



Halibut Point State Park Visitors Center and Landscape Improvements



Public Information Meeting

Monday, October 29, 2018 - 6:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

**Rockport Public Library
17 School St, Rockport**



Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Governor

Charles D. Baker

Lieutenant Governor

Karyn E. Polito

Energy and Environmental Secretary

Matthew A. Beaton

Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner

Leo P. Roy



DCR Mission Statement

*To protect, promote and enhance our
common wealth of natural, cultural
and recreational resources
for the well-being of all.*



Meeting Purpose

- Provide update on improvements at Halibut Point State Park, including:
 - Visitors Center renovations
 - New exhibit design
 - Proposed landscape design
 - Discuss proposed landscape improvements
 - Obtain input



Project Partners



Senator Bruce Tarr





Project Funds

Friends of Halibut Point SP – \$25,000

- Match to a DCR Partnership grant of \$50,000
 - Visitors center conditions assessment
 - Exhibit design

EEA Renewable Thermal Energy Grant - \$45,000

- Funding a new air source heat pump

DCR Capital

- Source for remaining design and construction costs



Brief History





Project Background

1987 – Granite Building Study

2000 – Design for separate museum building underway

2001/02 – New exhibit design development in existing Visitors Center (VC)

2002 - 04 – New Plan: Design for VC renovation and another new exhibit development



2003



2009



Recent History

2014 – Friends receive DCR Partnership Grant

2015 – Conditions Assessment of VC, start of exhibit design;
massive mold bloom

2016 – VC renovation plans - roof prioritized

2017 – Rest of VC renovation and exhibit designs underway



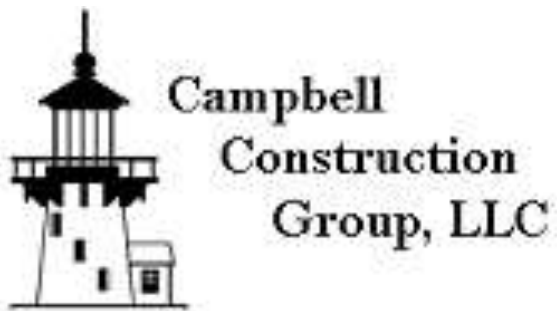


Current Project Goals

- Renovate Visitors Center
 - Install an updated exhibit
 - Highlight the building as an artifact
-
- Improve overall park access
 - Create a sense of arrival
 - Provide opportunities for indoor and outdoor programming space



Project Team



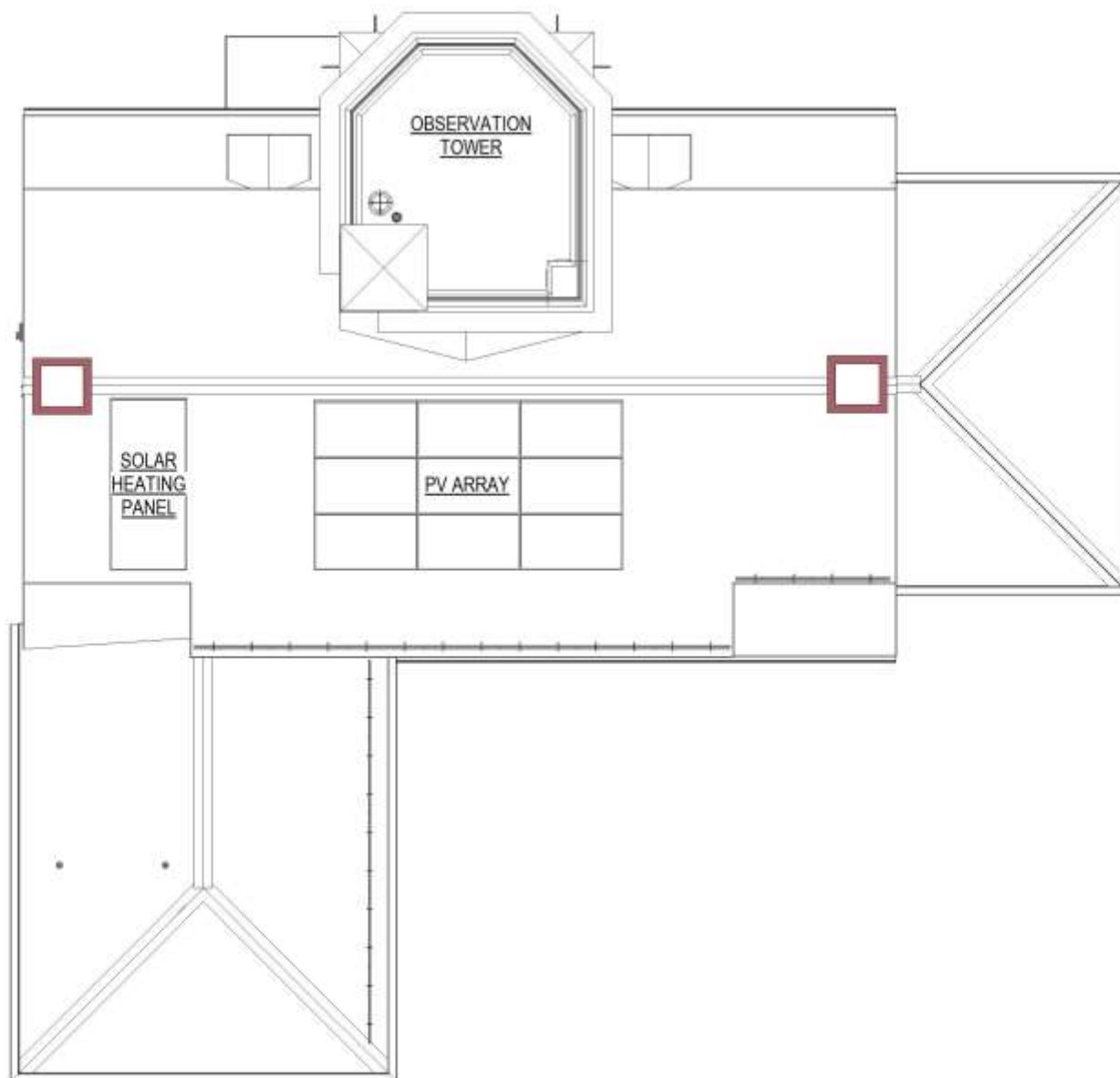
Plan - Level 1



Plan - Level 2



Roof Plan





Demolition

LDA
ARCHITECTURE & INTERIORS





Construction

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Tower Restoration

Before & After

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Tower Rendering

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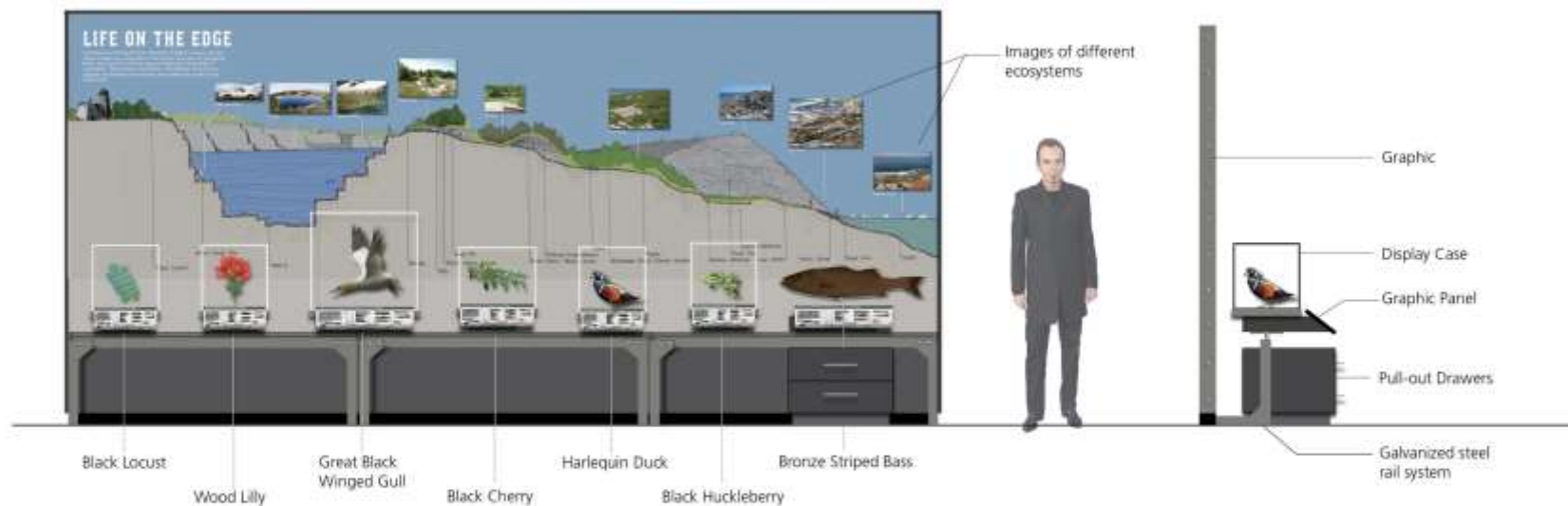
Deck Rendering

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Exhibit Design



2A. Ecosystems

2A. Ecosystems: Side Elevation



Exhibit Design

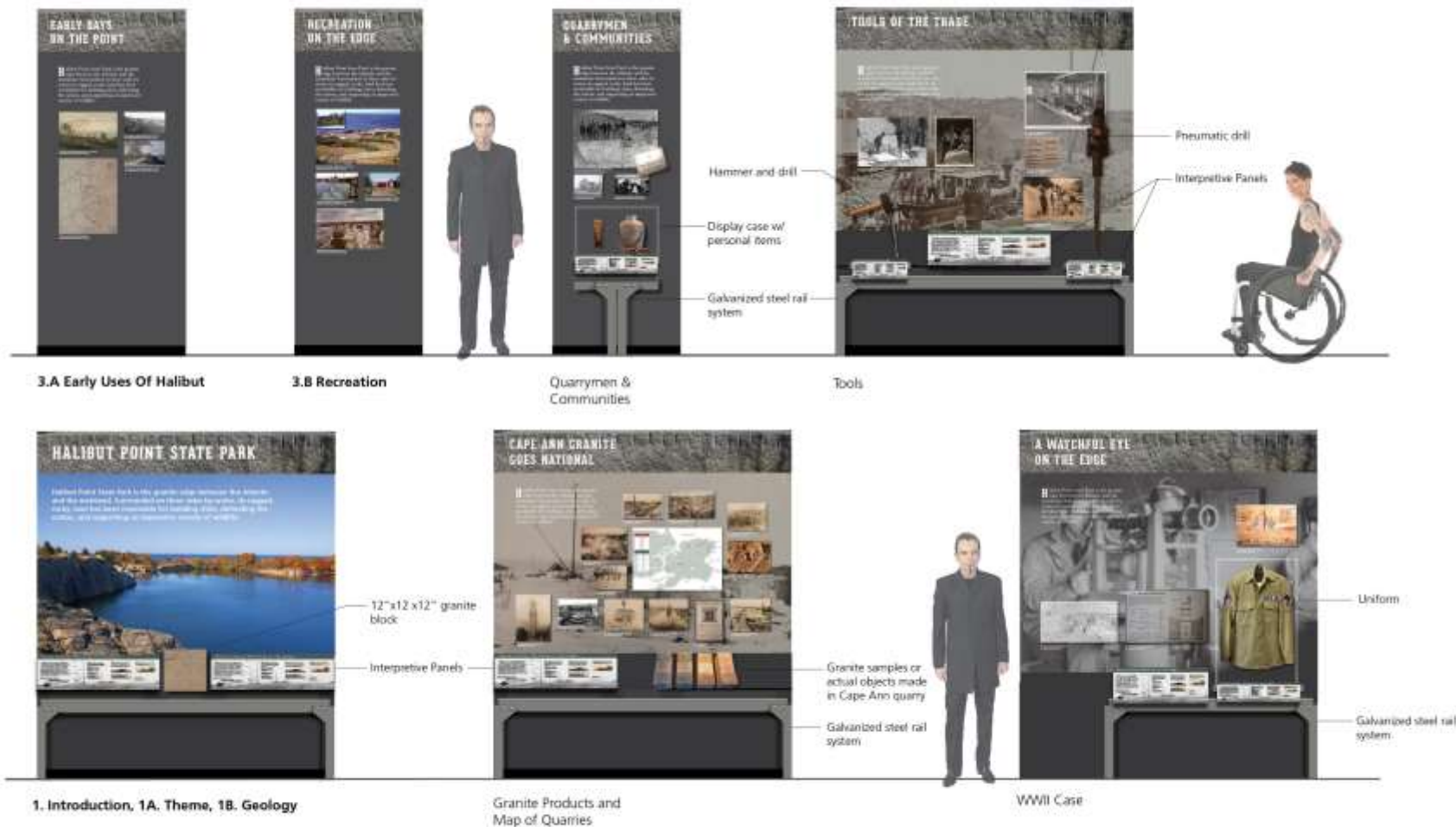
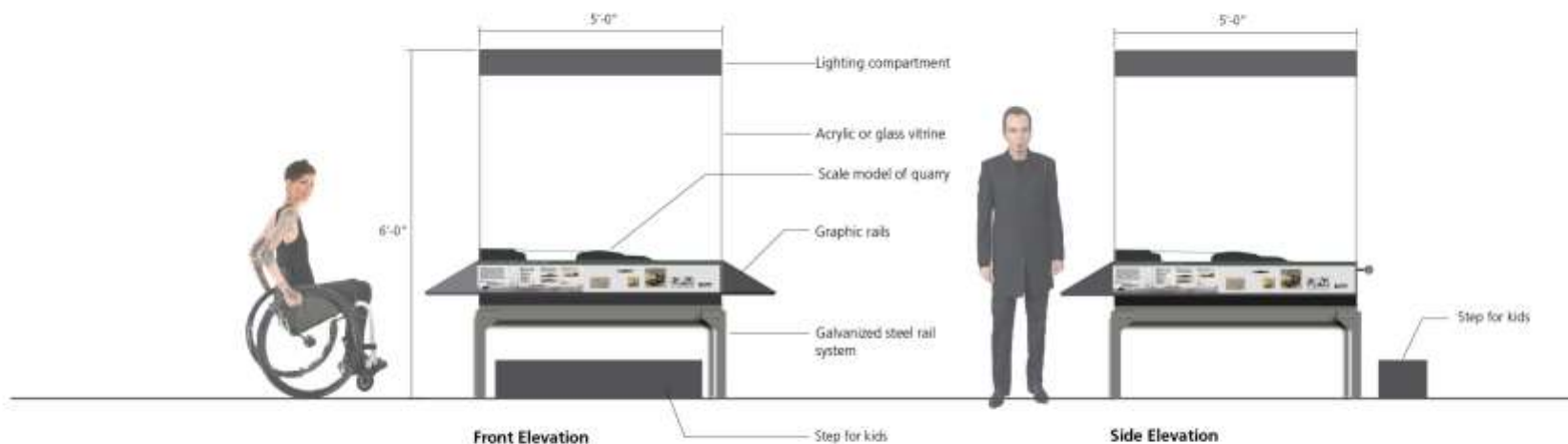
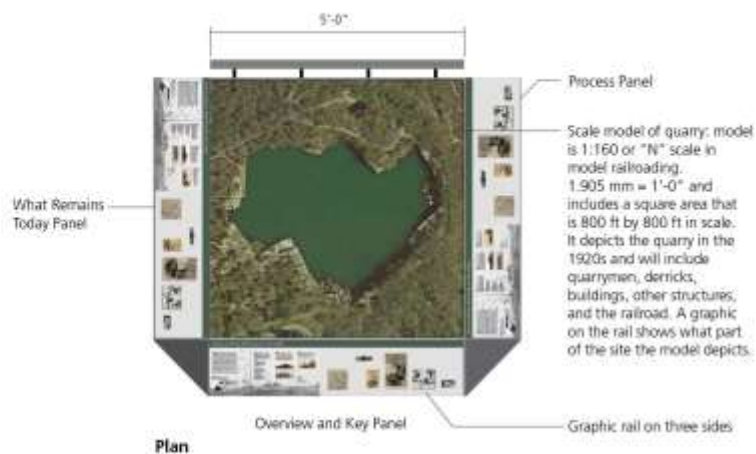




Exhibit Design



Existing Site



Site Character

existing

SITE ANALYSIS / OBSERVATIONS

- 1 AN ABUNDANCE OF DIFFERENT/DISCONNECTED CHARACTER ZONES CREATES A CLUTTERED AND CONFUSING ENTRY EXPERIENCE.
- 2 EVERGREEN SCREEN IS FAILING IN THE WET PARKING LOT EDGE CONDITIONS. VEGETATION CHARACTERISTIC OF TYPICAL RESIDENTIAL PLANTS, NOT APPROPRIATE FOR A STATE PARK.
- 3 THIS "FRIENDS" DESIRE LINE IS USED FREQUENTLY BUT NOT MARKED ON ANY MAP OR MAINTAINED.
- 4 QUARRY REMAINS ARE HIDDEN BY DENSE UNDERGROWTH IN THE SUMMER, NO PROPER ACCESSIBLE PATH OR TRAIL PROVIDED AND NO INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE.
- 5 THERE IS NO SIGHT LINE FROM THE MAIN TRAIL TO THE VISITOR CENTER- THIS IS A CRITICAL POINT FOR SIGNAGE AND CLEARING.
- 6 THIS CLEARING IS CONFUSING TO VISITORS COMING UP GAFFIELD AVE. IT IS TOO OPEN TO THE ROAD AND APPEARS AS THE MAIN DESTINATION.
- 7 VISITOR CENTER IS CONFUSING TO NAVIGATE, WITH THE DOOR IN THE BACK MORE DIRECTION IS NECESSARY. THE SPACE IS LACKING IN AREAS FOR GROUPS TO GATHER.
- 8 THE EDGE BETWEEN SCRUB AND CLEARING IS NOT DEFINED, SCRUBBY FOREST IS PREDOMINANTLY VOLUNTEERS AND INVASIVES. SOME ROUGH CLEARING ATTEMPTS MADE THEN STOPPED.
- 9 TRAILS SYSTEM IS LACKING A CONNECTOR TRAIL TO COMPLETE THE CIRCUIT AROUND THE QUARRY.
- 10 MARITIME SHRUBLAND IS A SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE IN THESE CONDITIONS - CLEAR OUT INVASIVES ONLY.





WELCOME THRESHOLD CREATES AN EXPERIENCE FOR VISITORS THAT MAKES IT KNOWN THAT THEY ARE ENTERING THE PARK. SINGLE LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ESTABLISHED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD.

REORGANIZED CIRCULATION, PARKING AND SIGNAGE CREATE A CLEAR ARRIVAL, EASY TO NAVIGATE TRAILHEAD AND GATHERING SPACE.

NEW TRAILS ARE DELINEATED TO BRING MORE AWARENESS TO SIGNIFICANT SITE FEATURES AND PROVIDE CONNECTIVITY.

QUARRY REMAINS WITH SELEVTIVE
CLEARING OF UNDERSTORY TO REVEAL
VIEWS TO FEATURES. NEW TRAILS AND
SIGNAGE LEAD VISITORS TO
IMPORTANT SITE FEATURES.

THE MAIN TRAIL BREAKS AT A SINGLE POINT WITH SIGNAGE DIRECTING VISITORS TO A TRAIL OR TO THE VISITOR CENTER - VISIBLE THROUGH THE ORCHARD EDGE CONDITIONS

ORCHARD EDGE LINES THE DRIVE TO THE VISITOR CENTER, HIDING THE CLEARING WHILE DIRECTING THE VEHICLES AND PEDESTRIANS TOWARDS THE VISITORS CENTER FIRST.

VISITOR CENTER IS CLEARLY DEFINED.
THE ENTRY IS EASY TO ACCESS AND
GATHERING SPACE IS CREATED.

VIEWED FROM THE VISITOR CENTER IS CLEARLY DEFINED AND ALLOWS FOR PANORAMIC VIEWS. OPEN LAWN MAINTAINED TO ALLOW FOR LARGER GATHERING AND SMALL GROUPS.

THE PATH CONNECTION IS CREATED, COMPLETING THE CIRCUIT AROUND THE QUARRY. THIS SECTION OF TRAIL TO BE "MODERATE" AND MARKED ACCORDINGLY.

MARITIME SHRUBLAND IS A SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE IN THESE CONDITIONS - CLEAR OUT INVASIVES ONLY

OVERFLOW PARKING SPACES AVAILABLE
BY MOWING THE UPPER SECTION OF
THE MEADOW.





Proposed Site Plan





Visitors Center Landscape

existing





Visitors Center Landscape

renovated





Existing Parking Lot Circulation

shown with normal circulation





Existing Parking Lot Circulation

shown during parking lot closure





Proposed Parking Lot Circulation

shown with normal traffic





Proposed Parking Lot Circulation

shown during parking lot closure





New England Meadow



Inspiration Images

Historic Site Use



Existing Site Features





Welcome Threshold

existing





Welcome Threshold

proposed





Welcome Threshold

proposed





Halibut Point State Park

welcome threshold looking down Gott Avenue



Entry Drive: Proposed Rendering with Site Wall and Statement Signage



Olde New England Granite- reclaimed Cape Ann granite



Existing View 1





Proposed View 1

full concept rendering





Proposed View 2

full concept rendering





Project Schedule

- Early Winter 2018: Building construction wraps up; exhibit fabrication put out to bid
- Winter/Spring 2019: New Exhibit installed; landscape design and permitting completed
- Summer 2019 – Spring 2020: Landscape construction



Project Feedback and Q & A



Additional Information

For more information:

DCR Website

- www.mass.gov/dcr/past-public-meetings

If you have comments or suggestions on this project:

Submit online: www.mass.gov/dcr/public-comment

Write: Department of Conservation and Recreation
Office of Public Outreach
251 Causeway Street, Suite 600
Boston, MA 02114

Deadline: Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Note: Public comments submitted to DCR may be posted on the DCR website in their entirety, and no information, including contact information, will be redacted.

If you wish to subscribe to a DCR general information or project-related listserv: contact DCR's Office of Community Relations at 617-626-4973 or Mass.Parks@state.ma.us.