

The Hampton Conservation Commission

March 25th, 1971

The Hampton Conservation Commission met at the Lane Memorial Library on March 25th, with the following members present: Peter Randall, Ruth Stimson, Stillman Hobbs, Mima Waters and Ruth Mutter.

The meeting opened at eight five, and the minutes of the Feb. 25th meeting were read and approved.

Under Old Business, it was decided no action would be taken at this time on House Bill 552.

The annual dues of the newly formed N. H. Ass'n of Conservation Commissions were discussed. Ruth Mutter moved that the Hampton Commission does not join at this time. Seconded by Stillman Hobbs and unanimously voted. Peter Randall will send a letter to this effect.

Under New Business, the remainder of the meeting was spent in discussing the widening of Route 95. Reasons for our opposition were listed as:

- Wet lands involved
- Taylor River wet lands
- Removal of fish ladder on Taylor River
- Width of Median strip 60 feet
- Lack of proper drainage, thus killing trees
- Further filling of wet lands in Hampton

Mr. Randall suggested the Toll booths could either be eliminated or split, one to the North, one to the South.

Mr. Hobbs suggested that upon attending the first meeting, our opposition be concerned with Wetlands, Woods and Trees.

The full statement of our opposition follows:

The Hampton Conservation Commission opposes the proposed widening of Route 95 for the following reasons.

It is our legal responsibility under State Statute to be concerned with the development and proper use of the natural resources in the community. We are opposed to the further destruction of Wetlands, both Inland and Tidal, in the town of Hampton. The widening at Taylor River will involve fillings of Tidal wetlands on both sides of the highway. The proposed new interchange with the Expressway 95 and Exeter Road will involve tremendous changes on inland wetlands at the N. H. line. We are further opposed relocation of Towle Farm Road in a region which is one of this town's most valuable open space wet land areas. This is the site of two small ponds which teem with many varieties of birds, fish and other forms of wildlife. We are further opposed to the continued destruction of timber land and other open space in this town as a result of this proposed widening process and through inadequate drainage. The latter has been a problem in the area of the Exeter and Hampton Expressway.

We seriously Question whether the continued widening and relocation of highways solves the American traffic problem. We urge the N. H. Highway Department to seek alternatives other than to widen Route 95.

* To The proposed

The meeting was adjourned at nine fifteen.

Ruth Mutter
Secretary