



## CHURCHILL & BANKS

November 25, 2002

Robert Durand, Secretary Executive Office of Environmental Affairs 251 Causeway Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Boston, MA 02114

Re: Freetown -- Proposed Warehouse and Distribution Center – Supplemental Information (EOEA # 12367)

Dear Secretary Durand:

Attached please find a representation of a potential open space/land use plan for the remainder of the site formerly known as the Riverfront Park in Freetown. This plan is submitted as requested in your August 16, 2002, certificate on the SEIR describing the impacts of the Warehouse and Distribution Center, formerly known as Phase One of the Riverfront Park. Your certificate concluded that the SEIR adequately complied with the requirements of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act and its implementing regulations, and asked that supplemental information concerning open space on the remainder of the site be submitted to your office.

The plan establishes that there will be no development impact within the two hundred foot buffer established by the Rivers Protection Act, as well as establishes a pedestrian pathway linking the site to the site of the proposed state Bio-reserve, to be located on the eastern side of Route 24. Because the proponent/owner of the development described in EOEA # 12367 may not necessarily be the proponent for the development of the remainder of the site, we cannot commit to any particular configuration of pedestrian access to open space. We will, however, work with whomever the developer may be to advocate for an appropriate and adequate open space program.

Similarly, the pedestrian pathway to the Bio-reserve is within the control of MHD, since other than via the proposed Route 24 Interchange, no access across Route 24 is readily available. We have, however, joined with the Fall River Redevelopment Authority to urge inclusion of the pathway in the plans for the interchange, and are pleased that MHD has been receptive.

Although the eventual design of the development for the remainder of the Riverfront Park, and the eventual character of the pedestrian access to the Bio-reserve may be

Secretary Durand Re: EOEA # 12367

different from those identified in the plan submitted today, the configuration of the Proposed Warehouse and Distribution Center project is such that it will be compatible with whatever plan is adopted.

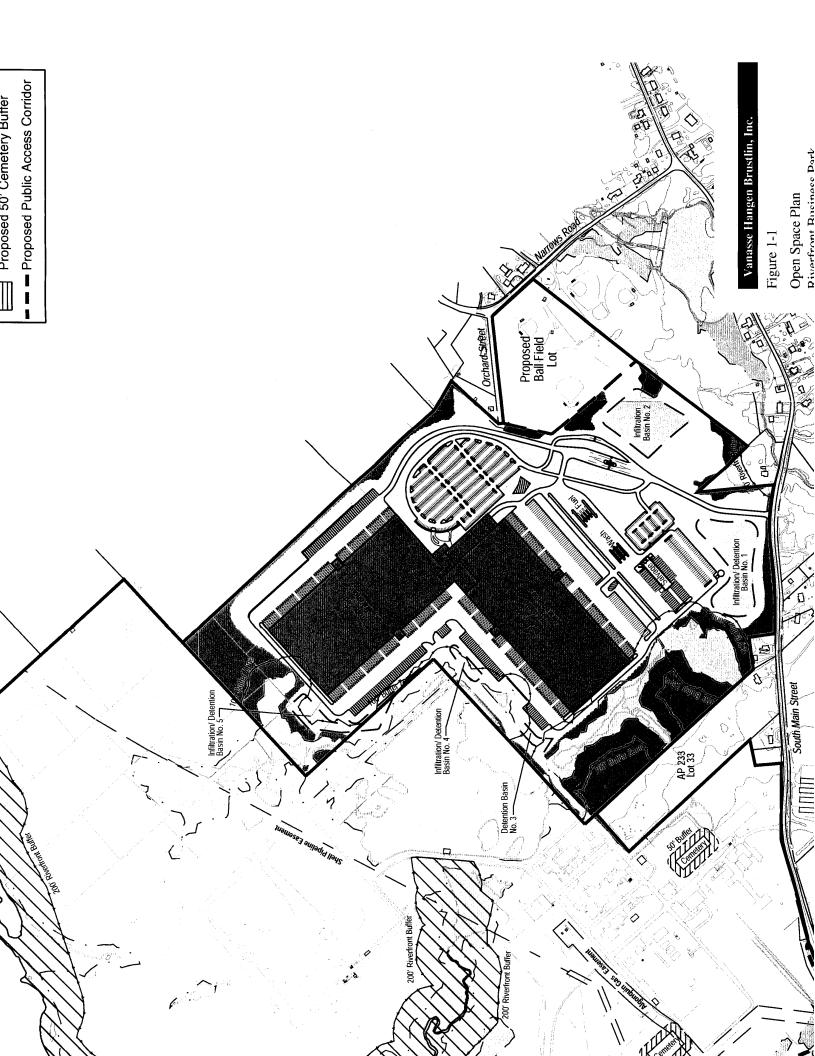
Finally, you have asked that we describe how the Cemeteries will be preserved and protected. As mentioned before, the proponent is not now in control of the future development and therefore cannot make any particular commitments. However, at a minimum, a 50 foot buffer will be maintained. In addition, we are confident that the jurisdiction preserved by MEPA in the scope issued for the Notice of Project Change as well as the requirements of the Massachusetts Historic Commission will combine to assure protection of the properties.

SA

Robert Gardner

Churchill and Banks

(This letter and attachment have been sent to the distribution list for the SEIR.)





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Figure 1-2

Area Context Map Riverfront Business Park Freetown, Massachusetts

feet 1200 Feet s Approximate