



October 3, 2017

Dear Friends,

On June 8, 2017, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the City of Medford held a public meeting at the Andrews Middle School Cafetorium to present, and obtain feedback on, concept design alternatives for the Clippership Connector. The Connector is proposed multi-use greenway to be located along the north bank of the Mystic River, extending downstream from Medford Square, passing underneath Interstate 93 (I-93), and connecting to Riverbend Park.

Following the meeting, the presentation was made available for viewing at <http://www.mas.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/public-outreach/public-meetings>, and a public comment period was held.

Since the June 8 meeting, the City of Medford and DCR have been assisted by Crosby Schlessinger Smallridge (CSS) in evaluating the opportunities and challenges presented within the Clippership Connector project. CSS has identified existing pathways through the site and evaluated the condition of existing walkways and lighting, fences, and trees. The City and DCR have met with some abutters and owners west of I-93 and intend to meet in the next few weeks, before public discussion of the findings, with abutting property owners east of I-93.

Surface-level lead and arsenic contamination was found on the southernmost portion of the area where the greenway is anticipated to go. The City and DCR, under the guidance of their respective Licensed Site Professionals, have been working through the issues these findings present with the MA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). While this situation adds complexity to the southern end of the project, it is anticipated that it will not be an obstacle to completing the connection through to Riverbend Park.

Over the next few weeks, a survey company will be conducting a site survey and installing survey markers. Once the property survey is complete and the abutter meetings have concluded, a second public meeting to present current design concepts for the greenway will be scheduled. As a recipient of this letter, you will receive a notice of that public meeting.

We appreciate your interest in this important project and look forward to your continued participation in our public process. We will keep you informed.

Sincerely,

Leo P. Roy  
Commissioner, DCR

Stephanie M. Burke  
Mayor, City of Medford

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS · EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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