

For Immediate Release
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Save Horseshoe Lake Supporters Send Demand Letters to Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights

CLEVELAND, OHIO-- After multiple attempts to work with Cleveland Heights, Shaker Heights, and Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) to come to an amicable resolution, Friends of Horseshoe Lake (FOHSL) has issued demand letters to the Cities based on their failure to follow the terms of the lease agreement for the Lake and make the necessary repairs to restore the dam and the Lake.

FOHSL is working with the law firm Mansour Gavin in their fight to keep NEORS from destroying the dam and Lake.

"Horseshoe Lake is leased to Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights by the City of Cleveland, and NEORS's plan to destroy the Lake is in direct violation of several of the stipulations within that lease, including an agreement to not disturb any existing conditions, which would include the dam and Lake, dredge and clean the lakes, and to be responsible for any improvements necessary to maintaining the park," said Anthony Coyne, an attorney that specializes in land use issues, said.

"Two years ago, NEORS concluded—with little community input—that the Horseshoe Lake dam could not be replaced and that the only solution was to destroy the dam and convert the Lake to a floodplain. We have worked with engineering experts TRC to develop a [Horseshoe Lake Restoration Plan](#) that safely manages stormwater, addresses environmental issues, and costs the same, all while saving the historic dam and Lake," Coyne said. "NEORS and the Cities have ignored our continued request to consider the FOHSL plan, leaving us no choice but to issue the demand letters on behalf of taxpayers in the Heights."

The letters demand Cleveland Heights and Shaker Heights cease any and all activities being performed to remove Horseshoe Lake or its dam, and to take immediate steps to enforce the terms of the lease and take the requisite actions to restore and repair the dam and the Lake. The Cities have been asked to respond within 10 days, according to the letter.

"We hope that the demand letter will open the door for FOHSL, the Cities, and NEORS to work together on finding a mutually agreeable plan to save this treasured asset while addressing environmental concerns," Coyne added. "But we are also prepared to take the next steps in our legal plan if need be."

To learn more, please visit www.SaveHorseshoeLake.com.