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Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Office of Coastal Zone Management

Notice of extension of the public comment period for the Review of the Boundary of the East Boston Designated Port Area

On December 15, 2021, the Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) issued the designation report for the boundary review of the East Boston Designated Port Area (DPA). In accordance with 301 CMR 25.00, the designation report was noticed in the December 22, 2021 edition of the *Environmental Monitor*, the Boston Globe and El Mundo, with a public hearing on January 11, 2022 and a 30-day public comment period ending on January 21, 2022. Upon request by the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) the public comment period was extended twice, each with notice in the *Environmental Monitor*, and concluded on April 4, 2022.

Pursuant to 301 CMR 25.03 and upon request by the BPDA, a 120-day extension of the public comment period is hereby noticed for the East Boston DPA designation report. The public comment period will conclude on August 1, 2022 at 5 pm. Upon conclusion of the public comment period, CZM will review comments received and issue the designation decision on the boundary review of the East Boston DPA within 60 days.

Notification Date: April 8, 2022



March 31, 2022

Tyler Soleau Assistant Director MA Office of Coastal Zone Management 251 Causeway Street, Suite 800 Boston, MA 02114

Re: East Boston Designated Port Area Designation Report

Dear Mr. Soleau:

The Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) respectfully requests the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (MA CZM) provide an additional extension to the comment period for review of the East Boston Designated Port Area Boundary Review Designation Report.

The Designation Report was issued on December 15, 2021 and Noticed in the December 22, 2021 edition of the Environmental Monitor, with comments due by January 21, 2022. The BPDA requested extensions to the comment period on January 18, 2022, and February 14, 2022, which MA CZM granted. Comments for the most recent extension are due April 4, 2022. The BPDA is requesting a third extension to continue our engagement with stakeholders, gather additional information and complete transportation and truck access analysis associated with the Designation Report recommendations and conclusions.

The City also intends on initiating a Municipal Harbor Plan and Designated Port Area planning process for the East Boston waterfront in the coming year, which will be informed by the boundary review. The additional time will allow the city to begin to develop a Request for Notice to Proceed for the harbor planning process, which will emphasize city planning priorities of inclusive and equitable access to the waterfront, new open space to enhance resilience to coastal flooding, and significant additions to affordable housing options in East Boston.

We request a One Hundred and Twenty (120) day extension of the comment period until August 1, 2022 to complete our review and comments on the Designation Report.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard McGuinness

Deputy Director for Climate Change and Environmental Planning

Boston Planning & Development Agency

cc: Lisa Berry Engler, Director, CZM

Lauren Shurtleff, Director of Planning, BPDA

Kristina Ricco, Senior Planner, BPDA

Chris Busch, Asst. Deputy Director Climate Change & Environmental Planning, BPDA