months this fall.

The marine-tourism industry in this area is in transition due to Johnson's closing and maintaining the ability to store boats is critical to its continuing viability. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter and please do not hesitate to contact me should there be any questions. I can be reached at 592-0672.

Very truly yours,

Stephen B. Flash Enc.: as noted



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