CRMC DECISION WORKSHEET 2024-02-046

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Hearing Date:		
Approved	as Recommended	
Approved w/addit		
Appro	ved but Modified	
Denied	Vote	

	APPLICATION INFORMATION				
File Number	Town	Project Location	Category	Special Exception	Variance
2024-02-046	Bristol	Thames Street Plat 8 Lot 12	В		
Date Accepted 2-26-24 Date Completed 6-17-24		Owner Name and Address Town of Bristol c/o Steven Contente 10 Court Street Bristol, RI 02809	Work at or Below MHW		
		PROJECT DESCRIPTION			
	replace existing boat ramp and floating dock				
		KEY PROGRAMMATIC ISSUE	S		
Coastal Feature	: Coastal Beach, S	Stone seawall			
Water Type	: Type 4, Bristol I	Harbor			
	Red Book: 1.2.1(C), 1.3.1(A), 1.3.1(B), 1.3.1(C), 1.3.1(D), 1.3.1(G), 1.3.1(J), 1.3.6 SAMP: NA				
Variances and/or Special Exception Details: N/A					
Additional Comments and/or Council Requirements: Specific Staff Stipulations (beyond Standard stipulations):					
STAFF RECOMMENDATION(S)					
	Engineer R		Approval		
	Biologist Recommendation:				
Other Staff Recommendation:					

Engineering Supervisor Sign-Off

date

Supervising Biologist Sign-off

date

Executive Director Sign-Off

date

Staff Sign off on Hearing Packet (Eng/Bio)

date

Name: Town of Bristol CRMC File No.: 2024-02-046

Staff Report



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

STAFF REPORT TO THE COUNCIL

DATE:

June 3, 2024

TO:

Jeffrey M. Willis, Executive Director

FROM:

Ross Singer

Applicant's Name:

Town of Bristol

CRMC File Number:

2024-02-046

Project:

Replace existing boat ramp and floating dock

Location:

Thames Street; Bristol: Plat(s): 8; Lot(s): 12

Water Type/Name:

Type 4, Bristol Harbor

Coastal Feature:

Coastal Beach, Stone Seawall

"Bristol Independence Park Boat Ramp Improvements" prepared by Pare, dated

Plans Reviewed: February 2024

INTRODUCTION:

The proposed project consists of replacing the existing public boat ramp and dock located in Independence Park in Bristol with the goal of improving public access. The existing 47ftx84ft boat ramp is proposed to be removed and replaced with a new 35ftx120ft concrete boat ramp. The side and toe slopes of the ramp are proposed to be stabilized with riprap. The proposed ramp will be constructed in accordance with the launching ramp standards in Section 1.3.1.D.10 of the Red Book.

The existing dock and timber piers are proposed to be removed and replaced with a new 10ft x 120ft floating dock supported by timber piles. The facility is proposed to extend approximately 75ft beyond mean low water achieving a water depth of approximately 7.5ft.

A 125ft riprap revetment with granite steps is proposed to the south of the boat ramp. The structural shoreline protection facility is proposed to be less than 1 foot in elevation and is necessary to support grade changes for the parking lot and access drive. The proposed revetment is located landward of the coastal beach and above mean high water.

Additional site improvements were approved under Application 2023-11-027. No variances are required for this project. Public notice was issued 3/25/24. No objections were received.

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Staff Report

COMMENTS ON APPLICATION/APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS & ETC: "Red Book" 650-RICR-20-00

Red Book Section	Section Title	
1.2.1(C)	Type 4 Multipurpose Waters	It is the Councils policy to maintain balance among the diverse activities including commercial and recreational uses in Type 4 Waters. It is the opinion of the engineering staff that the complete reconstruction and expansion of the boat ramp meets this Council policy.
1.3.1(A)	Category B Requirements	The applicant provided responses to all of the Category B requirements in the application. It is the opinion of staff that these responses are complete and meet the requirements of the Red Book.
1.3.1(B)	Filling, Removing, or Grading of Shoreline Features	The work entails excavation of the existing ramp and sub-base. The excess material will be disposed of off- site at a licensed facility. Erosion and sediment controls will be employed, including a turbidity barrier for work below MHW. It is the opinion of staff that the proposal meets the policies and standards of this section of the Red Book.
1.3.1(C)	Residential, commercial, and recreational structures	The proposed public recreational boating facility is considered a public recreational structure. This is a reconfiguration of an existing facility. Recreational structures are not prohibited in Type 4 waters, and it is the opinion of staff that the proposal meets the policies and standards of this section of the Red Book.
1.3.1(D)	Recreational Boating Facilities	The residential boating facility standards in Redbook Section 1.3.1(D)(11) do not apply for public recreational boating facilities. The proposed project is designed in accordance with the launching ramp standards stated in Redbook section 1.3.1(D)(10)
1.3.1(G)	Shoreline Protection	A 125ft riprap revetment with granite steps is proposed to support grade changes for the parking lot and access drive. It is the opinion of staff that the proposal meets the policies and standards of this section of the Red Book.
1.3.1(J)	Filling in Tidal Waters	The project entails excavation of the existing ramp and sub-base. The replacement ramp will be longer and have rip rap at the end to prevent scour that is typical at many boat ramps. This project will require permits from the Army Corps of Engineers as well as a DEM Water Quality Certificate. It is Staff's opinion that the proposed fill accommodates a designated priority use for this water area and the proposal meets the policies and standards of this section of the Red Book
1.3.6	Protection and Enhancement of Public Access to the Shore	It is the Councils policy to require applicants to provide, where appropriate, on-site access of similar type and level to that which is being impact as the result of a proposed activity or development project. This project will enhance the existing public access.

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Staff Report

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

There are no engineering objections to the issuance of an Assent for this project. It is Staffs opinion that the proposed project minimizes impacts to the environment while improving public access. Should the Council approve the application, standard Assent stipulations with be prepared.

Signed Staff Engineer