

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing to ask the city to approve a minimum \$100,000 budget request for the Hoppers-Birge Pond Nature Reserve for the coming fiscal year. I feel this is a relatively modest request given that the Hoppers comprises over 200 acres of Bristol Park Department land and has been largely neglected over the years since its acquisition from General Motors.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Mariola Anachasian

Dear Josh,

I am reaching out to support the city's approval of a budget of at least \$100,000 for the Hoppers-Birge Pond Nature Reserve for the upcoming fiscal year. The reserve has many features that are in a bad state and need to be fixed for safety, sustainability, and accessibility. We want to make sure that these improvements blend in with the landscape's natural beauty.

The Hoppers-Birge Pond Nature Reserve is a beautiful place preserved for many years. However, it has received less funding than other parks in the area. This reserve deserves more investment in the future. We want to preserve it in its natural state forever, but we also need to address some maintenance issues.

As someone who hikes the reserve daily, I appreciate your consideration.
Thank you, enjoy your day,
Kristi Searle

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As a nature preserve, the financial commitment to the Hoppers has traditionally been more modest in comparison to parks such as Page and Rockwell; however, I feel this property is worthy of greater investment in the future. While it is my wish to see that the Hoppers continues to be preserved in a natural state in perpetuity, it is also important for certain maintenance issues to be addressed.

Prominent among these is the restoration of the boardwalk encircling Birge Pond. The current boardwalk, built by volunteers many years ago, has fallen into disrepair and presents potential safety hazards to hikers. Sections of the boardwalk have rotted or been washed away by flooding. There are additionally, sections of the trail system that could be improved regarding safety to the public and ease of accessibility. Certain trails are in need of erosion controls and minor repair. Given the increased use and popularity of the Hoppers trails, the approval of the current budget request would seem to be a wise investment into the preservation and integrity of the Hopper-Birge Pond Nature Preserve, an irreplaceable resource steeped in local history and natural beauty.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jan Gatzuras

Secretary, Friends of the Hoppers-Birge Pond

[Jan Gatzuras](#)

Realtor, Licensed in CT since 2001

Vision Real Estate

30 New Britain Ave.

Unionville, CT 06085

Cell: 860-212-6067

Dear Mr. Medeiros,

I am writing to ask the city to approve a minimum \$100,000 budget request for the Hoppers-Birge Pond Nature Reserve for the coming fiscal year. I feel this is a relatively modest request given that the Hoppers comprises over 200 acres of Bristol Park Department land and has been largely neglected over the years since its acquisition from General Motors.

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Thank you for your consideration.

Heather Torre

November 28, 2023

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Thank you for your consideration.

John Schissler

80 Highland St

Bristol, CT

Mr. Josh Medeiros

OR

To Whom it may concern:

My name is Susan. I grew up in Bristol. I graduated from BEHS, went to college & moved away to have a very successful nursing career and raise my family. Two years ago (50 years after leaving) I returned to care for my 89 year old demented mom. That's the right thing for daughters with the appropriate skills to do. 24/7 caregiving is a daunting task & burn out is a real danger. Her quality of life is most important, but please recognize I save ~\$70,000.00 (per Allaire Elder Law communication) a year from the social services budget. The first place I found respite hiking through the dog park, the Hoppers and Birges Pond with my dog. What an absolute Gem for Bristol.

Please ask the city to approve a minimum \$100,000 budget request for the Hoppers-Birge Pond Nature Reserve in the coming fiscal year. This very modest request as the Hoppers comprises over 200 acres of Bristol Park Department land and has been largely neglected over the years since its acquisition from General Motors.

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Susan Borkowski-McCullough

375 Brewster Rd

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Thank you for your consideration. As a dog owner, this is my favorite Bristol park!

Emily Reisner