From:	Margaret Briggs
To:	Waterways, DEP (DEP)
Cc:	Chris.osgood@boston.gov; Jonathan.greeley@boston.gov; Strysky, Alexander (EEA); Padien, Daniel (DEP); aaron.michlewitz@mahouse.gov; Joseph Boncore; richard.mcguinness@boston.gov; ed.flynn@boston.gov; Brian.golden@boston.gov; Kim.Janey@boston.gov; michelle.wu@boston.gov; Julia.mejia@boston.gov; michael.flaherty@boston.gov; a.e.george@boston.gov; internet, env (EEA); Engler, Lisa Berry (EEA); Suuberg, Martin (DEP); MAYOR@BOSTON.GOV; Teresa.polhemus@boston.gov; Heather.campisano@boston.gov; Chris.busch@boston.gov; Ebony.DaRosa@Boston.gov
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I strongly support the MassDEP in its effort to make simple changes to the Chapter 91 MHP process to confirm its 30 year history studying, modifying and ultimately approving MHP's that are appropriate to each city and town along the oceanside. These plans are well thought out, undergo extensive study and public participation, before approval.

Are they always favored by all, including abutters? No. Are they always carefully developed and undergo extensive public review to achieve the proper land use balance. Yes.

I support MassDEP's proposed amendments to 310 CMR 9.00 and to endorse the confirmation of each of the seventeen existing municipal harbor plans, including Boston's Downtown Waterfront MHP.

The Downtown Waterfront MHP is no exception. As the product of years of planning, across more than forty public meetings starting in 2013, the plan is the result of an exceptionally inclusive and comprehensive process and reflects the character of its location at the economic and transit core of the region.

There is urgency to take action on Boston's Downtown Waterfront. To remove the MHP from the proposed regulations would erase eight years of planning and progress, and I urge you to confirm the plan along with the other sixteen Approved Municipal Harbor Plans across the Bay State.

Margaret Briggs
CONCORD
peb.briggs@gmail.com